



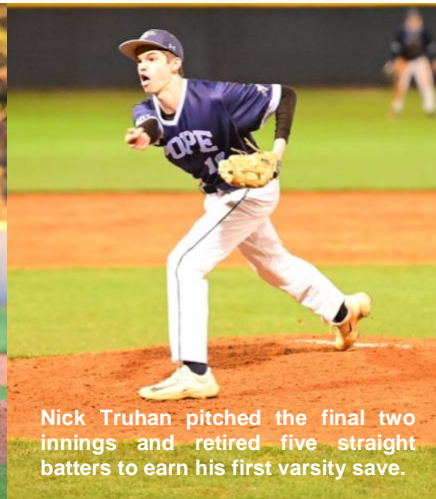
Game 1, February 13, 2024
Pope Greyhounds 6, North Atlanta Warriors 0
Weather: 51 degrees, 10 mph winds
Played at Jeff Rowland Field at Pope High School
Varsity Record: Overall 1-0, Region 0-0



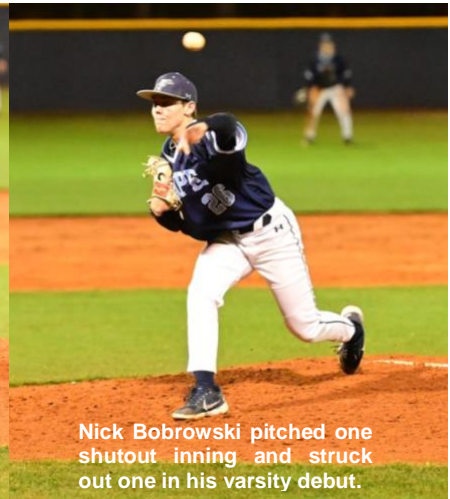
POPE SHUTS OUT NORTH ATLANTA TO WIN SEASON OPENER



Dawson Jones pitched four shutout innings and struck out four to earn the win.



Nick Truhan pitched the final two innings and retired five straight batters to earn his first varsity save.



Nick Bobrowski pitched one shutout inning and struck out one in his varsity debut.

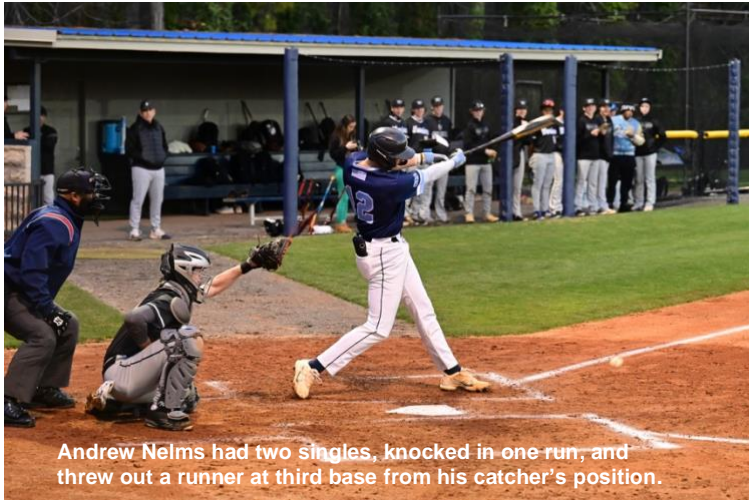
After all the summer, fall, and winter workouts, a longer than expected construction project, and countless hours of preparation, the 2024 edition of the Pope Baseball team finally took the field Tuesday night for their season opener. Three Pope pitchers allowed just three singles, struck out eight, walked three, and combined to shut out the North Atlanta Warriors, 6-0, at Jeff Rowland Field. Only three North Atlanta baserunners reached second base and no runners reached third base.

Senior lefthander **Dawson Jones** (1-0) started for Pope and pitched four innings to earn the win. Jones scattered three hits, struck out four, walked one, picked off one base runner, and threw 61% strikes (36-59).

Junior righthander **Nick Truhan** made his varsity debut and pitched the final two innings to earn the save. Truhan retired all five batters he faced, struck out three, and threw 75% strikes (12-16). Sophomore lefthander **Nick Bobrowski** also made his varsity debut, pitched one inning, and struck out one. Bobrowski picked off a base runner at first base with a nice throw to **Brady Otero**, who applied the tag for the out.

Pope's offense totaled seven hits, nine stolen bases, executed two successful double steals, and had one sacrifice bunt. Seniors **Andrew Nelms** and Otero led the Hounds with two singles each. Nelms added one RBI and Otero scored one run and stole two bases. Junior **Tanner Morneau** had one hit, stole one base, and scored one run.

Sophomore **Ben Hill** made his varsity debut and reached base two-of-three times with a two-run scoring single, one walk, scored one run, and had one stolen base. Senior **Carter Joachim**, making his first varsity start, had an RBI single. Junior **Hudson DeLine** reached base on a walk, stole one base, and had one successful sacrifice bunt. Senior **Regan Cochran** scored



Andrew Nelms had two singles, knocked in one run, and threw out a runner at third base from his catcher's position.

two runs and had three stolen bases. Junior **Matt Strydom** scored one run and had one stolen base.

Defensively, Pope only made one error. DeLine made the defensive play of the game at third base when he jumped high and snagged a hard line drive over his head for the out. Nelms was solid behind the plate and threw out a base runner by four steps trying to steal third base.

In the bottom of the second inning, Pope scored two runs on three-straight hits to take a 2-0 lead. Nelms led off and hit a three-bounce slow rolling grounder to the shortstop and beat the throw for a single. It was the Hounds first hit of the season. Cochran ran for Nelms. Otero followed with a hard hit ball to the shortstop for a single. Cochran advanced to second base. Cochran and Otero then completed a successful double steal of second and third.

Hill hit a spinning ground ball off the end of his bat and off the shortstop's glove for a single to score Cochran and Otero with the Hounds first runs of the game. Hill had an eight pitch at bat that saw him fight back from an 0-2 count and foul off a couple of two-strike pitches.

In the bottom of the fifth, Pope played some small ball and scored one run on one hit to take a 3-0 lead. Hill led off with a full count walk. DeLine put down a first pitch sacrifice bunt and advanced Hill to second. Joachim hit a first pitch fastball up the middle into center field for a single and scored Hill from second.

Pope scored three final runs in the bottom of the sixth to cap their 6-0 win. Morneau led off with a first pitch slicing line drive to right center field for a single. Morneau stole second base. With one out, Nelms pulled an outside pitch to left field for a single and scored Morneau from second. Cochran ran for Nelms and stole second base. Otero followed with a single past the second baseman into right field and moved Cochran to third.



Brady Otero had two singles, scored one run, stole two bases, and made all the defensive plays at first base.

Pope then had their second double steal of the game. Otero stole second base. The ball glanced off the shortstop's glove. Cochran, who was running on the play, raced home and scored from third. Strydom ran for Otero. Hill grounded out to second base, but advanced Strydom to third.

With two outs, DeLine walked on a 3-1 count. DeLine then stole second base. The North Atlanta catcher tried to throw out DeLine, but the ball went into center field and Strydom was able to score from third.

Pope plays in the Georgia Dugout Tournament this upcoming weekend at the LakePoint Baseball Complex in Cartersville. On Friday, the Hounds play Walnut Grove from Loganville at 6:30. On Saturday, Pope plays a doubleheader with games against Kennesaw Mountain at 3:00 and Sequoyah at 5:30.

