

Bulls maintain the lead in collegiate circuit

They're not of the Pamplona variety, but the first-place Bulls are still running strong in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League.

On Saturday, the 12-3-1 Bulls avoided being swept in a double-header against the Lake Michigan Area Rams by gaining a 3-3 tie at Ford Field after losing the opener, 4-0.

The Rams (11-5-1) pulled within three points of the leader with a 10-0 six-inning mercy rule victory over the last-place Warriors (3-14-1) at Ford Field.

Former Redford Union High ace Mike Hayes (Madonna University) tossed a three-hit shutout. He struck out five walked one and hit one batter.

Offensively, ex-Garden City High player Rob Hudson (Jacksonville University) went 4-for-4 and scored one run. Ryan Freiburger added three hits and two RBI.

Chris Trett (Plymouth Salem/Albion) and T.J. Smith each contributed two hits and two RBI. Brian Campbell (Livonia Stevenson/Central Michigan) and Ty Herriott each knocked in a run.

Meanwhile, the fourth-place Tecumseh (Ontario) Thunder improved to 7-10 in LCBL play with a 3-0 win Monday over Decision Consultants, Inc. (11-7) at Ford Field.

Right-hander Jeff Casagrande of Long Island (N.Y.) University handcuffed DCI on three hits. He struck out four and walked one.

Derrick Feldcamp, a Blainfield native headed to Michigan, suffered the loss. He went six innings.

Adam Verheyen's two-out single scored Chris Cerehio with the game-winning run in the second inning. Dan Marshall added an RBI single in the third and Jerry

BASEBALL

Dufour scored on a bases-loaded walk in the seventh for the Thunder.

On Saturday, DCI swept the Hurricanes (5-10-1) in a double-header at Clintondale High School, 12-1 and 7-0.

DCI right-hander Ross Winimko (Eastern Michigan) gave up only one hit in the opener,

limiting the Hurricanes to one hit. He struck out seven, walked one and hit one batter in seven innings.

Jim Goldhof (CMU) went 2-for-4 and scored a pair of runs for DCI, which put it away with four runs in the top of the seventh inning.

In the nightcap, U-M pitchers Bobby Garza and Ali Husain combined on a shutout in DCI's 7-0 victory.

Garza went the first five innings, allowing just two hits while striking out five.

Husain gave up a pair of walks and struck out over the final two innings.

Derrick Peterson went 2-for-3 to lead DCI, including a two-run homer. Goldhof and Sullivan also had two hits apiece.

Former Livonia (Wayne State) pitcher Gary Zielke (Wayne State) improved his record to 2-0 as the Rams dumped the first-place Bulls

in the opener of a twinbill Saturday at Ford Field, 4-0.

Zielke led a three-hitter with four strikeouts and three walks. His earned run average is 0.79 in 17.2 innings pitched.

Hudson was the offensive hero, going 3-for-4 with one RBI. Brad Leach added two hits and one RBI, while Joe Neal knocked in a pair of runs.

Steve Tollison had two hits for the Bulls. The second game was halted

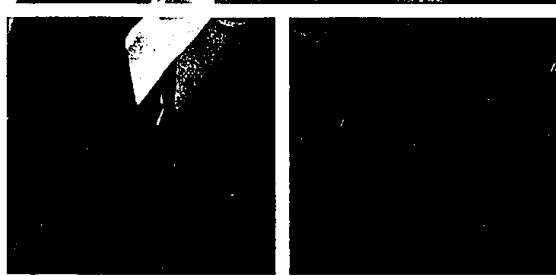
after nine innings because of a time limit, ending in a 3-3 deadlock.

Steve Kniebbs of the Rams pitched the first 6.2 innings before giving way to Smith.

Bullidge starter Joe Carmosino went the first six innings and reliever Jason Bracks went the final three.

Joe Flanbaum went 3-for-4 to pace the Bulls' offensive attack, while Sean Gallagher was 2-for-4 with two RBI.

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Kingdom overrules Bucks, 2-1

BY CHRISTINE BRODA
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Despite 90 minutes of back-and-forth action, it was a series of penalty kicks that finally decided the outcome as the Mid-Michigan Bucks felled the host Kalamazoo Kingdom Saturday night, 2-1.

The Bucks (8-3-1) were unable to sustain the momentum from their last game - a 4-1 home victory over the West Michigan Edge - against the Kingdom, which now improves to 6-4 in Premier Development League Great Lakes Division soccer.

SOCCER

Although they boast one of the division's best records, the Bucks looked sluggish all night, never finding the rhythm they enjoyed in their last game, played June 20 at Canton High School.

"We were very lax with our marking in the back and in the box, causing several dangerous opportunities for Kalamazoo," said Bucks general manager Jim Dugan of his team's play. "It was not our finest hour."

Kalamazoo opened the scoring at the 23rd minute on Nick Pantazi's breakaway as the Bucks got caught in an offside trap. However, the Bucks continued to press and carry the play, outshooting Kalamazoo 6-3 and gaining five corner kicks.

Although they were not able to convert on any of the corner balls, the Bucks came back to tie the score when Mychal Turpin's penalty shot found the back of the Kingdom's net in the 31st minute.

Turpin was brought down in the 18-yard box after a strong individual run up the right wing, and his performance at the penalty line resulted in a 1-1 score at the half.

But the next time a player stepped to the penalty line, the result was not in Mid-Michigan's favor.

Pantazi netted a penalty kick called on the Bucks' Kaleb to capture his second goal of the match with just 18 minutes left to play. The goal proved to be the game-winner, although the Bucks outshot Kalamazoo 10-7 for the game.

Despite a disheartening loss, the Bucks remain in second place ahead of Kalamazoo and behind the undefeated Chicago Fire Reserves (9-0-1).

Mid-Michigan is off until their rematch with Kalamazoo, Tuesday, July 2, at Saginaw.

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