



St-e-e-r-i-k-e: There's no doubt to this call as the umpire gives the call in Milton Fastball League play. Colbeck and McDuffe ended their best-of-three series on a winning note and moved to the semi-finals. Oilers and Fifth Wheel were favored to end their series last night with semi-final action slated to get underway early next week.

Miltowne, Lowville sent packing from fastball play

Miltowne Realty Corp. and Lowville Benders became the first casualties of playoff action in the Milton Fastball League when both were eliminated from further play by shutouts Monday night at Brian Best Park.

Top-placed Colbeck Realty World sent Lowville packing with a pair of 2-0 and 3-0 wins in the best-of-three series while McDuffe Equipment edged Miltowne 8-7 and 2-0 to take their best-of-three series also in two straight games.

The second games in the two remaining first-round series, Thornborough Oilers vs The Racer's Edge and Fifth Wheel vs Thruway Muffler were played last night (weather permitting) which was too late to be covered in this edition of the paper. Oilers and Fifth Wheel won the games.

Al Fenton threw a one-hitter and struck out 11 batters as Colbeck put back a determined challenge from Lowville to take the quarter-final series with a 3-0 clinching win.

The teams played through four scoreless innings before Colbeck out

together three runs in the fifth to secure the margin of victory. After one run was scored on an error, Wayne Riebot singled home two more runs with a lined shot to centre to lock it up.

In the series opener, Colbeck hurler Don Martin allowed Lowville just one hit as the club won 2-0. Lowville starter Wayne Sault pitched well allowing two hits but was victimized by two unearned runs.

Colbeck scored their first run in the fifth when Martin scored when Larry Withnell was safe on an error.

The club made it 2-0 in the sixth with Tony Ceelen coming home on the front end of a double steal attempt with Al Fenton.

In the other series wrap-up Monday night, Miltowne gave the game away by allowing a pair of unearned runs to McDuffe. Rob Amos went the distance on the mound to earn his second win of the playoffs.

McDuffe scored one unearned run right off the bat in the first inning. Miltowne came back in their half of the first when lead-off batter Les

Wilson belted a triple off the fence. But Wilson missed touching second base and after an appeal play was called out.

The first game of their series featured an action-packed contest with 21 hits and McDuffe prevailing with a seventh-inning winning run for an 8-7 win.

McDuffe threatened to walk away with the game building a 6-0 lead in the third inning. Miltowne chipped away with two runs in the fourth and after the seventh McDuffe run in the fourth, Miltowne tied it up with two more in the fifth and three in the seventh.

However, their luck ended when Doug McCutcheon hit a basesloaded grounder which scored Randy Coulson with the winning run. Pete McDuffe paced his club with three hits while Coulson chipped in with two.

McDuffe scored six runs in the third. Keith McKinnon started it off with a single, Lee McPhail singled, Dave Norton doubled, Pete McDuffe and Coulson singled, Paul Lorimer

walked and Skip McTrach finished off the inning with a single.

Miltowne tried it with successive singles by Glen McClure, Jim Preston, George Trencs and Mike Leslie in the seventh. McClure and Leslie paced Miltowne's 10-hit attack with two apiece.

Continuing with the close scores in quarter-final play, Oilers connected for just two hits off Gary Bertison for a 1-0 win over The Racer's Edge.

Oilers scored their lone run without a hit as Roger Johnson reached on a fielder's choice, Bill Brush walked and Norm Mowbray knocked in the winning run with a sacrifice fly.

In the one series everyone thought would be close, Fifth Wheel erupted for 16 hits en route to a 12-4 decision over Thruway in the battle between the fourth and fifth-placed clubs.

Jeff Heggie paced Fifth Wheel with three hits while Glen Gordon, Ray DeGarde, Pete Hawke, Dave DeCaire, Kevin Smith and Paul McCann each rapped out a pair of safeties. Dennis Gleed led Thruway with two hits.

Holy Rosary snaps Baptists string

Holy Rosary stopped Emmanuel Baptist's string of four consecutive Inter-Church Softball titles, stopping the Baptists en route to the championship game which they won over Knox Presbyterian.

It marks the first team, outside of Emmanuel Baptist, to win the ICSL title in the league's five-year history.

Holy Rosary handed the Baptists 12-5 before beating Knox 13-11 in the final. All games were

played Saturday at Hornby ball park. Rain and wet grounds postponed the start of the league tournament for 90 minutes after its 10 a.m. scheduled start.

In other action, Knox reached the final with wins of 9-8 over Grace

Anglican and 11-10 over Georgetown's Maple Ave. Baptist Church.

Emmanuel Baptist switched over to the consolation side and beat St. Paul's United Church 14-8 and Hillcrest 13-10 to take the consolation trophy.

The league has received inquiries from churches in Mississauga and Campbellville. With all seven teams indicating their likelihood to return, the league may field as many as nine clubs for the 1982 season.

