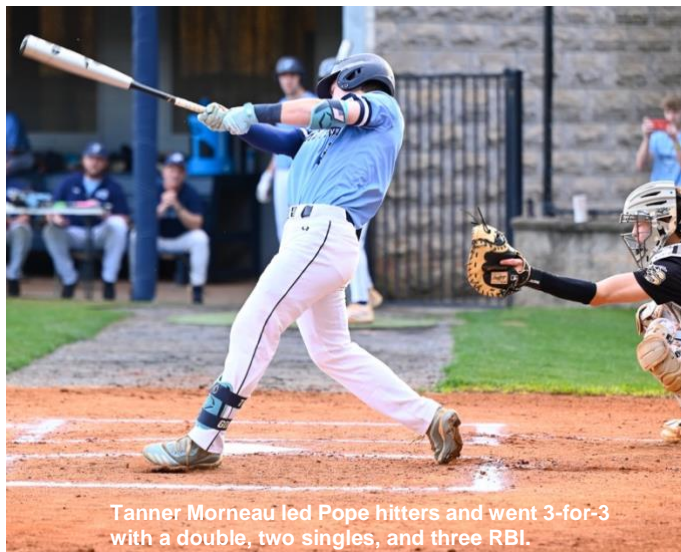




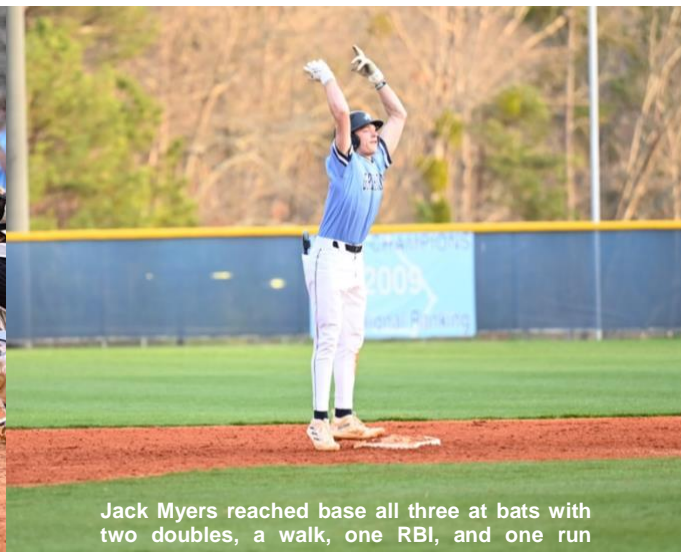
Game 12, March 7, 2024  
**Pope Greyhounds 11, Sprayberry Yellow Jackets 1**  
Weather: 73 degrees, 3 mph winds  
DH Played at Jeff Rowland Field Pope High School  
Varsity Record: Overall 8-4, Region 4-1  
Game 2 of Best 2-of-3 Region Series



## POPE RUN RULES SPRAYBERRY AGAIN HOUNDS DEFENSE TURNS THREE DOUBLE PLAYS IN FIRST THREE INNINGS



Tanner Morneau led Pope hitters and went 3-for-3 with a double, two singles, and three RBI.



Jack Myers reached base all three at bats with two doubles, a walk, one RBI, and one run

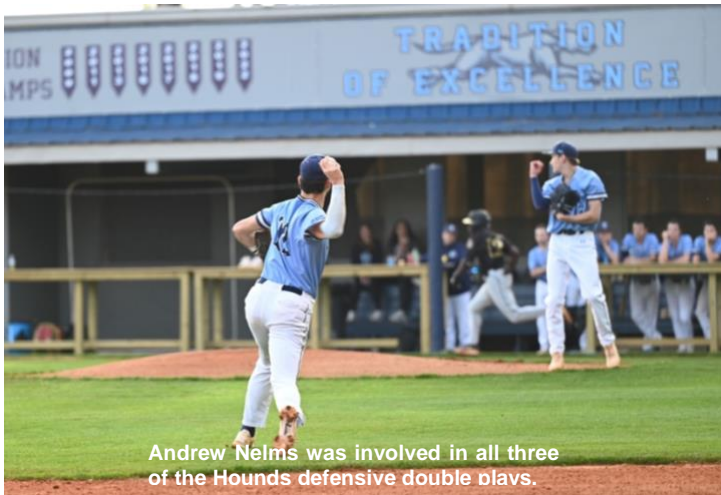
Pope's defense cleared a path for the Hounds second consecutive 11-1 run rule victory vs. Sprayberry on Thursday night in game one of a region doubleheader at Jeff Rowland Field. Sprayberry loaded the bases the first three innings of the game, but the Hounds defense locked down with three straight double plays to end each inning with no runs allowed. The Hounds overall record is 8-4 and region record improves to 4-1.

