

This Week in Travel Baseball

Good afternoon, Cougar travel baseball fam!



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Here are the TWICTB notes for the week of May 22nd.

8U

Cougars 8U hosted the Arlington Cardinals Red 8U on Tuesday. Arlington Cardinals Red 8U scored on a single by Wesley W, a double by Brad B, and a home run by Connor D in the first inning.

Arlington Cardinals Red 8U got things moving in the first inning. Arlington Cardinals Red 8U scored one run when Wesley singled.

Cougars 8U notched three runs in the third inning. The big inning was thanks to a single by Nickolas L and a double by Andrew A.

A big fourth inning by the Arlington Cardinals Red 8U all but put things away.

Bradley S toed the rubber for Cougars 8U. The bulldog lasted 1 2/3 innings, allowing four hits and eight runs while striking out 4. Andrew, Parker F, and Aaryav M each contributed in relief for Cougars 8U.

Nickolas and Andrew each collected one hit to lead Cougars 8U.

Cougars 8U travel to Mundelein on Sunday the 28th for a great Sunday afternoon matchup.

9U

It was a great start to the weekend. 9u played in the Vernon Hills B Bash.

In our first game we beat Park Ridge Warriors 15-3, everyone reached a base. There were two doubles from Kaiden P. and Eli G. The team had great pitching by Eli G. and Anthony D.

In our second game we beat Mt. Prospect Patriots 14-3.

The team was led by a triple from Anthony D. and multiple doubles by Chase B, Ethan M, Eli G, Ian H. Our pitching was strong with 3 strikes outs each by Chase B and Ian H.

Our third game was a heartbreaker. We lost 14-0 to Arlington Cardinals.

The team is looking forward to getting back at it this Wednesday at Park Ridge.

10U

The 10U Cougars week featured play in the Vernon Hills Spring B tournament, The Cougars entered tournament play with hopes of having a strong weekend leading into the start of LSFBL league game action. The Cougars drew the Park Ridge Warriors in the first game and struggled on defense from the start allowing 7 runs in the first inning. The Cougars picked away at the Warriors lead scoring one in the first and two in the second innings, but defensively the Cougars couldn't make the big play when needed allowing the Warriors 8 runs over the next three innings. The Cougar bats got going in the fourth inning with Bomkamp, Morvig, and Keats driving in runs but the rally fell short as the Cougars took the loss. The team collected 6 hits with J.Mann , M. Gitzinger, B.Dahl, D.Morvig, C.Magsino, G.Keats, leading the way.

Game Two of the Spring B had the Cougars playing the Mt. Prospect Patriots. The Cougars entered the game struggling on defense and the struggles continued as the Patriots got off to an early lead in the first. The Cougars put together hits led by C.Magsino, M.Gitzinger, D.Morvig, and D.Bomkamp in the 3 rd and 4 th innings to score six runs, but couldn't overcome the early Patriot lead and suffered the loss.

Game Three of the VH Spring B had the Cougars taking on the Dunham Bulls. The Cougars came into the game needing a win but the Bulls took advantage of Cougar mistakes and built a early lead, the Cougars answered with a run in each of the first three innings with hits by M.Gitzinger, B.Dahl, and D. Avila, but the Dunham lead was too much to overcome and the Cougars suffered their third loss. It was a tough weekend for the 10U Cougars, but even in three losses there are positive signs to build on, like good catching from D.Bomkamp and B.Dahl and good pitching from D. Bomkamp, M.Gitzinger, A. Hall, and A.Khatod. Next week starts league play let's hope the Cougars can put it all together.

11U Blue

VH vs Muscle Beach

Winning Team: VH: 10

Losing Team: MB: 6

The Cougars 11U Blue team got the bye on Thursday and started their Pool Play games on Friday night at 5:30 pm, against the Muscle Beach team from Morton Grove.

Will Davenport got the start, giving up no hits with 1 walk and 3 strike outs. Billy Hicks came in and allowed 2 hits while striking out 2. Charlie Olson rounded out the rotation, giving up 1 hit while striking out 3. All 3 VH pitchers threw 2 solid innings each.

The Cougars put up 10 Runs on 7 total hits in a game where they never fell behind. VH got on the board early with 3 runs in the first, and also scored 3 runs in the 3rd and 5th innings as well.

A double by Thillin Kaveti lead the way. 2 singles by Max Bloomer, along with hits by Jayce Jost, Evan Torres, Davenport and Hicks all contributed. Also contributing to the offense was the Muscle Beach Pitching, which allowed 6 Walks to our sharp eyed hitters. Will Thunga drew 2 walks, and stole 2 bases. The Cougars tore up the basepaths with 15 SB, Jost and Bloomer each having 3 on the stat line.

The team's 10-6 victory was a great start to the weekend!

