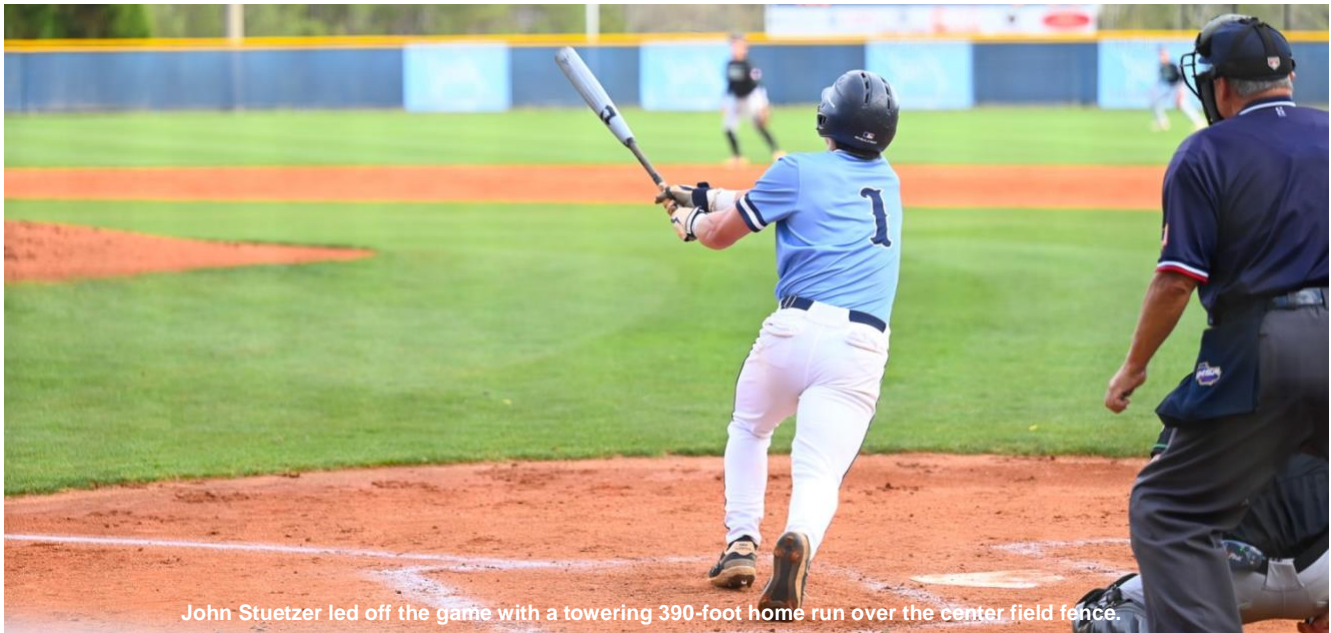




Game 21, March 27, 2024
Pope Greyhounds 8, Roswell Hornets 2
Weather: 68 degrees, 12-18 mph winds
Played at Jeff Rowland Field at Pope High School
Varsity Record: Overall 14-7, Region 9-2
Game 2 of Best 2-of-3 Region Series



POPE STINGS HORNETS STUETZER'S 390-FOOT LEAD OFF HOME RUN SETS TONE



John Stuetzer led off the game with a towering 390-foot home run over the center field fence.

Junior leadoff hitter **John Stuetzer** wasted little time in establishing his presence Wednesday night in Pope's 8-2 region win vs. Roswell at Jeff Rowland Field. On the first pitch of the game, Stuetzer unloaded on a fastball and launched a 390-foot home run over the center field fence, high and deep into the towering Leyland Cypress trees. From the moment of the initial crack of the bat, you knew the hit was going to be special and one that would be talked about for years to come. Stuetzer was greeted by his teammates in front of the dugout with a well-coordinated team celebration jump. The win gave the Hounds back to back wins vs. the Hornets in the best 2-of-3 series. Pope's region record improves to 9-2 and overall record to 14-7.

Pope's offense had eight hits, including one home run, three doubles, and nine stolen bases. Stuetzer, the Florida State commit, reached base 4-of-4 times with his home run, second of the year, followed by three walks. Stuetzer also scored two runs, stole two bases, and had one RBI.

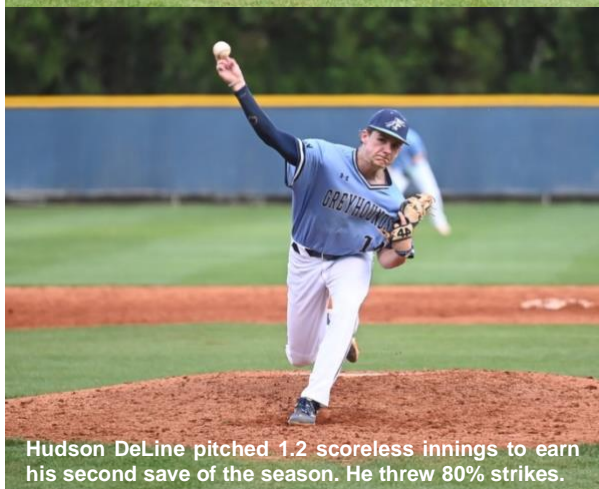
Tanner Morneau had two hustle infield singles, one RBI, and scored one run. **Bryce Chapin** hit a single, walked one time, scored one run, stole one base, and had a sacrifice fly that knocked in a run. **Griffin Tamucci** hit a double that scored one run and executed a sacrifice bunt that advanced a runner. **Luke Winbush** hit a double that scored two runs. **Andrew Nelms** hit a double and scored one run. **Ben Hill** hit a single, walked one time, and stole one base.

