

POPE JV EEEKS OUT A WIN BY A HAIR OVER SPRAYBERRY 3-1

MARCH 2, 2024

In a game that was originally scheduled for a 1pm start at Sprayberry ended up being a 6:06pm match up at Pope, the shift in logistics was one of the shots in the arm the team needed, pun intended- the others being clutch hitting and heads up defense.

Maddox Corya made his third impressive start of the season for the Greyhounds. The southpaw threw four innings giving up just one run and scattering three hits in his performance. Most notably, he fanned seven Yellowjackets on the evening. Corya came out of the gate throwing strikes and had the support of teammates when he didn't. The outfielders track down some long balls, **Luke Winbush** foiled a bunt by snagging the ball at the plate and spinning around to tag the batter, and **Davis Smith** quieted things down with playing a wicked hop in the top of the 4th to get a much needed out on the board.

Corya was relieved by **Ian Hair** in the top of the 5th. Hair entered the game for the third time this season. The freshman worked his craft efficiently throwing 13 pitches- nine of them for strikes. Hair faced four batters, kept the outs in the infield and recorded one strike out. Hair collected the win on the evening for his work in the top half of the inning coupled with the Greyhound's bats in the bottom half of the inning.

Jensen Morneau came out of the pen to close out the final two innings of the game. The freshman right hander threw hard and peppered his throws with a sidearm/submarine deliver that had the Sprayberry batters guessing and on their heels. **Parker Troughton** preserved the scoreless performance of Morneau by fielding a ball that was hit to **Davis Smith**- whose play on the ball was hindered by the Sprayberry baserunner- and scooping is up off the ricochet and gunning out a Yellowjacket runner at the plate. Morneau recorded the Save collecting five strike outs, 1 walk, and 1 hit across his time on the bump. In the final inning, Morneau struck out the side to end the game.

Offensively, the Greyhounds made a little noise in the first couple of innings with hits by **Thomas Williams** and **JC Slavis** but waited until the bottom of the 5th to crank it up. **Hal Mitchell** led off the inning by getting hit by a pitch. **Davis Smith** executed a bunt with the intent of moving the runner over and ended up on taking second base on Yellowjacket error and Mitchell reached third on the same play. **Ryan Healy** scorched a 3-1 pitch to left for a sacrifice scoring Mitchell to even up the score, 1-1. Smith was replaced on second by pinch runner **Jack Healy**. Healy waited three pitches before he slipped into third base with **Aaron Best** at the plate by contorting his body to escape the tag.

With two outs and a tied score, **Aaron Best** had his best contact of the evening off the bat smoking a double to left scoring J Healy. A batter later, **Thomas Williams** lined a single up the middle scoring the fleet footed Best moving the score to 3-1. Sprayberry changed pitchers and the inning ended with a pickoff at 1st.

The Yellowjackets mounted an attack in their half of the 6th but pitching and defense quashed any chances of changing the score. The young pups got a two double in the 6th from **Parker Troughton** but that was the last base runner on the evening for either team.

The Greyhounds had 5 hits on the evening to just one strike out. Stolen bases by **Jack Healy** and **JC Slavis** helped fuel getting runs on the board. **Hal Mitchell** leads the team in the Wear-It category with his getting plunked for the fourth time this season.

The JV Greyhounds will finish the two-game series with the cross town Yellowjackets in the second game of the evening at Sprayberry. In a schedule change, the Varsity team will play at 5pm and JV have an 8pm scheduled first pitch. JV will enter that game with a 4-5 record and want to move to 5-5.