

Local Roundup

Written by Staff Reports
Friday, April 05, 2013 11:30 AM -

Lancers double-up Musketeers in baseball

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MIDDLE POINT- The Lincolnview Lancers faced off against the Fort Jennings Musketeers on Thursday night at Lincolnview High School in baseball action. The Lancers got their first win of the season with a 6-3 victory.

The Musketeers got on the board in the first frame after Mark Metzger singled and came around to score due to some poor fielding by the Lancers.

Lincolnview started the bottom of the first frame with a leadoff single by Nick Leeth, who came around to score when Austin Leeth doubled him home. Later in the first, with two outs, Conner McCleery singled home Austin Leeth to give the Lancers a 2-1 lead after one inning.

In the top of the second, Alex Vetter walked for the Musketeers but Lincolnview pitcher Jalen Roberts struck out two of the next three batters to end the inning. Kurt Warnecke shut out the Lancer bats over the next three innings, striking out five batters through four innings.

In the top of the fourth inning, the Musketeers struck for 1 run. Vetter singled to start the inning and advanced to second after Zach Finn walked to put runners on first and second. Two batters later, Conner Wallenhorst got an RBI single to tie the game at two.

In the bottom of the fifth, the Lancers got both Nick and Austin Leeth on after both singled. Nick Leeth crossed home plate after a messed-up pickoff attempt by Warnecke. McCleery singled home Austin Leeth to give the Lancers a 4-2 lead in the fifth inning.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, Dalton Kaysor and Nick Leeth both had RBI singles to give the Lancers a 6-2 lead.

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In the top of the seventh inning, Metzger and Bret Clay both singled after Jared Hoersten singled. Two batters later, the umpire ruled that a Lancer fielder interfered with a Fort Jennings base-runner, resulting in the runner being awarded home plate. The Musketeers had cut the Lancer lead to 6-3. Roberts got the next batter to ground into a game-ending double play to give the Lancers their first victory on the young season.

This was the first win in the coaching career for Kevin Longstreth: "I'm happy with the way Jalen came out and pitched. He is a freshman, it's his first time on the mound — first start ever on varsity — and he did a good job throwing strikes. He did an outstanding job of throwing strikes. We started a freshman on the mound and a freshman behind the plate and they did an excellent job of letting the defense work for us tonight and we cut down on the errors and it showed up on the scoreboard tonight."

"Pitching was OK, defense was OK, energy was OK; we just need to keep getting better," Fort Jennings coach Eric Schwab noted. "We left a small village on the base paths today and you aren't going to win ball games like that. We went 1-for-12 with runners in scoring position and had 10 strikeouts on the game."

With the win the Lancers improve to 1-2 on the year and the Musketeers drop to 3-2 on the season.

Fort Jennings visits Ottawa-Glandorf 5 p.m. Monday, while Lincolnview hosts Hicksville that same time.

Lincolnview 6, Fort Jennings 3

Score by Innings:

Fort Jennings 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 - 3 10 0

Lincolnview 2 0 0 0 2 2 x - 6 11 2

WP: Jalen Roberts (7 innings, 8 hits, 3 runs, 5 walks, 10 strikeouts); LP: Mark Metzger (5 innings, 10 hits, 4 runs, 6 strikeouts). 2B: Austin Leeth (L), Derek Friesner (L).

Big 1st inning propels Mustangs over Lady Green

OTTOVILLE — Allen East erupted for 10 runs in the top of the first inning en route to a 14-2 5-inning rout of host Ottoville Thursday night in fast-pitch softball action.

The Mustangs had 13 hits and the Lady Green (1-1) had six errors.

Ottoville (1-1) hosts Columbus Grove 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Score by Innings:

Allen East (10) 1 3 0 0 - 14 13 0

Ottoville 1 0 0 0 1 - 2 4 6

WP-Rowe; LP-Courtney Von Sossan. HR: K. Rex (A), A. Mertz (A), Ashley Landwehr (O).

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Third frame keys Lady 'Dawgs over LCC

ELIDA — Aryanna Brown and Michaela Black each hit 3-run homers as part of a 7-run third inning as the Elida fast-pitcher softballers bounced Lima Central Catholic 14-4 in six innings Thursday at Dorothy Edwards Field.

Brown hit a homer in the second consecutive game, while Black has three homers in this, her freshman season, and also earned her second pitching win. She fanned 12 and walked one. Meredith Shepherd hit two doubles and a home run for the Lady Thunderbirds. She also took the loss, striking out five and walking same.

Elida (2-2) hosts Bellefontaine for a noon twin-bill Saturday.

Score by Innings:

LCC 0 0 2 1 1 0 - 4 4 4

Elida 3 0 7 0 3 1 - 14 9 2

WP: Michaela Black (2-0); LP: Meredith Shepherd. 2B: LCC (Shepherd 2), Elida (Halpern, Kline, Kiel). HR: LCC (Shepherd), Elida (Aryanna Brown, Micheala Black). RBIs: LCC (Shepherd 3), Elida (Michaela Black 3, Aryanna Brown 3, Caitlyn Shroyer 2, Sabrina Kline, Erika Kiel, Brett Pauff). MULTIPLE HITS: LCC (Shepherd 3), Elida (Jenna Halpern 2, Erika Kiel 2).

