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Dariou's pitching leads Sox to win

By ROB KELLY

First year pitcher Al Dariou threw 11 strikeouts and powered Milton's HJM Insurance Red Sox to a 4-3 victory over Erindale Cardinals at Brian Best Park Sunday.

The flip side of the weekend was not as enjoyable for Milton as visiting Glanbrook Grizzlies clawed Royals 9-6 Saturday.

The loss rankled Red Sox manager Glenn Turner, who knows Grizzlies will be the obstacle Milton must overcome to make provincial playoffs.

"They're our main competitor for the OBA (Ontario Baseball Association) D-berth," Turner noted. "We sure as heck can't afford to be losing to these guys."

Of Glanbrook's nine runs "only five were earned," Turner noted, but four Milton errors meant "we played catch up all the way."

Milton's senior baseball team has agonized through some deep lows this season and posted a 2-11 record in Central Ontario Baseball Association play.

But Turner is quick to point out that six of those losses were decided by one run.

"It's not as if we're miles out of the ballpark," he says.

The team "got off to such a lousy start" because it was less practised than other squads due to limited scheduling on Milton's overworked and light-less Brian Best diamond, Turner said. All other teams in the loop schedule night practices, save Dundas, he pointed out. And Dundas does not compete with the same number of teams for diamond use as Milton, he added.

Despite the constraints of a busy, daylight-only park, Turner sees Milton as hopefully playing itself into contention.

With a tournament win in Campbellville two weeks ago and a split last weekend "hopefully we're starting at the midway point and turning on for the rest of the season."

Like rusty golfers, Milton players can look adept in one area of the

game but have that effort erased by gaffs in another. Turner said that when the outfield works, the pitching can be shaky. When the pitching hums, the fielders behind it can evaporate. And when Milton's bats talk loudly, too often defence seems to become an afterthought.

On the bright side, Sunday Dariou settled down to show some of the promise that has made him the "number one" hurler in the Milton rotation, Turner said. Although he scattered 10 hits, his 11 strikeouts represent "some good going in this league." Dariou went the distance and surrendered no walks.

"He's got one of the top fastballs in the league," Turner praised. His curveball is average and his sinker is better than average. But it is his change-up "that really keeps the batters off balance."

The only reason Dariou hasn't victimized more opponents, Turner said, is because of "Dave Sieb syndrome," a reference to a lack of support when his pitching has been good enough to present the possibility of a win.

Glanbrook punched out three runs in the first and four in the third, then capped it with singles in the fifth and eighth.

Milton battled back with four in the sixth, their big inning, and singles in the fifth and eighth.

Erindale took a short-lived lead against Milton with two runs in the second but Red Sox countered with two of their own in the third.

Cardinals were good for another in the fifth but Milton tied it in the seventh and scored the winner (Mario Galvao on a wild pitch from third following a walk) in the ninth.

Against Erindale, Red Sox came on strongly in the late going (Dariou had singled with two outs to put Galvao in scoring position).

Turner hopes to take that type of alert determination into the upcoming week's action.

Streetsville comes to Milton Saturday and Tuesday Milton goes to Glanbrook.



Rookie change-up artist Al Dariou led Milton's HJM Insurance Red Sox to victory Sunday against Erindale — but it was a different story a day earlier when visiting Glanbrook Grizzlies, Milton's rival for a provincial playoff berth, dumped Red Sox. Please see story at left.

Photo by JOHN WARREN

And now — presenting New Kids Off Their Blocks

As the joke goes, Salmon Rushdie would be able to play in the Milton Flag Football League without fear of being seen. It's been one liners like this regarding fan attendance (or more accurately the lack thereof) that have plagued league presidents since the inception of the game.

But now Hector Campbell, this year's leader, is proud to announce a marketing coup so innovative, so daring, so original that it's a "sure" thing. In fact, extra security is being planned to handle the anticipated surge of curious onlookers.

All next week halftime shows will feature — can you stand it? — none other than the New Kids on the Block. With apologies to Donnie, Dany, Jon, Joe and Jordan, budget restrictions have limited our NKOTB to none other than 1990's creme de la creme of rookies — Guy (Girard), Paul (Tarc), James (Gransaul), Kirk (Honey) and Jim (Masluck).

