



Herald Sports

By DICK WOODWARD

"Men In Blue", Envied... By Few

Umpires live a hard life during the course of a baseball season. They work most every day, sometimes four and five hours on the field, and are the center of continuous ridicule and harassment from spectators.

But, "the men in blue" take it all in stride, and for the most part, supervise the play in an extremely orderly fashion.

Managers find out quickly that the umpires are in complete control of the playing of the game from the time the first pitch is thrown and it is quite a common occurrence for a manager or a player to be ejected from a given game for some infraction of the rules or overbearing argument.

Both players and managers focus their degrading remarks at the umpires, but a recent incident which was reported gave the "umps" a pat on the back.

As the story goes, one of the Western Carolinas League managers, an ex-major leaguer, was busy himself with the task of telling league President John H. Moss that the caliber of umpiring in the WCL left much to be desired.

"The umpires certainly do make a lot of mistakes in this league, and they should be reprimanded for their 'bum calls,'" the manager said.

Moss, who has been affiliated with baseball for many years, listened intently to the manager's criticisms and upon the completion of the derogatory remarks came out with the following remark:

"Yes, I admit that the WCL umpires make mistakes, but so do they all, but don't forget, the WCL has graduated two umpires to the major leagues and we are still looking for our first manager to graduate to the big time."

With this, the manager turned and walked away.

The two officials to whom he referred are Frank Umont, who is an American League umpire and Paul Pryor, who works the National League.

Both were umpires in the old Western Carolina League in the early fifties. Umont was in the area during the '50-'51 seasons and Pryor was on the scene a year later.

It has been the observation of this writer that the caliber of umpiring in this year's WCL has been very good. Some fans forget that in Class A baseball there are only two umpires assigned to a given game while in some of the higher classifications, and in the majors, there are four men working. This fact places a double amount of work on the officials, and too, as a rule, the area umpires in the WCL are comparative youngsters in the umpiring ranks.

They are to be commended for their performances, and if the caliber of players were comparable to the game's officials, it would be a better league in which to play.

WCL All-Star Game Near Repeat

A late afternoon rain threatened to wash-out the 1964 WCL All-Star game at Rock Hill last Friday, but thanks to a highly skilled grounds crew, which worked for more than an hour to put the field into playing condition, the game was played. And the more than 1,500 fans who were on hand enjoyed a great night of baseball.

The All-Stars racked up a 7-3 win, but it took the ninth inning to determine the outcome.

Rock Hill, winner of the first half of play in the league, stayed right on the heels of the star-studded squad before faltering in the final frame.

It was tied, 3-all as the ninth inning began.

The All-Stars gained the early lead with single runs in the three middle innings, but, under the direction of manager Hal Smith, the local lads picked away and tied the game in the eighth.

The entire All-Star squad saw action and was managed by ex-major leaguer, Max Lanier, present Lexington Giant's mentor. Shelby's Dave McDonald contributed a pinch-hit single to score two runs in the decisive ninth.

The progress of the game closely resembled that of the major league affair which was held Tuesday, and the final outcome was only a one-run difference. The National League defeated the American by a 7-4 score as a result of a three-run homer in the ninth.

"It was a great game, and a good time was had by all," commented Rock Hill manager Smith following the game.

"We were well pleased with the outcome, and are looking forward to an even more successful second half of the season," President Moss stated.

Major League Race In Home Stretch

As the major leagues head into the home stretch of the '64 season there are two surprises. The Baltimore Orioles and the Philadelphia Phillies, both of which are making it known that they mean business.

The Orioles are hanging on to a slim lead in the American League and the Phillies are shuffling back and forth from first to second place in the senior circuit.

At the All-Star break the Orioles and Phillies led their respective leagues and showed no signs of giving ground to the pre-season picked favorite New York Yankees and the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Dodgers have been a miserable disappointment thus far this season.

The biggest asset for the flag-hopeful Orioles is their ability to beat the Yankees. Not long ago the Yankees made a strong bid for the front-running spot with two series sweeps of the Chicago White Sox, but the Orioles were not to be denied. The Yanks had momentum going for them as they moved into Baltimore, but the Orioles refused to fall victim to the '63 champs. They not only swept the series from the Yanks, but did it in Yankee fashion by coming from behind in the late innings of two contests.

The Phillies snapped a four game losing streak Monday night with a 3-2 victory over Milwaukee's Warren Spahn to remain one game out of first place, and should remain in contention as the season progresses.

