

Thurston Off 'n' Running With Two Easy Baseball Victories

Champs Winging

Off and running again. That's the Thurston high baseball team.

The Townshippers, who won 18 out of 20 last season and hauled in the Northwest Suburban League as well as the Greater Livonia Invitational titles, started 1967 by beating Crestwood, 9-0, and Riverside, 14-2.

Deno Syrios, Tim Carr and Bob Durand all turned in fine work on the mound for Thurston while the bats of Paul Santangelo and Dan Harris struck with some mighty thuds in the two games.

Syrios won five innings against Crestwood and fanned 10 while allowing one hit. Carr finished up and set down five of the six he faced on strikes.

Santangelo lashed three hits, two singles and a double, and swatted two of the safeties in the second inning when Thurston unloaded for five runs.

He started the uprising with a hit. Then after Bob Holmes singled, Barry Simpson and Syrios walked, Mike Turner was safe on a fielder's choice before Santangelo climaxed the inning with a double.

Harris drove in two runs in the first inning and two more in the fifth in the 14-2 romp over Riverside.

Durand pitched five innings and scattered four hits. Syrios and Garry McVay finished up, working one frame apiece.

Thurston's track team didn't fare as well, succumbing in a dual meet to Roseville, 63-51.

Chuck Nole was the individual standout for Thurston along with Jim McEwen. The latter won both the high jump and pole vault with respective leaps of 5-6 and 12 feet.

Nole won the long jump, soaring 18 feet, 10 inches and taking second in both the dashes.

Roger Stefan won the shot put for Thurston with a toss of 47 feet, 7 inches, to give his team a sweep in the four field events.

But Thurston won only two running races as Glen Dusek led in the mile at 4:20 and Ken Plasko took the low hurdles with a clocking of 20.9 seconds. Plasko was second in the high hurdles.

Ends Basic Training

Spaman Recruit Richard S. Stone, 19, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Stone of 29221 Jacquelyn Drive, Livonia, has been graduated from nine weeks of Navy basic training at the Naval Training Center here at Great Lakes, Ill.



PERFECT PITCH: Bob Durand of Thurston cuts loose with a strike to beat Riverside. It was one of two victories posted by Thurston as season opened.

Glenn Nips West, West Rips East

Opening week produced a 50-50 record for Garden City West's high school baseball team.

Two errors cost West a 2-1 decision at the hands of John Glenn. But then West jumped back to drill Garden City East, 9-3, in the first half of their annual city series.

Jim Furay and Bob Chidester combined to hold Glenn to only two hits, but miscues led to their downfall.

Glenn counted once in the second inning on a single by Snow, an error and a fielder's choice.

Then in the seventh, the winning run came home when McMillan singled, took second on an error.

Two walks loaded the bases and a wild pitch sent him home with the deciding run.

Mike McMaster hurled the route for Glenn and fanned 11 during his fine stint.

Bob Gamache worked the route for West in the victory over East. He was touched for only two single—one each by Steve Fugabon and Joe Huber—and fanned seven.

His control was off slightly as he walked five. After Furay homered for West in the third inning, East came back to score all of its runs on the two hits by Fugabon and Huber, walk and three errors.

But in the sixth, West sewed up matters by scrapping for five runs to break a 3-3 tie.

A single by Evans started the bombardment. A walk and hit batter loaded the bases and all three scored when Gamache slammed a triple. Singles by Joe Kucimba and Gary Woodside followed to wrap up the verdict for West.

Huber hurled the first four innings for East with Pike finishing and suffering the loss.

Steals Net Bentley 50-50 Day

Sometimes it pays to steal.

For example: When Bentley high opened its 1967 baseball season last Saturday with a 1-0 victory over Port Huron in the first half of a doubleheader, a double steal decided the game.

The twin thefts were pulled off in the third inning by winning pitcher Dave Gorton and John Schroeter. Here's how it happened:

Gorton had singled and raced around to third when Schroeter was safe at first on a slow dribbler along the third base line. The throw to first was a trifle wide.

At this point, coach Marty Klokis of Bentley called for a double steal. It worked with Gorton on the scoring end and that's where the ball some matters later turned out.

Gorton, pitching brilliantly, allowed only one hit—a fifth inning, two-out single by Stu Howie—and struck out six while walking only two.

The winners picked up five hits, two by Gary Coleman and one each by Gorton, Ed Ryan and Mike Casani.

In the nightcap, Port Huron turned the tables to emerge with a 4-1 victory.

A walk, single and error led to two Port Huron runs in the third inning. The other two came on a single and homer in the fifth off loser Bill McAlpine.

Bentley went without a run until the seventh, when Ray Krueger slugged a 3-1 pitch far over the center-fielder's head for a homer. Then Gorton singled, but the Bentley rally quickly was subdued.

Two Livonia Swimmers Synchronized Meet. Ruth Waterston and Norma Jean Thomas, both Michigan State University sophomores from Livonia, will participate in the annual MSU Green Splash synchronized swimming show "Let There Be Lights," to be given April 21 to 23 on the campus.

Gambs with Franklin Wednesday and Stevenson Friday wrap up the non-league preliminaries before Bentley jumps into Suburban Six League action next week.

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Missed Strike Costly to Rocks

Shaded Mickey Owen! Remember how a missed third strike by Owen, when catching for the Brooklyn Dodgers, paved the way for the New York Yankees to win the 1941 World Series.

Something identical cost Plymouth high school's baseball team its season's opener to Ypsilanti, 4-3.

Dan Camp, the Rocks' fine pitcher, suffered the loss to Ypsilanti despite the fact he allowed only three hits. But errors figured in all of the Ypsilanti runs.

The most important tally came across in the seventh inning.

The leadoff batter for Ypsilanti tripled. Camp got the next man to bounce right back to the mound for an easy out. The runner remained at third.

Then Camp tossed over two quick strikes to the next man. His following pitch was a low-breaking curve. The batter swung as the ball hit in front of the plate and bounced away from the Plymouth catcher.

Before the ball could be

retrieved, the winning run had come across for Ypsilanti.

Plymouth was held to four hits with Barry Good's two-run double featuring the attack. Camp himself knocked in another run with a single. The other hits were fashioned by Rick Fillmore and John Bida.

The Rocks twice led in the game, 2-0 and 3-2.

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