Drew Abney reached base 3-of-4 times with a walk, a fielder's choice that scored one run, and an error that scored a run. **Carter Joachim** was hit by a pitch, stole two bases, scored one run,

and had a successful sacrifice bunt that advanced a runner. **Matt Strydom** scored one run and stole one base. **Regan Cochran** stole two bases.



Ethan Garrett started and pitched 5.1 innings to earn his fourth win. He gave up one hit and struck out seven.



Hudson DeLine pitched 1.2 scoreless innings to earn his second save of the season. He threw 80% strikes.

For the second game in a row, two future college pitchers started against each other. Pope's junior right hander Ethan Garrett (4-1), a Georgia Southern commit, pitched 5.1 innings to earn his fourth win of the season. Garrett gave up just one hit, struck out seven, and held the Hornets to one earned run in his 99-pitch effort. Garrett struck out at least one batter in each inning he pitched. Junior right hander **Hudson DeLine** pitched 1.2 scoreless innings in relief to earn his second save of the season. DeLine filled up the strike zone and threw 80% strikes (8-10). He struck out one and had no walks. Pope's pitching has held Roswell to only three hits in each of the first two games.

In the top of the first inning, Pope scored two runs on two hits to take a 2-0 lead. Stuetzer led off with a first pitch home run. Nelms followed with a first pitch high fly double that fell behind the left fielder. Morneau flew out to right field and advanced Nelms to third base. Abney hit a hard ground ball to the first baseman, who could not field the ball cleanly. Nelms scored from third on the play.

In the top of the second inning, Roswell had runners on first and second base with no outs. The next batter hit a tricky hop ground ball to Stuetzer

at shortstop. Stuetzer adjusted and fielded the ball. He threw to Joachim covering second base for one out. Joachim made a nice turn and threw to Nelms at first base to complete the double play. Garrett struck out the next batter to end the inning with no runs.

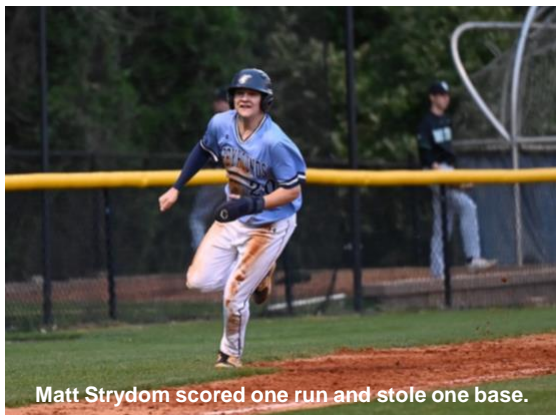
In the bottom of the third inning, Pope scored two runs on two hits to take a 4-1 lead. With one out, Abney reached base on a full count walk. Cochran ran for Abney. Chapin hit a ground ball in the hole to the shortstop. There was no throw and Chapin was safe at first with an infield hit. Cochran and Chapin advanced to second and third base on a double steal. With two outs, Hill walked to load the bases. Winbush followed, and on a 0-2 pitch, punched a line drive over the first baseman's head for a double into right field that scored Cochran and Chapin.



Luke Winbush hit a double that scored two runs. He also made a nice defensive play to end the game.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, Pope sent eight batters to the plate and scored four runs on two hits to take a 8-2 lead and put the game away. Joachim led off with a first pitch HBP when his batting helmet was nicked. Three pitches later, Joachim stole second base. Stuetzer walked on four pitches. Three pitches later, Pope completed their second double steal of the game with Joachim taking third base and Stuetzer taking second base. Morneau followed and hit a two-strike ground ball to the shortstop. There was no throw to first base and Morneau was safe

with an infield single. Joachim scored from third base on the play and Morneau hustled to second base.



Matt Strydom scored one run and stole one base.

Abney hit a fielder's choice ground ball to the Roswell first baseman. Stuetzer took off from third base on contact. The first baseman threw home, but Stuetzer beat the throw with pure speed and a headfirst slide. Morneau advanced to third base. Strydom ran for Abney. Chapin hit a first pitch sacrifice fly ball to center field that scored Morneau from third. Tamucci cracked a first pitch line drive double to right field and scored Strydom with the final run of the game.

In the top of the seventh inning, Roswell had two runners on base with no outs. The next Hornet batter hit to Joachim at second base. Joachim fielded the ball and threw to Stuetzer covering second base to record the first out. Stuetzer threw to Nelms at first base to complete the nifty double play. With two outs, the next Roswell batter hit a sharp line drive ground ball to Winbush at third base. Winbush backhanded the ball over the base and threw a strike to Nelms at first base to end the game. The Hounds and Hornets play the final game of the three game series at Pope on Thursday night at 6:00.