VH vs Highland Park Giants

Winning Team: HP Giants: 16

Losing Team: VH: 6

VH was no match for the Highland Park offense on this beautiful Saturday matinee. Max Bloomer got the start on the mound, lasting 2 innings. HP bats were hot and VH fell behind early. Charlie Olson pitched 2 innings of relief, in this abbreviated affair.

The Cougars put up a total of 7 hits, scoring 6 runs in the first 2 innings, before the game got out of hand. Garrett Wade had a triple to left, with Doubles contributed by Billy Hicks and Will Davenport, who also had a Single. Ian Draper hung in there, getting plunked for the 2nd day in a row by opposing pitching.

Not the best showing out there today for our guys, but a good nights rest should help!

Based on Runs Allowed, the Cougars were seeded 7th, and did not make it into contention on Sunday. We were slotted for the 4pm consolation game against the 6 th seed Highland Park Giants? Those guys again? Time for some redemption!!!!

VH vs Highland Park Giants

Winning Team: VH: 10

Losing Team: HPG: 7

Game Time? 5:30. Sunshine? Check! Time to get after it?? You Bet!!

Sunday afternoon baseball arrived and our guys were ready and up to the challenge!

Ian Draper got things started when he singled in the first, plating 1 run.

Evan Torres got the start and allowed 1 run on 4 hits over 2 innings, while striking out 2. Billy Hicks got the ball in the 3rd, going 2 full innings. Billy allowed 2 runs on 1 hit, while striking out 3 batters. Will Davenport started the 5th and didn't have his best stuff working. After an intense conversation with his coach, Davenport asked for the ball, telling his coach that he had it handled. STRIKEOUT! Charlie Olson came in to record the last out and the save.

The Cougars really got on the board in the 3rd with 4 runs and again in the 5th with 5 runs. Multiple hits in the game by Davenport, Bloomer and Hicks all helped keep the game out of reach for HP. Olson had a big double and contributed 4 RBI's in the win over our League Opponents. We see them next at their home field on June 5th.

11U Gray

The past week saw 11u Gray face off against league leader, Glenview Blue. Gray once again showed strongly on defense, and continued throwing strikes, but couldn't seem to get the bats going in a 10-4 loss. Brenda and Hunter led the offense with two hits each, and Brendan led the way with three stolen bases.

We jumped into tournament play on Thursday evening and faced off against Park Ridge. Hayden and Peter toed the rubber over five innings allowing only two runs. The offensive charge was led by Hunter, Peter and Brendan. Ryan swiped two bags in the 10-2 win.

Saturday and Sunday we faced off against Morton Grove Muscle in two highly competitive games. Unfortunately we came up short in both. Gray jumped out to a 10-2 lead on Saturday led by hits from Evan, Aarav, Hayden, Parker and Ryan. Unfortunately, one rough inning led to a 11-14 loss.

Saturday's game we saw ourselves in the opposite situation, going down 10-2 early. The boys fought back over six innings, ultimately falling short in a 7-11 loss. Brendan led the way with two hits, and Jordan joined the hit parade with his first hit of the season, a blast down the left field line for a triple! Gray had 8 hits in total. Ryan closed the Muscle down with a strong closing inning.

12U Blue

Another busy week for 12U Blue with one league game and participating in the Spring B VH tournament. While the results weren't what we hoped for, the team continued to improve and showed their mental fortitude. In league play we got off to a hot start on a cold night taking a 10-0 into the second inning. The Glenview bats eventually got going but our boys continued to battle, and the game ended in a 17-17 tie. Luke Churak led the offense going 3-4 with 3 doubles and 4 RBIs, and just missing a game

winning homerun by inches. Nolan Allen also went 3-4 with 2 R and 2 RBI's, and Charlie Caton was 3-5 with a run scored.

In game 1 the Spring B of pool play the team got off to a slow start and couldn't recover in time losing to Mt. Prospect 7-11. Jake Blair had a great start on the mound pitching 3 innings with 2 ER and 6 strikeouts. Game 2 had a similar feel to it, with the team getting off to a slow start eventually falling to the NWC Jets 4-7. Patrick Hubbard, Churak and Paul Heintz all had 2 hits apiece and Blake Fidler had a great start pitching 2 innings allowing 1 ER and striking out 5. In bracket play we once again faced Mt. Prospect in the 6 vs. 7 consolation game. The boys shook off the loses from the previous days and took control of the game early and never looked back winning 7-4. Hubbard and Jai Beniwal each had 2 hits including a monster triple by Beniwal, who was just coming back from injury. David Tesnow, Churak, Hubbard and Fidler all pitched a scoreless inning.

This week the team has two weekend games, facing off against Mundelein and Glenview.

12U Gray

12U Gray has been hot hot hot! We went into last week on a 4-game win streak, with an overall record of 5-1. We had a very exciting week of baseball, playing 3 games. On more than one occasion, we've had opposing coaches approach our coaching staff and comment on how impressive our players are in regards to situational awareness and mindset/execution, which we love hearing!