OSU-Rhodes drops twin-bill

HAMILTON — Miami University-Hamilton handed OSU-Lima/Rhodes State College a 13-3, 8-7 doubleheader loss Thursday in Hamilton.

Game 1

Score by Innings:

OSU-Lima Rhodes 2 0 1 0 0 0 - 3 7 1

Miami U Hamilton 1 0 5 1 0 6 - 13 13 1

WP: Robby Kuriger; LP: Codie Roberts(1-3). 2B: Cody Dukes (OSU-L); Mitch Durbin (MU-H). HR-Daniel Franceschetti (MU-H)

Game 2

Score by Innings:

OSU-Lima Rhodes 0 1 3 0 2 1 0 0 0 0 - 7 14 5

Miami U Hamilton 2 3 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 - 8 11 0

WP: Jake Wagner; LP: Joey Schmook(0-1). 2B: Cody Dukes, Alex White (OSU-L); Heath Stricker (MU-H). 3B: -Derrick Pease (OSU-L).

Records: OSU-Lima(4-10, 1-2 ORCC) MU-Ham(16-6, 6-0 ORCC)

Beavers move to 5-1 in the HCAC with sweep of Defiance

By Sean Anderson

Sports information assistant

BLUFFTON, Ohio - The Bluffton University softball team swept the Defiance College Yellow Jackets on Thursday,. The Beavers won the first game 11-9 and kept it going in game two, winning 12-4 in five innings. With the two wins, the Beavers improved to 13-11 overall and 5-1 in the Heartland Conference, while Defiance College fell to 9-11 overall and 2-4 in the HCAC one day after shocking #5 Trine University, 3-2.

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The Jackets came out swinging in game one, starting off with four straight singles. However, Bluffton limited the visitors to just one score after sophomore Katie Clark (New Palestine, Ind.) gunned down Maggie Neanen who was trying to score from second on a Katie Patchin base hit to right.

The Beavers answered in the bottom of the first, striking right back and scoring three runs of their own. Shelby Erford (Paulding) reached on a throwing error to lead off the inning for the Beavers. Katie Clark doubled to right center, scoring Erford. After two more errors by the Jackets, Natalie Nikitas (Jeffersonville, Ind.) doubled to left field, knocking in two for a 3-1 lead

In the top of the third inning the Yellow Jackets scored five runs on four hits and two throwing errors as Defiance went ahead, 6-3. In the bottom of the frame the Beavers fired back with five runs of their own thanks to a Defiance defense that committed three more errors. Jessica Kuzara (Flat Rock, Mich./Huron) doubled to right center before scoring on a miscue by Defiance. After a walk, Shelby Wade (Delaware/Buckeye Valley) doubled to right center, plating Nikitas in the process. Erford then singled to score another run. Freshman Ashley Knippen's (Wapakoneta) bunt single scored Wade.

In the bottom of the fourth inning, Nikitas doubled again, this time to right center. Brittany Baker (Springboro) followed with a homer to left center on a 3-2 count, putting the Beavers up, 10-6. Bluffton and Defiance scored one run apiece in the the sixth inning. Natalie Nikitas homered to center field. Baker got her second hit of the game with a single to left field.

The Jackets made it interesting with two runs in the seventh but Chloe Shell (Covington) worked out of trouble and picked up the win when she induced a game-ending groundout as she improved to 7-4 on the year. Shell allowed nine runs, five earned, on 13 hits in her complete-game effort

Knippen, Erford and Baker each went 2-of-4, while Nikitas was 3-of-4 with three RBI and three runs scored. Kuzara, Erford and Baker all scored two times in the lidlifter.

In game two the Jackets came out swinging again and scored two runs in the first inning. The Beavers came back in the bottom of the first to score a run after Knippen doubled down the right field line and crossed the dish on a fielding error by Defiance.

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An inning later, the Beavers exploded for six runs. Muffo singled on a bunt and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Baker. Wade doubled to left center, scoring Muffo. Johanna Bondra (Highland Heights/Mayfield) singled to left center, moving Wade to third before she crossed the plate on a fielder's choice by Erford. A Knippen base knock to right center plated Erford and Bondra. Clark tripled to right field, scoring Knippen and putting the Beavers up, 7-2.

In the third inning the Jackets scored two runs, but the Beavers added four more in the fourth. Erford reached on an error by Defiance and she came around to score on a double to left field by Knippen. Katie Clark reached on an error by Defiance. Kuzara singled to right center, scoring Knippen. Muffo's single to left field scored Kuzara and Clark. Heading into the fifth Bluffton was ahead 11-4.

The fifth inning was started off with a single by Erford and she moved over to second on a sacrifice bunt by Knippen. Clark singled up the middle to score Erford and give the Beavers a 12-4 mercy-rule victory.

Kayla Owens (Cincinnati/McAuley) got it done in the circle, improving to 5-5 on the season. She limited Defiance to four runs, two earned, on four hits in the complete-game five-inning victory.

Knippen and Muffo went 3-of-3 for the Beavers. Knippen found the two-hole to her liking, going 5-of-7 with four RBI and three runs scored for the day.

Bluffton returns to action on Saturday when the Beavers travel to Cincinnati for a doubleheader with HCAC-foe Mount St. Joseph. The first contest is slated for 1 p.m.