Manager Gene Mauch has molded a well-balanced attack in Philadelphia and the fans are sensing a pennant in the City of Brotherly Love for the first time since the Whiz Kids copped the crown in 1950.

But, the surprising Orioles and Phillies have their work cut out for them, and as the long hot days of late July and August roll around, the Yankees and Giants should steadily gain on the pack and wind up in the coveted World Series in October.

Pitcher Warren Goforth Wins Legion MVP Award

Warren (Bo) Goforth, mainstay of the 1964 American Legion pitching staff, was presented the Most Valuable Player Award at a steak sapper honoring the team last Thursday night.

The event was held at the local Police Club and all but one of this year's players were on hand. The American Legion sponsored the event, which consisted of charcoal steaks for the players and invited guests. Sixty-four players and guests were on hand to honor this year's team which compiled a season record of eight wins against eight defeats.

Goforth, who terminated his eligibility this year, has been an outstanding performer for the local juniors for three seasons, and compiled a 3-2 won-loss record in '64.

Athletic Director Carl Wilson presented the trophy and told the audience that it was a difficult decision to select the most valuable because all of the participating players contributed a great deal to the program.

Goforth's selection came as a result of a three-man committee which was appointed to determine the winner.

Five players terminated their eligibility this year and were recognized for their outstanding contributions to this year's team. Those who will be ineligible next year are: Warren Goforth, pitcher; Louis Cook, catcher; Jim Leigh, first baseman; Jackie Hughes, pitcher; and George Pittman, center fielder.

Head Coach John Gold told the aggregation that he had enjoyed working with such a good group of boys this season, and although things did not always turn out as planned, it was a fruitful year.

Optimist Club Sponsors Little League Outing

The local Optimist Club will sponsor an outing this weekend for the Kings Mountain Little League's at Lake Norman, it was announced by Bob Hurlbut this week.

All Little Leaguers are invited to attend the affair which begins Saturday afternoon and terminates Sunday.

Transportation will be furnished by the Optimist Club and departure will be from the Optimist Clubhouse Saturday afternoon at 12:30 P.M.

Some eight players are expected to take part in the two day affair, and all interested boys must have the consent of their parents.

Fishing and other sports and forms of recreation are planned and Sunday School services will be held for those who wish to attend.

"The trip is a wonderful opportunity for the boys to engage in wholesome 'fellowship,'" Hurlbut said. "And we are looking forward to a big turnout," he added.

Ex-Legion Stars "Ready To Play" As Baseball Clinic Time Nears

The veterans are ready and raring; the future hopefuls will be busy themselves with the task of mustering a fighting force; and the two teams will meet in City Stadium on Friday and Saturday nights, July 24 and 25 in a series which pits the American Legion stars of the past against the stars of the future.

The two teams will terminate a five-day baseball clinic which is being conducted by Legion coach John Gold and Athletic Director Carl Wilson.

The activities get underway on Tuesday afternoon at five o'clock with all interested candidates reporting for a three-day clinic, which is designed to acquaint the coaching staff with the future hopeful American Legion players, and begin organized practice sessions.

All boys in the 13-18 age group are invited to attend the clinic, but those presently participating in the Pony League program will be excluded.

All of the boys who played on this year's team and have another year of eligibility will team to take on the veteran performers in the climaxing series.

"It is our hope that the upcoming event will be continued in the years to come because it gives the coaching staff a chance to plan for the upcoming season, and also gives the past players a chance to re-live some of their past Legion experiences on the diamond," Director Carl Wilson said concerning the newly formed clinic.

From all reports received, the veteran performers are excited about the two-game series and have related that they will be out to nostalgically remind area fans of their performances in the years past.

Bur Mill Maintains Little League Lead; Lions Re-Capture Second

The Bur Mill and Lions entries in the City Little League race are currently holding down the first and second positions respectively as a result of the past week's games.

The Lions gained sole possession of the No. 2 spot in the standings with consecutive victories, while the Optimist team won one and lost one to drop to third place, a game out of second place and three games behind the leaders.

JAYCEES - KIWANIS
Rayford White pitched a two-hitter and the Jaycees rapped two pitchers for thirteen hits last Wednesday as the Jaycees won a one sided victory over the Kiwanis, 20-3.

White gave up both Kiwanis hits to starting pitcher Jack Bell and rested on the laurels of his hard hitting teammates as they rapped starter Bell and Clyde Durose for 20 runs on 13 hits and were issued nine bases on balls.

Pete Ware paced the winners hitting with three singles in four times at bat. Roy Huffstetter enjoyed a perfect day at the plate for the winners by collecting one hit and three bases on balls.

