

SPORTS

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MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1994

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Collegiate baseball wrap

Pitcher Tom Wakefield ran his record to 4-0 Wednesday, tossing a seven-hitter, as Westland Federation gained a 3-2 Livonia Collegiate Baseball League victory over Little Caesars in a game at Ford Field.

Wakefield, who plays for Spring Arbor College, struck out five in outdueling Caesars starter Dave Roman (Livonia Franklin/U-D Mercy).

Roman allowed just three hits in seven innings. Westland (8-3) scored twice in the third inning on an RBI single by Joe Vondreck and an RBI triple by Ryan Peavey (scoring Jason Gillespie).

Mark D'Antonio's sacrifice fly scored Mike Davis with the game-winner in the six inning.

Caesars' Mike Syjod collected two hits in a losing cause.

Delwal broke a four-game losing streak in the LCBL with a 3-1 victory Wednesday over Hines Park Lincoln/Mercy at Novi High School.

Pitcher Terry Hayden was the winner, throwing a four-hitter with 10 strikeouts and two walks. Mike Pesci (Farmington Hills Harrison) went 2-for-3, including a solo home run in the fourth inning, and scored two runs. Dave Tykoaki was 2-2 with an RBI and Tony Dilaurs also drove in a run with a single.

Three pitchers combined on a four-hitter Wednesday, leading Ann Arbor Wendy's to a 4-0 LCBL win over Walter's Appliance at Ford Field.

Rich Dell worked the first five innings to earn the victory. Bernie Gibbons held Walter's scoreless in the sixth and Rick Wing pitched the seventh to gain the save.

Nick Callaway had an RBI double and RBI single for Wendy's (5-7). Walter's is 5-4.

American Legion win

Jake Lawson pitched a six-hitter Wednesday when the Farmington American Legion team defeated the host Utica Indians 10-7.

Lawson (Harrison) struck out five and walked six in the game that was stopped after six innings because of darkness.

John Wroe and Aaron Cagnon had two hits apiece, and Jeff Rospierski hit a two-run triple. Wroe, who had two RBIs, and Ed Kennedy (Harrison) had RBI triples.

Andy Sili and Dale Domas (Farmington) drove in one run each with a single and sacrifice fly, respectively.

The win improved the Farmington record to 3-0.

Softball twinbill sweep

Portland Building swept a double-header Wednesday from the Trading Post and gained a share of first place in the Plymouth Modified Fast-Pitch Softball League.

Rob MacDonald and Todd Kenyon, both of Farmington Hills, had two hits each in the first game — a 10-0 victory. MacDonald had an RBI triple and Kenyon scored two runs. Jeff Kiefer also had two hits and scored three runs.

Jason Lichtman (Farmington Hills) had three hits and two RBIs as Portland won the second game 5-0.

Kiefer had two hits again, Ralph Johnson two RBIs and John Rathwell a solo homer. Pete Lind was the winning pitcher in both games.

T-C Gators was upset by Primo's Pizza, allowing Portland Building to move into a tie for first place. Both teams are 4-1.

State Amateur tees off

Del de Windt of Bloomfield Hills, who became the oldest player in Michigan Amateur history to win the title at age 49, returns to defend his crown against a field of 160 when the 83rd edition of the Michigan Amateur Golf Championship tees off Tuesday at Egypt Valley Country Club in Ada.

First- and second-round match play begins Thursday with the Sweet 16 and quarterfinals Friday. The semifinals and finals will be Saturday.

Earning exempt status for the Amateur is Livonian Brian Mills, '93 quarterfinalist; Westland's Claud Johnston, '93 USGA Senior Amateur match play qualifier; Farmington Hills' Greg Stefan, '93 Golf Association of Michigan Honor Roll.

Other local qualifiers include Pat Sayer (Plymouth), Jason Buha (Farmington Hills), Matt Wiley (Canton), Gary Palachio (Livonia), Michael Nolan (Farmington Hills), Doug Cumming (Farmington Hills).