Under the experienced tutelage of the best manager of male acts in the business today, Laura Cuning, our Kids Off Their Blocks will be signing posters, shaking hands, posing for photos and lip synching to Yoko Ono albums. Even Yours Truly has dropped a Field and Stream article on Boy Scouts in China entitled "Euthanasia" to pen an unauthorized biography of each newcomer — it will be sold for a nominal fee at each match.

So don't delay. Seating is at a premium. Make sure you can tell your friends you were there. And if that's not enough, just read about last week's action packed contests for



Flag Football

with JIM MONAGHAN

motivation.

Dickens 48, Bruce Hood 33

Before you know it, there will be ballads composed extolling his virtues, a fully paid holiday in his honor and major thoroughways named after him. Methinks I exaggerate, but Tom Slicock took his show on the road again last week and his 12 points not only helped The Dickens win but also allowed him to regain top rung in the scoring derby.

But this was not as Herculean a task as some earlier examples of his work. His were only two of seven touchdowns thrown by pivot Ray Delegarde. Delegarde managed a pair of majors to the rock steady Mark Redrup while singles went to Mark Bishop, veteran Randy Sleighholm and big Anton Burnatowski. Delegarde didn't stop there as he added five PATs and a Sleighholm two-point convert to his totals.

Meanwhile the big guy, Rick Goodings, received a little help from his friends to flatter the final tally. Mike Nevins returned a first quarter interception for six points while

Mighty Mike Dom Lebre scooted through the Restaurateurs for a 90-yard kickoff return. When Bruce Hood pivot Goodings wasn't watching these two, he found Mike Barbeta and Tarc, the latter twice, in the Dickens end zone. He also kicked two converts. Jim Masluck's pickoff rounded out the Traveller highlights.

Halton Pools 33, Re/max 15

The large gust of wind you experienced on June 27 around 8 p.m. was the collective sigh of relief from all the Halton Pool fanatics at the game. It was about that time that all the Pool People finally, after a typical first half of botching scoring opportunities, parlayed drives into points to sail the game away from the punchless Realtors.

And the Panasonic Player of the Game in this tilt was 1989's rookie of the year, Jeff Corey, who notched a hat trick of six pointers, one from the golden arm of sub Bob Flemming in the fourth frame.

Scott MacCallum performed the surgery for the rest of the Corey majors, found newcomer Gransaul for two touchdowns, kicked three converts and for good measure fell on a Girard fumble. The other bright spot for the 300 Poolmen was Chris Black's late interception.

Resator backup Jimmy Simpson didn't have as much success, as all he could muster were a pair of touchdowns, tosses to Larry "Too Tall" Beard, although both were of the sensational long bomb variety. Interceptions

by Honey and Frank Brinkoff, plus Gary Butler's three points via conversions, were the other statistical footnotes for Re/max.

Yorkwood 38, Fat Freddy's 13

Veni, vidi, vici. He came, he saw, he told them to bring cash. The presence of Fat Freddy's owner Andre St. John wasn't enough to inspire his Fatmen last Thursday as they dropped their seventh game of the season after two heady prior performances.

But full credit has to be given to the Motormen as QB Rob Scott, the spandex kid, threw six touchdowns to augment the stingy defence. Sponsor Dennis Gluck had another solid game as he scored twice and split the uprights for two more points.

A weekly occurrence in the MFFL saw another big debut by a newcomer as Alex Rothwell accounted for two majors while Jamie St. John and crowd pleaser number 25 (editor's note: Could this be the legendary Mr. Monaghan himself?) took honors on the other 12 points. Defensively, Keith "Pops" Sommerville did his usual thing with a fourth quarter pickoff.

Despite receiving quarterbacking tips all week from Andre, double F pivot Rick Barnett could only find the Yorkwood end zone twice. The team was obviously disappointed and embarrassed by the outcome. Only Fatman Glenn Deakin would admit to violating the Motormen goal line. The other seven points will be donated to a charity of the team's choice.