A single run in the top of the first inning and five more in the second insured the victory for the fourth place Jaycees lads. The Kiwanis scored all three runs in the fifth inning as a result of a hit, a single, and four bases on balls.

Jaycees 153 311
Kiwanis 000 003

LIONS - RESCUE SQUAD
The Lions moved into second place last Wednesday with a close, 5-4 victory over the Rescue Squad.

The winners tallied two runs in the first inning, added a singleton in the second frame, and clinched the victory with two runs in the fourth inning. The losing Rescue Squad lads rallied for single runs in the first and third innings to remain in the contest, and a rally in the final inning fell one run short.

The Lions led, 5-2 as the final inning began and the losers made a strong bid to gain the win as Curt Ramsey started things off with a single. Rocky Haynes followed suit, and Mike Hutchins brought them home with a long double to close the margin at 5-4. But Lions winning pitcher Geepie Howard settled down after the two run outburst and retired center fielder Jim Crawford on an infield out and catcher Steve Powell picked Hutchins off second base for the second out. Howard fanned Mike McDaniel to end the game and preserve the victory.

Powell paced the Lions six hit attack with two safeties in four at-bats. Billy Bowers and Dale Russell collected two hits each for the losers.

Rescue Squad 101 002
Lions 210 20x

BUR-MILL - POLICE
The league-leading Bur Mill lads were right back at it on Thursday afternoon as the Police Club fell victim to the hard hitting boys by a 19-3 score.

It was all Bur Mill as the winners scored five times in the first inning on home runs by Larry Carroll and Harry Martin.

Bur Mill pitcher Larry Carroll limited the losers to only one hit, a single by Don Sossos in the second inning. Carroll issued five bases on balls and his teammates committed three errors to account for the loser's three runs.

In addition to pitching the one-hitter, Larry paced the 15 hit Bur Mill attack with a home run, and three singles in five at bats.

Police 001 200
Bur Mill 535 24x

OPTIMIST - PARK GRACE
The Optimist lads pushed Park Grace further into the cellar of the league standings with a 7-5 victory Thursday afternoon.

The winners, paced by second-baseman Dana Sarvis who enjoyed a three-for-four afternoon at the plate, tallied twice in the first, third and fourth innings, and scored once in the second in posting the win.

Park Grace bunched four runs into the third innings after trailing through the first two frames by a 3-1 score.

Bobby Green went the distance on the mound for the winners and allowed the losing Park Grace lads only four hits. Scott Towell suffered the loss.

Howell collected three hits to pace the loser's at bat.

John Warlick-Richard Ethridge Team Wins City Doubles Tennis Tournament

John Warlick and Richard Ethridge teamed to cop the City Doubles Tennis Tournament which was held at the City Recreation Center courts last week. The twosome drew a bye in the first round of the single elimination tourney which got underway last Monday, downed Harold Meachum and Chuck Gladden in the quarter-final round Tuesday afternoon, and won the third round of play Wednesday by ousting Warren (Bo) Goforth and Don Freeman.

In Thursday's play, the champs moved into the finals against Sandy Mauney and Robby Suber, who had advanced to the final round by defeating Ernie Payne and Henry Raines in the semi-finals.

The champs disposed of their opposition in the championship round by winning two straight matches.

Warlick, a local insurance agent, has been in the tennis-winning category for several years, having posted victories in singles matches as well as doubles play.

Ethridge, a 13-year-old student, made his first appearance in the city-wide tournament.

Top Team Loses In Pony League Race; Two Tied

Footo Mineral and the VFW entries in the Pony League posted victories during the past week to force the season standings into a two-way tie for first and third positions.

Footo Mineral blanked Margrace, 6-0 Monday afternoon and the VFW lads scored a 4-1 decision over the heretofore first place Spangler team. The two wins knotted the standings with Footo Mineral tied with Spangler for the No. 1 position, each with a record of 3 wins against 2 losses, and the VFW and Margrace teams at 2 wins and 3 losses each.

FOOTE MINERAL - MARGRACE
Paul Gaffney scattered four Margrace hits and struck out ten as Footo won a decisive 6-0 victory.

The winners scored twice in the third inning and added four more in the seventh to insure the victory. Third baseman Eddie Black paced the winners hitting with three hits in three at bats, and right fielder Joe Dover hit at a two-for-three pace.

Darrell Whetstone, Margrace third baseman collected a double and single for the losers and Wayne Mullinax and Charles Green had one hit each.