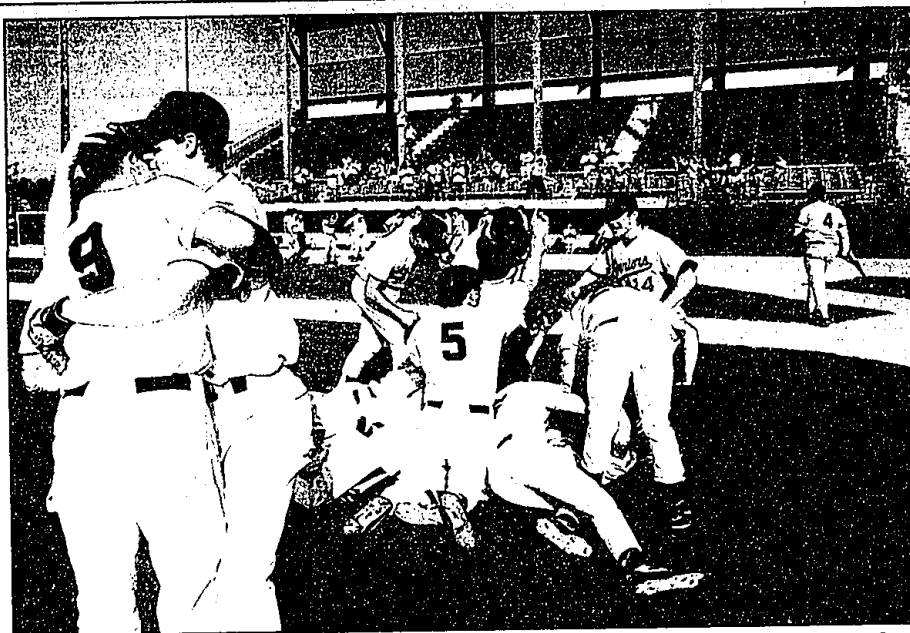
Meteors capture 1st

The Livonia Y Meteors, an under-13 boys soccer team coached by Joe Mangione and Tom Feathers, defeated the Portage Gold, 2-0, to finish first in the Findlay, Ohio Society Bank Invitational Tournament (June 11-12).

The Meteors advanced with victories over the Warren County Rattlers (4-0), Painesville Challenge (3-0) and the Fairview Park Flyers (2-0).

"The Meteors also finished 9-0-3 to win the Premier Division of the Michigan Youth Soccer League."

Members of the Meteors, coached by Joe Mangione and Tom Feathers, include Aaron Brown, Nick Bresnacki, Brad Feathers, Mike Rovinson, Ken Kozlow, Sergio Malsella, Tony Maldonado, Matt McLeod, Maher Salah, Tony Vennan and Danny West, all of Livonia; Randy Bury, Farmington Hills; Dan Loucas, Dan Scoppetini and Jonathan Sheibela.



STAFF PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL

Championship hug: With their teammates rejoicing in the background, Marty Weymouth (9) embraces teammate Brian Kalczynski moments after Brother Rice clinched the Class A baseball championship.

Rice rolls to state crown

BY MARTY BUONER
STAFF WRITER

Sandwich a few close games in between a pair of blowouts and you have Brother Rice's recipe for winning a state championship.

The Warriors, who opened the Class A state tournament three weeks ago at the district with a 14-0 clubbing of Birmingham Seaholm, captured the title Saturday at Battle Creek's Bailey Park with a convincing 16-3 thumping of Southgate Anderson.

The Warriors, who finished the year with a 31-8 overall record, advanced to the title game with a much more suspenseful 2-0 semifinal triumph Friday over Grand Lodge.

Rice outscored its seven tournament foes by a whopping 57-10 margin. The Warriors' young pitching staff hurled a pair of playoff shutouts and did not allow their opponents more than three runs in any game.

It was a highly successful tournament run for Rice, which finished its 1994 campaign with a nine-game winning streak (counting the final two regular-season games). It also marked the second state championship over the last three years for veteran coach Ron Kalczynski.