Pope's offense had 13 hits, three doubles, no strike outs, and stole three bases. Junior **Tanner Morneau** paced the Hounds and went 3-for-3 with a double, two singles, three RBI, and two runs scored. **Jack Myers** reached base 3-of-3 times with two doubles, a walk, one RBI, and one run scored.

**Ben Hill** went 2-for-2 with a double, a bunt single, one run scored, and one stolen base. **Andrew Nelms** had two singles, one RBI, one stolen base, and scored two runs. **Griffin Tamucci** reached based 2-of-2 times with a single, an eight-pitch walk, and had one RBI. **Bryce Chapin** had a single, one RBI, and scored one run.

**Carter Joachim** hit a single that extended his consecutive on-base steak to an impressive 11 at bats over four games. Joachim also scored one run. **Drew Abney** hit a single. **John Stuetzer** walked one time, had a sacrifice bunt that scored a run, stole one base, and scored two runs. **Brady Otero** walked one time. **Regan Cochran** scored one run.

**Ethan Garrett** (2-1) started for Pope and pitched four scoreless innings to earn the win. Garrett only allowed two singles. Nelms pitched the final inning and struck out one.



Andrew Nelms was involved in all three of the Hounds defensive double plays.

In the top of the first inning, with one out, Sprayberry loaded the bases on a HBP, an error, and one walk. The next Yellow Jackets batter hit a ground ball to Nelms at third base, who fielded the ball cleanly. Nelms threw to Abney at catcher, who caught the ball for the second out on a force play. Abney then took three steps inside the foul line and threw a strike to Chapin at first base to complete the 5-2-3 double play and end the inning with no runs allowed.

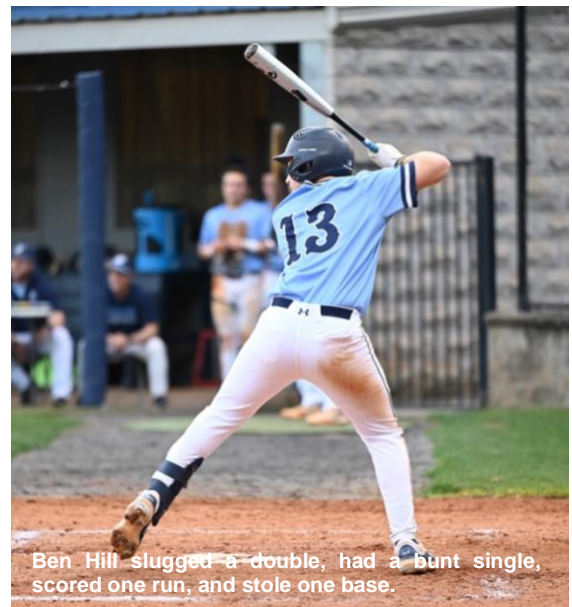
In the top of the second inning, to quote former MLB player Yogi Berra, it seemed like deja vu all over again. Sprayberry again loaded the bases with one out, this time on a walk and two singles. The next Yellow Jackets batter hit a ground ball to Nelms at third base, who again fielded the ball cleanly. Nelms threw to Abney at catcher, who caught the ball for the second out on a force play. Abney then took four steps inside the foul line and threw a strike to Chapin at first base to complete the inning ending 5-2-3 double play with no runs allowed.