Footo 020 000 4
Margrace 000 000 0

VFW - SPANGLER'S
The VFW posted its second win of the season over the Spangler lads Tuesday afternoon with a 4-1 victory.

Pitcher Larry Gantt handcuffed the previous front runners on three hits and fanned 13 batters in gaining the win for the VFW. Gantt struck out the side in the first, third, and seventh innings, and was never in trouble. The lone Spangler run came in the fifth inning after center fielder Johnny Reynolds walked, advanced on a wild pitch, and scored on Danny Dyke's single.

The winners rallied for two runs in the first and sixth frames with Doug Mercer, Carl Leigh, and Glenn Perkins leading the hitting attack.

Tommy Goforth suffered his first loss of the season, but pitched a fine game as he allowed but three hits and struck out 13 VFW batters.

Spangler's 000 010 0
VFW 200 002 x

STANDINGS

Team	Won	Lost	Pct.
Spangler's	3	2	.600
Footo Mineral	3	2	.600
VFW	2	3	.400
Margrace	2	3	.400

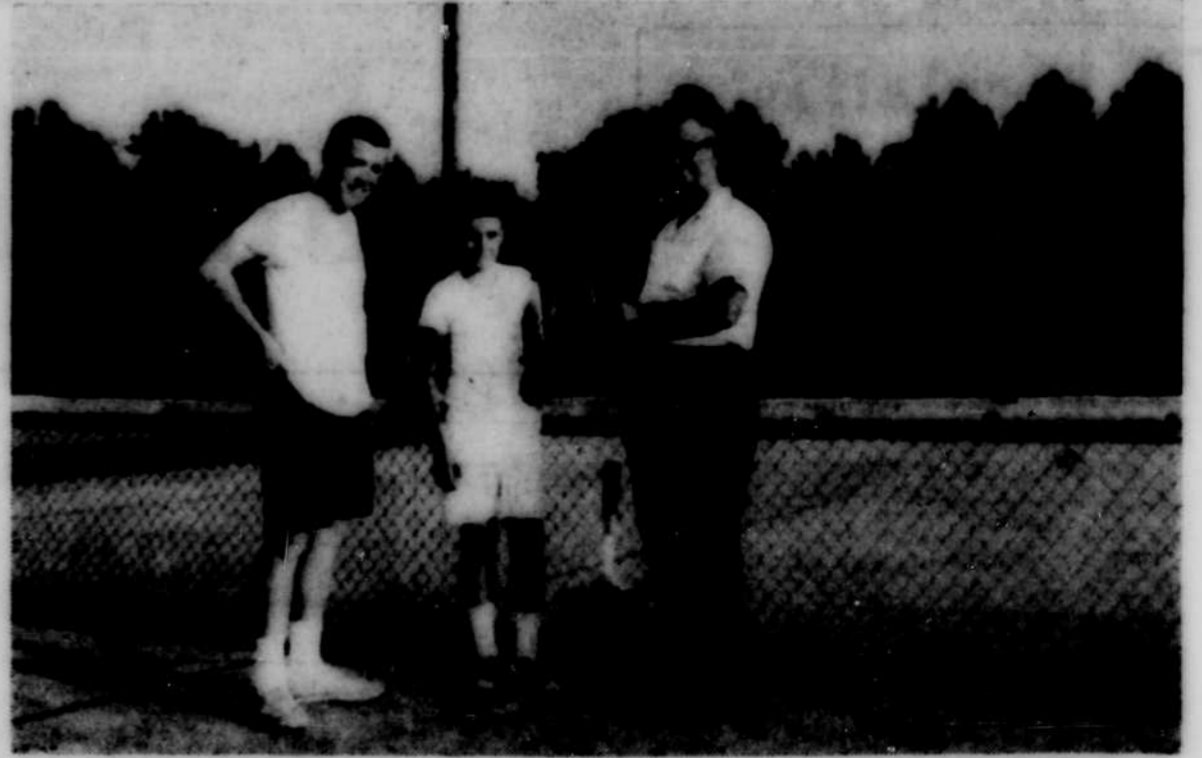
The Grover lads moved to within a half game of second place and only one game out of first with a 9-6 win over Galilee, with Compact resting in fourth place, just three games and a half out of first.

Ebenezer and Hilltop bring up the rear with 2-5 and 1-6 records respectively.

A full slate of games is scheduled for the remainder of this week with Hilltop taking on Ebenezer, Kings Mountain going against Galilee, and Grover hosting Compact in a triple header Thursday afternoon.