"The whole tournament has been great," said senior outfielder Joe Werner, who was a member of that 1992 title-winning team along with fellow captains Brian Kalczynski and Marty Weymouth.

"When we beat Seaholm — and they had a good team — that got us off on the right foot right there. Then we beat Kimball. And every step of the way we seemed to get the important hits at the right time to pull out the win. We knew how to win, I thought."

"You could definitely feel the momentum building and as we went along we got more confident. I just thought we really played well

throughout the tournament as a team."

"It's the greatest feeling," he said. "It's a great thing to end your high school career playing baseball with a win. Not too many people can say that."

Brother Rice fell behind early in the championship game when Anderson scored a run in the top of the first inning. But the Warriors bounced right back in the bottom of the first with four runs on two hits, three walks, an error and a sacrifice fly.

The Warriors added solo runs in the second and third innings to take a 5-1 lead. However, Anderson, which ended the season with a 23-10 overall record, got back within three runs (6-3) in the fourth inning after outfielder Gary Ceroni clubbed a mammoth two-run homer to left field.

In their next turn at bat, the Warriors showed they were not to going

to be denied.

Brother Rice sent 11 men to the plate and erupted for seven runs on five hits to take a 13-3 lead. The key hits in that pivotal at-bat were two two-run singles, by John Taggart and Kalczynski.

Coach Kalczynski sent eight consecutive pinch hitters to the plate in the bottom of the sixth inning, when Rice completed its scoring. One run scored on Robert Harvey's fielder's choice and another came home on a single by David Matthews.

Winning pitcher Mike Pesani, a sophomore, limited Anderson to five hits and was in control all the way for his second victory of the state tournament. He struck out four and did not walk a batter.

Offensively, Taggart had a pair of hits and three RBIs. Marty Weymouth, the winning pitcher, in the other five state tournament games, had a pair of hits, walked twice and scored two runs.



Final slide: Brother Rice senior John Taggart slides safely into third base during Saturday's Class A final matchup.

Second time around proves twice as nice

BY JIM TOTTH
STAFF WRITER

It may be a once-in-a-lifetime experience, but it has already happened twice for Brian Kalczynski, Joe Werner and Marty Weymouth.

The Birmingham Brother Rice tri-captains found themselves in the center of a state championship celebration for the second time in three years Saturday as the Warriors clubbed Southgate Anderson, 16-3, at Bailey Park in Battle Creek to lay claim to the 1994 Class A baseball title.

"This is every bit as exciting as the first," said Weymouth, who was a freshman on the Warriors' 1992 state championship team. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime feeling, but I guess I'm one of the lucky ones who gets to do it twice."

As are Kalczynski and Werner, who also contributed greatly to that 16-11 nine-inning triumph two years ago over Lake West.

"In the Brother Rice program, everybody helps everybody else out," said Kalczynski, who batted leadoff and handled shortstop duties for the Warriors in his final season of varsity play. "As a sophomore, I felt senior back then treated us incredibly well, and this year we tried to do the same for the non-seniors."

The one difference Kalczynski noted between the crowning achievements was that the final

"Our main goal was to win a state championship, but to get to that point, we knew we had to come out and play hard every game."

Marty Weymouth
Warrior tri-captain

moments of this year's final were a lot less strenuous than that of two years ago.

"I was a little more relaxed this time because we were up 12 runs," said Kalczynski, who contributed three RBIs and three runs scored to the winning side. "It came down to the final out last time, but this one feels just as good."

For Kalczynski, Werner, Weymouth and the rest of the Warriors, Saturday's victory culminated a stellar campaign in which they won 31 of 39 decisions.

"Every game this year we just tried to do our best," said Weymouth, who next season will set his sights on being part of a third state championship team. "Our main goal was to win a state championship, but to get to that point, we knew we had to come out and play hard every game. Every guy on this team backed up everybody else and that got us back here again."