

Three LL Teams Survive 1st Week

Three teams—the Tigers, Indians and Cubs—dominated Birmingham Little League play last week as the official season opened with close games that produced two no-hitters and nine home runs.

One contest, between the Tigers and the Yankees, almost ended in a double no-hitter. With two out in the sixth, Shortstop Duane Dunham got the first Tiger hit off Bill Muenchinger.

Phil Isbell held the Yanks hitless for six innings, and the score was 0-0 when the game was called because of darkness.

In the playoff Saturday morning Isbell settled matters quickly by slanting John Wischman's first pitch over the fence in left. The remainder of the seventh inning was scoreless.

BRUCE WITHERS, of the Pirates, got a no-hitter against the Braves for a 4-1 win, but walked 10 batters. Like Isbell and Muenchinger, he had 13 strike-outs.

Surprise of the new season were the scrappy Cubs who won two games, taking first place in the National League with a 6-3

THE CUBS already have won as many games as they did in the entire 1953 season and have hit three times as many home runs.

In addition to those already mentioned homers were hit by Paj Devine (Cubs), Jim Hanz (Red Sox), Bob Hawkins (Red Sox) and Jim Stanger (Braves).

League officials were unable to account for the sudden spurge of home runs. A friendly wind helped Saturday but most of the clotting was credited to plain hard hitting.

Statistics compiled by Tom Mardian, a Birmingham High School student who keeps the Little League records, show that Hawkins, a catcher, is leading the American League in hitting while Slason, Devine and five others are tied on top of the National.

Farm League games last week were unofficial affairs with one exception—a contest between the Juniors (8 yr. olds) in which the Spartans defeated the Titans 16-11. Regular play began this week.

Results of the first week were:

Standings			
AMERICAN LEAGUE			
Team	Won	Lost	Pctg.
Tigers	2	0	1.000
Indians	2	0	1.000
Red Sox	0	2	.000
Yanks	0	2	.000
Scores			
Indians 7; Red Sox 6			
Tigers 1; Yanks 0 (7 innings)			
Indians 5; Yanks 0			
Tigers 6; Red Sox 5			
NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Cubs	2	1	.667
Braves	1	1	.500
Pirates	1	1	.500
Giants	0	2	.000
Scores			
Pirates 4; Giants 1			
Cubs 7; Braves 5			
Braves 6; Giants 4 (7 innings)			
Cubs 6; Pirates 3			
FARM LEAGUES			
Eagle 3; Cardinals 2			
Redskins 5; Steelers 4			
Rams 7; Bisons 1			
Wildcats 2; Panthers 2			
Spartans 15; Titans 11			
BOX SCORES			
Red Sox	AB	R	H
Yanks	3	1	0
Hawkins, lf	2	1	0
Madona, p	4	1	1
Hawkins, c	1	0	0
Hawkins, c	1	0	0
Hawkins, c	1	0	0
Follis, ss	4	0	2
Ward, cf	1	0	0
Kirby, rf	1	0	0
Indians	5	0	0
O'Dell, cf	3	0	0
Muenchinger, 2b	4	0	0
Quinnan, 2b	4	0	0
Horne, 2b	4	0	0
Hodie, cf	3	0	0
Ward, cf	2	0	0
Townsend, lf	1	0	0
Appel, 2b	1	0	0
Slason, lf	1	0	0
Errors—Madona and Hawkins			
Red Sox	0	2	1
Indians	0	2	1
Tigers	3	0	0
Jackson, c-p	3	0	0
Spotter, cf	3	0	0
Spotter, cf	3	0	0
Morison, 2b	2	0	0
Baker, lf	2	0	0
Tomasi, ss	2	0	0
Alexander, 2b	2	0	0
Ward, cf	2	0	0
Yanks	2	0	0
Angell, lf	2	0	0
F. Muenchinger, lf	2	0	0
Walton, 2b-ss	2	0	0
H. Muenchinger, p-2b	3	0	0
Wirtz, 2b	2	0	0
B. Coffin, cf	2	0	0
Simmons, ss-2b	2	0	0
McMann, lf	2	0	0
Simmons, lf	1	0	0
Hourcade, cf	1	0	0
Locke, 2b	1	0	0
F. Coffin, cf	1	0	0
Yanks	0	0	0
Angell, cf	2	0	0
Wischman, 2b	2	0	0
Muenchinger, 2b-ss	2	0	0
McMann, c	2	0	0
F. Coffin, cf	1	0	0
Rathbun, ss	1	0	0
B. Coffin, lf	1	0	0
Simmons, 2b	1	0	0
Indians	0	0	0
Ruddy, lf	3	0	0
Quinnan, 2b	3	0	0
Brown, c	3	0	0
Spotter, p	3	0	0
Appel, 2b	1	0	1
Simmons, lf	1	0	1
Moher, ss	1	0	1
Miller, cf	1	0	1
Errors—Wischman (2); Simmons, Lasko			

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