Milton Mall ahead in Aurora series

Don Hearn connected for three hits to support the four-hit pitching of Ed Dunn and enable Milton Mall a 2-1 win over Aurora in first-round Ontario Amateur Softball Association Intermediate 'A' action Thursday night at Brian Best Park.

The victory gave Milton Mall a 1-0 lead in the best-of-three playoff series. The second game was scheduled for last Friday night in Aurora but was postponed because of rain. It has been rescheduled to this Friday. If a third game is necessary, it will be played Monday at Brian Best Park.

Dunn struck out 12 in posting a complete-game victory. He surrendered two of Aurora's four hits in the

sixth inning with back-to-back triples for Aurora's only run which briefly tied the score at 1-1.

In the Milton half of the sixth, Bill Brush singled and came around to score when Norm Mowbray hit a triple.

Milton Mall jumped out of the starting blocks in a hurry for a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first when Hearn hit a triple and scored on a sacrifice bunt by Loris Faggion.

Steve Gervais and Brush added two hits apiece in Milton Mall's 11-hit attack while Doug Nayler, Garry Nayler, Larry Scott and Mowbray added one hit apiece. Neither team committed an error.

Silent bats signal exit

For much of the year, Milton Optimists Royals relied on their hitting attack to win their share of games. Staffed by some of the league's best hitters, Royals known as a team which could break open a close game at any time.

However, it was their hitters that let the team down as a result. Royals' interest in the Ontario Baseball Association playoffs will be restricted to that of spectators.

Kendal Eagles stopped Royals' OBA bid with a 5-2 victory Saturday afternoon at Kendal to win the best-of-three first-round playoff 2-1.

Kendal pitching limited Royals, usually powerful, to just six singles, scattering two runs after Kendal had built a 5-0 lead.

"It's kind of an empty feeling," said Royals' manager Wayne Marchand, "to score 16 runs in the second game and only score twice in the deciding game."

"Nobody really hit the ball Saturday. We couldn't get the big hit."

Royals had two early chances to get on the board when they put two runners on base in each of the first two innings but came up empty, in the first when Wade Bekar and Gary Naylor flied out, and in the second when Greg Cranker, who went zero-for-five, flied out.

Kendal erupted for an early 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first off Royals' starter Tom Sheppard with three straight hits and a sacrifice fly.

The club made it 5-0 with single runs in the third and fourth, sending Sheppard to the showers and making way for lefty George Moore in the fourth. Moore allowed six hits but no runs the rest of the way.

Moore was responsible for both Milton runs, knocking in Royals' first with a single in the seventh and hitting a fly ball in the ninth for the squad's final run.

The defeat marks the second year in a row Royals were eliminated from OBA play in a three-game, first-round series.

Last year, Hagersville knocked the team out of the running.

Royals now resume playoff action in the Halton County League playoffs and currently hold a 1-0 lead in a best-of-three semi-finals series with Dundas.

The second game of the series goes

Saturday at 4:45 p.m. at Dundas with the third game, if necessary, slated for Sunday at 2 p.m. at Brian Best Park.

The three surviving Halton County teams will meet in a round-robin playoff series in Campbellville the weekend of Sept. 12-13.

Kilbride protested game in hands of executive

Kilbride Merchants' chance at evening their quarter-final playoff series with Burlington Cougars is in the hands of the Inter-City Fastball League executive.

With Merchants leading 5-1 last Tuesday after eight innings, Cougars decided to protest the game because of a rule limiting the use of the re-entry rule.

The scene is such. In the bottom of the seventh, Kilbride pitcher Moe Curtis singles. After bickering with some Burlington players, Kilbride decides to use the re-entry rule for Curtis. The re-entry rule allows a player to pinch-hit or pinch-run in an inning with the original player returning to the field and the same spot in the batting order after the inning.

When Burlington came to bat in the eighth, Cougar lead-off batter Lou Nistico takes a strike and then walks out of the box back to the bench. Burlington coaches promptly announce to the umpire that Curtis is not allowed back into the game according to the rules and want the game ruled as a forfeit.

The umpires first rule that Curtis is out of the game but when Burlington brings out a rule book, the two umpires read over the rules while marching along the infield

and announce that the game is forfeited to Burlington.

This sent Kilbride fuming. Immediately the club announced it was going to protest the ruling and arranged for a meeting with the league which was held late last night (Tuesday) in Guelph.

Kilbride management discovered the rule has been changed this year. When a pitcher is re-entered, the pitcher is ejected from the game and the contest allowed to continue.

The poor ending ruined a fine Kilbride effort which saw the club on the brink of elimination in their best-of-three series. Burlington had won the opener 4-3 in 10 innings the previous Sunday.

Kilbride came out like gangbusters and marched ahead with a five-run second inning. After Brian Lambshed started the inning with a single, Reg Aubert reached on an error and Mark Curtis drove in one run with a single. Dave Gates followed with a run-scoring single. After two successive outs, Russell Price reached on an error which scored another run and Mitch Lajeunesse capped the inning with a two-run triple.

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