



Game 18, March 21, 2024
Pope Greyhounds 12, Alpharetta Raiders 7
Weather: 75 degrees, 4 mph winds
DH Played at Jeff Rowland Field at Pope High School
Varsity Record: Overall 11-7, Region 6-2
Game 2 of Best 2-of-3 Region Series



POPE OUTLASTS ALPHARETTA HOUNDS EVEN SERIES AT ONE GAME EACH

It was not pretty and it lasted a long time, but after three hours of baseball, Pope beat Alpharetta, 11-7, Thursday night in the first game of a region doubleheader at Jeff Rowland Field. Both pitching staffs were challenged to adjust to the strike zone and combined to throw 306 pitches (Pope 166, Alpharetta 140), walk 17 batters (Pope 6, Alpharetta 11), and hit four batters (Pope 3, Alpharetta 1). The win improves Pope's region record to 6-2 and overall record to 11-7.

Pope's offense had seven hits and benefitted from a slew of walks. **Tanner Morneau** reached base 4-of-4 times with two singles, one walk, one error, scored four runs, had two RBI, and stole one base. **Bryce Chapin** reached base 3-of-3 times with two singles, one walk, and had three RBI. **Drew Abney** reached base 3-of-4 times with a single, two walks, and had one RBI. **John Stuetzer** reached base 3-of-4 times with three walks, three runs scored, and one stolen base.

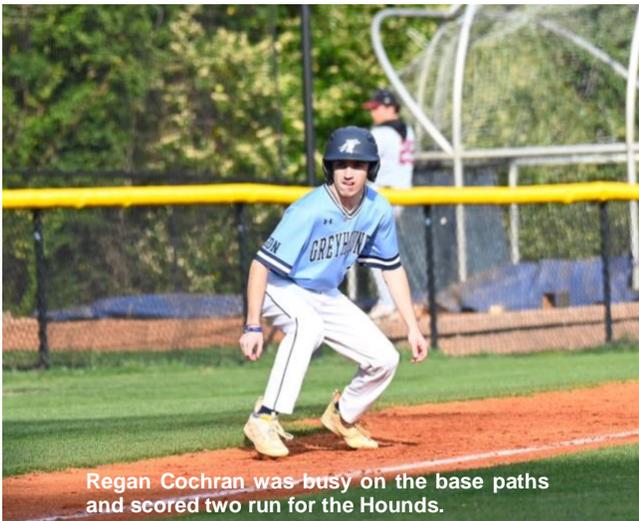
Andrew Nelms had one single, one RBI, one walk, and scored two runs. **Griffin Tamucci** hit a single and had one RBI. **Ben Hill** reached base on a walk and had a successful sacrifice bunt to advance a runner. **Luke Winbush** walked one time and scored one run. **Hudson DeLine** walked one time and stole one base. **Carter Joachim** had a successful sacrifice bunt to advance a runner. **Regan Cochran** scored two runs. **Matt Strydom** reached base by a HBP and stole one base.



Ethan Garrett started for Pope and won his third game of the season. Garrett pitched 4.1 innings and struck out eight batters, including five in a row.

Three Pope pitchers struck out 12 Alpharetta batters. **Ethan Garrett** (3-1) started for the Hounds and pitched 4.1 innings to earn the win. Garrett struck out eight batters, including five in a row, with three whiffs to end the first inning and two to start the second inning. **Tanner Morneau** pitched in the fifth inning, allowed no hits, and struck out one. **Matt Levinson** pitched two innings and struck out three.

In the bottom of the first inning, after falling behind 3-0, Pope scored two runs on no hits and four walks to cut the deficit to 3-2. Stuetzer led off with (you guessed it) a walk on a 3-1 pitch. With one out, Morneau walked on four pitches. Abney walked on a 3-1 count to load the bases. Chapin walked on a 3-1 count and scored Stuetzer from third base. Morneau then scored on a wild pitch from third base. The first four Pope batters saw 19 pitches, 16 balls, and took one swing.



Regan Cochran was busy on the base paths and scored two run for the Hounds.

In the bottom of the second inning, Pope sent 10 batters to the plate and scored five runs on two hits and four more walks to take a 7-3 lead. Winbush led off with (of course) a walk on four straight balls. Joachim hit a sacrifice bunt to first base and moved Winbush to second base. With one out, Stuetzer walked on a full count. Nelms hit a first pitch line drive single past the shortstop into left field and scored Winbush from second base. Morneau reached base on an error by the shortstop. Stuetzer and Nelms were running on the play. When the ball bounced away from the shortstop, Stuetzer never slowed down and scored from second base. Nelms advanced to second base. Abney

walked on a full count to load the bases. Cochran ran for Abney. Alpharetta changed pitchers. The first pitch bounced away from the catcher and Nelms dove home safely from third base. Chapin singled past the shortstop into left field to score Morneau from third base and Cochran from second base with the final run of the inning. The first two innings lasted one hour and 10 minutes.

In the bottom of the third inning, Pope scored three runs on one hit, three walks, and one HBP to take a 10-6 lead. With one out, Stuetzer walked on a 3-1 count. On the next pitch Stuetzer stole second base. Nelms walked on a 3-1 pitch. Morneau then executed a nice hit and run play for a single when he hit a ground ball past the vacated shortstop position and into left field. Stuetzer scored from second base on the play and Nelms scored all the way from first base. Morneau advanced to second base. With two outs, Strydom pinch hit and reached base on a HBP. Two pitches later, Morneau scored on a wild pitch.

In the bottom of the fifth inning, Pope scored one run on one hit to take a 11-6 lead. With two outs, Morneau had an infield single to the shortstop when he beat the throw to first base. Four pitches later, Morneau stole second base. Abney hit a 3-2 pitch past the first baseman into right field that scored Morneau.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, Pope scored one final run on two hits to take a 12-7 lead. Chapin led off with a first pitch single past the pitcher and into center field. Cochran ran for Chapin. Hill sacrificed bunted Cochran to second base. Tamucci pinch hit and singled to right field on the first pitch to score Cochran from second base. Pope and Alpharetta play game two of the doubleheader in 30 minutes.



Hounds celebrate one of 11 walks gifted by Alpharetta.