Monday May 22nd @ Buffalo Grove Coyotes (Same Suspended 11-9)

Compared to how the season has been going, this was one of our less focused outings, making mental mistakes in the field and on the base paths. Uncharacteristic errors and a lack of focus (and energy at times), we found ourselves in a struggle...with ourselves. The bats did stay hot, still managing 15 hits. We managed to go up 11-9 off a 2 RBI hit by Sam Rubenstein, but the game was called due to reaching a hard cutoff. The game will resume on June 10th with us leading 11-9, runners on 2nd & 3rd with 1 out, and the top of our lineup coming up (Braden, Brady & Chase).

At the Plate: Braden Hayes 3-3 with 2 Runs. Brady Engle 2-4 with a Run and 1 RBI. Chase Bautista 2-3 (2 Doubles) with 3 Runs and 1 RBI. Zach Herod 2-4 with 1 Run and 3 RBI. Liam Hilts 2-2 with 2 Runs and 1 RBI. Sam Rubenstein 2-3 with 2 RBI.

On the Mound: Chase Bautista got the start, and went 3.0 IP, giving up 4 Hits, 3 ER and striking out 7. Liam Hilts came on in relief, also going 3.0 IP, giving up 2 Hits 3 ER and striking out 3.

Friday May 26 @ NWC Jets - Spring B Tourney (Lost 15-8)

Our first game of the Spring B tournament was a 9pm start on a cool night. We found ourselves down 4-1 after 1, but bounced back with a 5 spot in the 2nd to go up 6-4. The Jets were able to tag us for 8 runs in the 3rd and another 3 in the 4th on more mental mistakes on the base paths and a few fielding errors and too many walks, before walking away with a 15-8 win. Frustrating, as we only surrendered 5 hits and 6 ER.

At the Plate: Chase Bautista 2-3 with 1 Run and 1 RBI. Sam Rubenstein 2-2 with 1 Run and 1 RBI. Sam Rubenstein, James Jost and Dylan Tomlinson each connected for triples in the 4th inning.

On the Mound: Evan Park got the start, going 2.1 IP, giving up 3 Hits, 5 ER, 7 BB's and striking out 6. Liam Hilts came on in relief, going 1.2 IP, giving up 2 Hits, 2 BB's and striking out 3.

Saturday May 27 vs Highland Park White - Spring B Tourney (Won 8-5)

Trying to get back to our winning ways and the success we've seen leading up to this week, we faced Highland Park White, who is also in our Lake Shore Feeder division. Down 5-0 going into our bottom of the 4th (with only 1-hit), our boys seemed to remember who they were, and put up a big crooked number, plating 8 to go up 8-5, which was all the offense we would need, as we held Highland Park scoreless the last two innings.

At the Plate: Braden Hayes 2-3 with 1 Run and 1 RBI

On the Mound: Zach Herod got the start going 3.0 IP, surrendering 2 Hits, 2 ER and 6 BB's while striking out 3. Brady Engle got the relief nod also going 3.0 IP, giving up 5 Hits, 3 ER and 2 BB's while striking out 3.

Sunday May 28 @ Barrington Broncos Black - Spring B Tourney (Lost 8-0)

Advancing in the tournament as the 5 seed, we were hoping for a baseball filled day, as we needed 3 wins to take home a championship. We didn't play our best ball, and lost 8-0 to a team that we should have played much better against, ultimately beating ourselves. Despite the score, we only gave up 5 hits. Walks, too many "extra" outs and some base running again held us back. We also struck out 9 times, which is uncharacteristic of this squad.

At the Plate: Not much to say. Braden Hayes (Double), Brady Engle, Liam Hilts and James Jost each provided hits.

On the Mound: Chase Bautista got the start, going 2.1 IP, giving up 4 Hits, 6 ER, 3 BB's and striking out 3. Liam Hilts came on in relief, going 1.2 IP, giving up 1 Hit, 2 ER, 5 BB's and striking out 2.

13U

The 13U Cougars went 1-1 this week. The team started with a tough loss at Lake Villa. Behind solid starting pitching from Peyton, the team had an early lead but wasn't able to hold on. Brady had two hits, but the comeback fell short.

The team bounced back with a nice win against Lake Forest on Friday. Julian had 3 hits, including a triple, and the offense came alive with 10 runs. Hopefully, the momentum will carry into next week and beyond.

The team enjoyed a nice weekend off for Memorial Day, but we're all ready to get back at it with 3 games next week. Go Cougars!

14U

Light week for 14U. We had a road game Saturday with 4 players missing. Graham Getlin from 13U filled in for us and did a nice job. Riley Cline and Jake Jost both went deep but we couldn't get the offense going consistently. Nic Packee, Jake Jost and Michael Derby all pitched well but our collective lack of

focus led to too many mental mistakes and we suffered a 6-3 loss. The schedule picks up next week with 4 league games and we hope to turn things around.