

Livonians Hoping For Baseball Surprise

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

The title of the '72 Adray baseball season could very well be determined Friday at 8:30 p.m. on Livonia's Ford Field.

Powerful Redford Adray standing with three wins and one tie will match talents with Livonia's Griffin Sport. The Westland Burger King also boasts a perfect 3-0 mark but Livonia Coach Ron Heller sees Friday's contest as the key to a successful season.

Coach Heller called on Redford Union graduate Randy Ferguson in the Sincola game and the stocky lefthander came through with a brilliant two-hitter, striking out 11 and walking only one.

By all rights Ferguson should be on the Redford Adray team but was released by Redford Coach Pat Sheridan and Coach Heller couldn't be happier.

Sincola was Joe Koterba who hurled a six hitter, striking out eight and walking one.

Franklin High's Gar Frantz was the offensive puncher Griffin needed as he blasted a solo round tripper in the second and started a seventh inning rally that netted two more.

Frantz opened the top of the seventh with a single followed by a two-bagger by Rob Hollandsworth. Bruce VanWagoner doubled both in and Ferguson set down the Adray bats for his first win in his first outing.

Griffin jumped to a one run lead in the second stanza of the Dearborn clash, which pitted Jerry Jarvela against Dearborn's Ray Wenck.

LaNove was safe on a fielder's choice with Muto out at second. Pete Cravens then swung late and laced a shot down the right field line for three bases and Dearborn was up by one.

Griffin pitched it at two all in the top of the sixth and just missed on a go ahead attempt. Bruce VanWagoner and Durkinning drew walks and Roy Henriksson delivered a single with VanWagoner scoring.

The throw to the plate went astray and Durkinning broke for home but was cut down on a relay from catcher to pitcher for the third out.

The bottom of the sixth saw a lot of action on the bases and when the dust cleared, Dearborn was in command by one.

Antanazzo ripped a single up the middle to put runners on first and third.

Dearborn Coach Frank Malot missed the sign and third and tagged out. Freeburn called for the suicide squeeze but Jean rundown between home and Malot and John Renko singled to score Antanazzo with what proved to be the deciding margin.



PICKED OFF FIRST -- Mark Newell of Connie Mack's Livonia Optimist leaned a little too far off first base and was tagged out by National Pride's Al Leirstein. National Pride

topples the Optimists, 2-1. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

observerland sports

Redford Hitters Push Adray Mark To 'No-Hit' 3-0

Redford Adray utilized a no-hitter and an awesome offensive attack to remain undefeated in league action in a tie for first place.

Tom Ford's no-hitter was all Redford needed to topple Dearborn, 2-0, and the Redford bats exploded in the Plymouth Bidwell contest to a tune of a 15-3 victory.

Ford struck out eight enroute to his second win and allowed one walk. Gary Niemczak hurled for Dearborn and turned in a fine two-hitter with six strikeouts and three walks.

The only two hits came in the fourth inning. Redford's Bill Fraser singled on an error and Dan O'Brien followed with a single. A throwing error advanced the runners to second and third where Bill Herbert drove them in with a game winning single.

the fourth and four in the sixth with Plymouth scoring two in the sixth and one in the seventh.

Bill Fraser started Redford off in the first with a two-bagger. Jeff Washington walked and O'Brien unleashed a shot to left field that carried over 400 feet and bounced off the Thurston High school wall for a triple with two scoring.

DOUG BURKE doubled, Bill Herbert walked and R.J. LaRoux singled to score two more.

Six hits accounted for six runs in the third inning. O'Brien singled and Burke was hit by a pitch. Herbert was safe on a fielder's choice with everybody safe and LaRoux was safe on an error with one scoring.

Denny Poppenger singled to score two and Dan Malone sacrificed to score LaRoux.

moved to second on a wild pitch and scored on a hit by Eszes.

WASHINGTON drew his third walk of the day and O'Brien delivered his fourth hit to score Eszes and Washington.

Plymouth broke into the scoring column off reliever Ghanman in the sixth. Croeskey singled, Jim Grimmer doubled and Tom Koebel singled in two runs.

The other Plymouth tally came in the seventh with Boehms and Graves walking and Boehms scoring on a single by Grimmer.

Redford fattened its batting mark in the Plymouth contest with a 15 run production. Dan O'Brien started for Redford and hurled four innings, allowed one hit, struck out six and walked one. Bob Ghanman relieved O'Brien and worked the final three innings.

Plymouth had Tom Cook and Larry Graves on the mound with Cook taking the loss.

Redford tallied for four in the first, six in the third, one in

FRASER SINGLED, and stole second and Gordie Eszes singled to score Poppenger. Washington and O'Brien followed with singles and Plymouth had no wandering if there was no end to the Redford attack.

Herbert blasted a solo round tripper in the fourth to give Redford an 11-0 bounce and four runs in the sixth finished the offensive punch.

LaRoux walked, stole second and scampered around on a single by Ford, who

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Sincola Edges Garden City

Farmington's Mario Sincola Adray baseball squad scored its first league win over Garden City behind the five hit pitching of Dennis Blazok, 5-3.

It was the first triumph for Sincola with two defeats and one tie to its credit.

Blazok recorded six strikeouts and walked two. Mike Vocas took the loss for Garden City.

JIM WISNIEWSKI singled and moved up on a ground ball and wild pitch to score on a hit by Terry Dobbs.

Sincola woke up in the sixth to score four times and grab a two run margin.

Ray Ponke singled and scored on a two-bagger by Blazok.

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