STANDINGS

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Kings Mtn.	7	2	.777
Galilee	6	2	.750
Grover	5	2	.714
Compact	4	2	.667
Ebenezer	2	5	.286
Hilltop	1	6	.143



TOURNAMENT WINNERS — John Warlick, left. The duo won the title by defeating Sandy Mauney and Richard Ethridge, center, are shown above and Robby Suber in the finals which were receiving the City Doubles Tennis Tournament trophy held at the Recreation Center on Deal Street last trophies from City Recreation Director Elmer Ross. Thursday afternoon.

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Spangler's 000 010 0
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TOURNAMENT RESULTS

First Round
John Warlick and Richard Ethridge — Bye.
Harold Meachum and Chuck Gladden defeated Pete Ware and Joe Cornwell.
Jerry Ramsey and Phillip Whitley — Bye.
Warren Goforth and Don Freeman defeated Phillip Russ and Lewis Stewart.
Ernie Payne and Henry Raines — Bye.

Second Round
John Warlick and Richard Ethridge defeated Harold Meachum and Chuck Gladden.
Warren Goforth and Don Freeman defeated Jerry Ramsey and Phillip Whitley.
Ernie Payne and Henry Raines defeated Ben Grimes and Steve Goforth.
Sandy Mauney and Robby Suber defeated George Plonk and Steve Baker.

Finals
John Warlick and Richard Ethridge defeated Sandy Mauney and Robby Suber.

Riley Wins Feature At York-Clover
Richard Riley of Charlotte won his third victory at York-Clover Speedway Friday night. Max Duffell was second, and third went to Max Goodwin. Bill Monteth of Clover won the first heat and Richard Riley took the second. Eddie McDaniel flipped his car and after the flip he continued in the race and his car began to cut off and he looked behind and saw his gas tank laying back on the track.

Something new is in store for fans this Friday night for the first time ever. The modifieds and late model sportsman V8 overhauls will be in conjunction with each other in a big 50-lap feature. The question has been asked many times which car is the fastest. The question will be answered this Friday night. Larry Wallace driving a '56 Ford has already entered in the late model sportsman and many other strong contenders in both divisions are expected for the challenge to win the \$250.00 first place money. A full program of amateur racing is also in store.

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Wrestling Card Set For Friday At Local Armory

A three-match wrestling card is scheduled for the Kings Mountain National Guard Armory Friday night at 8:15 P.M.

Highlighting the night's action will be a tag team match between the popular twosome "Big Boy" Brown and "Tiny" Anderson, who combine to form the famous team of "The Kentuckians". Their opposition for the featured event, which will be sanctioned under the rules of the best-two-of-three falls with a four-minute time limit, will be the team of "Brute" Bernard and "Skull" Murphy. The latter duo has been seen many times on the Saturday afternoon Championship Wrestling WBTV television program, and both wrestlers are known for their "not so legal" tactics.

Other scheduled matches for the evening include a preliminary singles match which pits John Heath against Bob Boyer in the opener, followed by the second event, also a singles match, which sends rugged Jack Allen against newcomer Pete Godoy.

An overflow crowd is expected to be on hand and fans are urged to come early in order to be assured a seat.

Shelby Features Free Game Night

The annual Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company's Fiber Glass Plant employee sponsored community night baseball party will be held at the Shelby Yankees' Ball Park Thursday night of this week.

The event, which invites the public to attend the game free of charge, will feature the Shelby Yankees playing host to the Greenville Braves at 7:30.

Added attractions for the gala affair will include live music, prizes presented to many spectators, and the appearance of Paul "Hardrock" Simpson, world's record runner, along with local talent John Ed Davis displaying his talents as a clown.

"Hardrock" Simpson is a well-known figure in the world of track and field, and will be on hand to entertain the expected overflow crowd. Simpson is a native of Burlington, N. C. where he is employed as a postman. He has been participating in races and other running events for the past forty years. He is sixty years old.

"Hardrock" has been called the runningest man in the world, and during his college days at Elon College some 40 years ago participated in many track and field events. Since his college days he has run a mile for each year of his age. It is reported by Shelby General Manager, Lester Roark.

Thursday night he will start running when the first pitch of the game is thrown and will continue running until the game is completed. Mr. Roark reports that "Hardrock" will circle the field and will be considered by the umpires as "being in play", that is, if a ball hits him it will remain in play.

In 1929 "Hardrock" was one of 62 men in a race from Los Angeles to New York City. He finished fifth in the race and won \$2,500.

All Kings Mountain fans are invited to the free game, and General Manager Roark said that he is expecting one of the largest crowds of the season to be on hand.