In the top of the third, with one out, Sprayberry loaded the bases for the third straight inning. With a comfortable 10-0 lead, Pope's defense did not flinch. The Sprayberry batter hit a ground ball to Stuetzer at shortstop, who fielded the ball cleanly. Stuetzer threw to **Luke Winbush** covering second base. Winbush caught the ball for the second out and made a nice throw to Nelms at first base for the third out to complete the double play and end the inning with no runs.

In the bottom of the first inning, Pope scored two runs on two hits to take a 2-0 lead. Stuetzer led off the game and was hit by a pitch on the hip. Nelms hit a line drive single to center field. Morneau hit a first pitch line drive single to center field and scored Stuetzer from second base. Myers walked on a full count to load the bases with no outs. Chapin grounded out and Nelms scored from third base.

In the bottom of the second inning, Pope sent 13 batters to the plate and exploded for eight runs on nine hits to take a 10-0 lead. Otero led off and walked on a 3-1 pitch. Hill bunted past the third baseman for a single and advanced Otero to second. After a pick off, Hill stole second base. Joachim hit a slow roller to the shortstop in the hole and beat the throw to first for an infield single.

Stuetzer hit an RBI sacrifice bunt to the pitcher who fielded the ball and threw past the catcher. Hill scored from third base, Joachim moved to third, and Stuetzer was safe at first. Stuetzer stole second base. Nelms hit a line drive single to center field that scored Joachim. Stuetzer advanced to second base on the hit. Two pitches later, the Hounds completed a double steal with Stuetzer taking third base and Nelms second base.

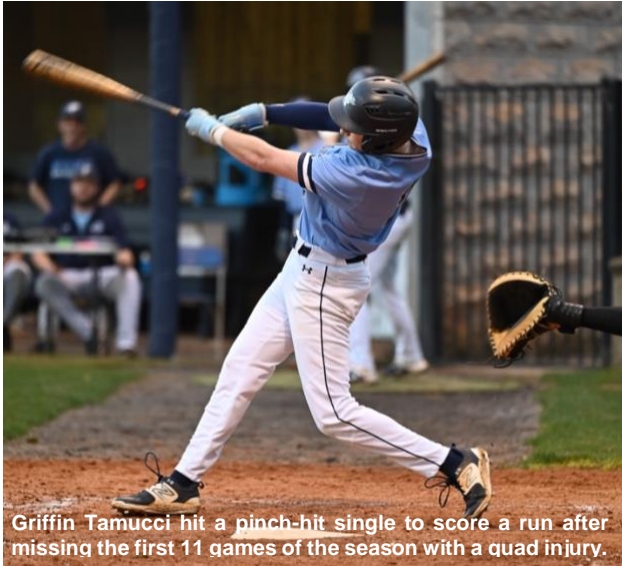


Ben Hill slugged a double, had a bunt single, scored one run, and stole one base.



Morneau hit a line drive single to center field and scored Stuetzer and Nelms. Morneau took second base on a Sprayberry error.

Myers worked an eight pitch at bat and slugged a two strike pitch over the right fielder's head for a double that scored Morneau. Myers went to third base on a wild pitch. Chapin hit a one hop grounder over the third baseman for a single. Myers had to stay at third base. DeLine ran for Chapin. Abney singled on a 0-2 pitch to score Myers. DeLine advanced to third base on the throw and Abney to second base. Cochran ran for Abney.



Griffin Tamucci hit a pinch-hit single to score a run after missing the first 11 games of the season with a quad injury.

Tamucci pinch hit and singled to center field to score DeLine with the eighth run of the inning. It was Tamucci's first hit of the season after missing the first 11 games with a quad injury. The first two innings of the game lasted 1 hour and 10 minutes.

In the bottom of the third inning, Pope scored one final run on two hits to take a 11-0 lead. With one out, Morneau hit a first pitch line drive single to left field. Myers hit a first pitch line drive double over the left fielder's head. Morneau advanced to third base. DeLine grounded out to the shortstop, but scored Morneau from third.

Pope and Sprayberry play game two of the doubleheader in 30 minutes.

