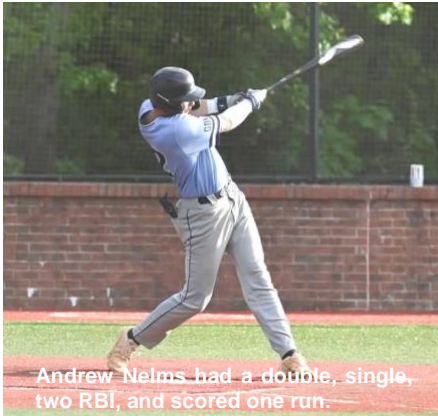




Game 29, April 18, 2024  
Pope Greyhounds 8, Blessed Trinity Titans 4  
Weather: 85 degrees, 4 mph winds  
Played at Blessed Trinity High School  
Varsity Record: Overall 19-10, Region 13-4  
Game 2 of Best 2-of-3 Region Series



## POPE WINS SECOND STRAIGHT AGAINST BLESSED TRINITY HOUNDS TAKE OVER REGION LEAD WITH ONE GAME TO PLAY POPE'S OFFENSE EXPLODES FOR FIVE EXTRA BASE HITS



Andrew Nelms had a double, single, two RBI, and scored one run.



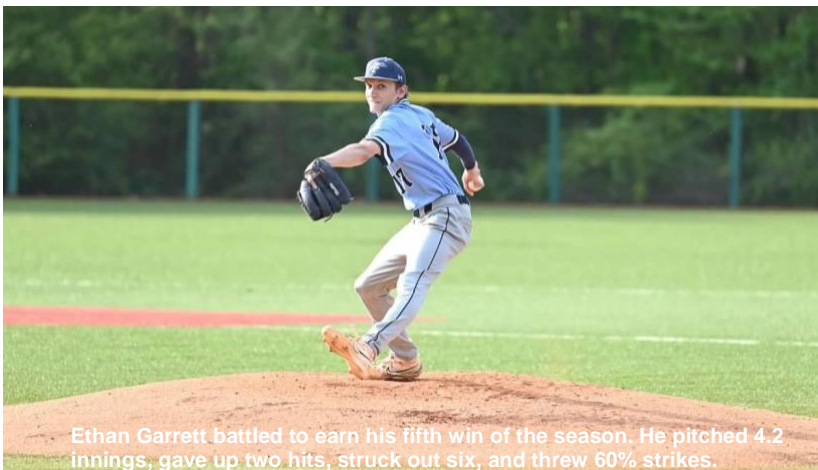
Tanner Morneau is on his way to second base for an RBI double.



Carter Joachim had a double, single, scored one run, and stole one base.

Pope's offense broke out the big sticks and propelled the Hounds past Blessed Trinity, 8-4, Thursday night in game two of the three-game region series played at Blessed Trinity. The win is the Hounds second straight against the Titans and moves Pope into first place with one game to go to decide the champion. Pope's region record improves to 13-4 and overall record is 19-10. Blessed Trinity's region record falls to 13-4 and overall record is 21-8.

The Hounds had nine hits, including two triples, three doubles, three stolen bases, three HBP, two sacrifice bunts, and seven walks. It was the most combined offensive production since early March. Six Hounds had base hits, and four had two.

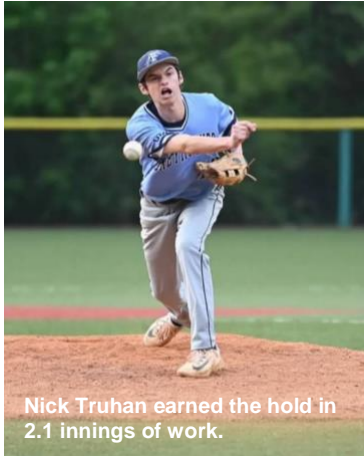


Ethan Garrett battled to earn his fifth win of the season. He pitched 4.2 innings, gave up two hits, struck out six, and threw 60% strikes.

Junior right hander **Ethan Garrett** (5-2) started for Pope and pitched 4.2 innings to earn his fifth win of the season. Garrett mixed a heavy dose of breaking and off speed pitches with his upper 80's to 90 mph fast ball to keep Blessed Trinity in check. Garrett allowed just two hits, two runs, struck out six, and threw 60% strikes (64-107). He retired the side in order in two innings.

Garrett showed great composure in the bottom of the third inning when BT sent eight batters to the plate, loaded the bases multiple times, and had multiple opportunities to take the lead.

Garrett held the Titans to just two runs and worked around three walks and two HBP. Garrett gave up no hits in the inning and struck out the side.

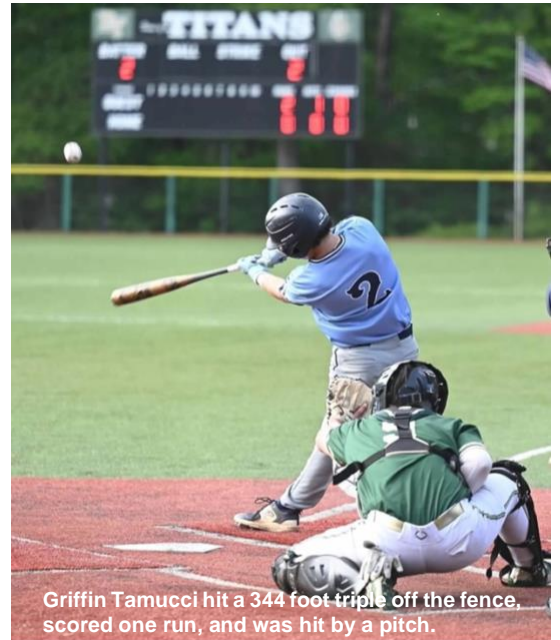


Nick Truhan earned the hold in 2.1 innings of work.

Junior right hander **Nick Truhan** pitched in relief and threw the final 2.1innings to earn his first hold of the season. Truhan used a variety of off speed pitches to keep the hard hitting Titans off balance. Truhan struck out two and limited BT to two hits in his 38 pitch effort.

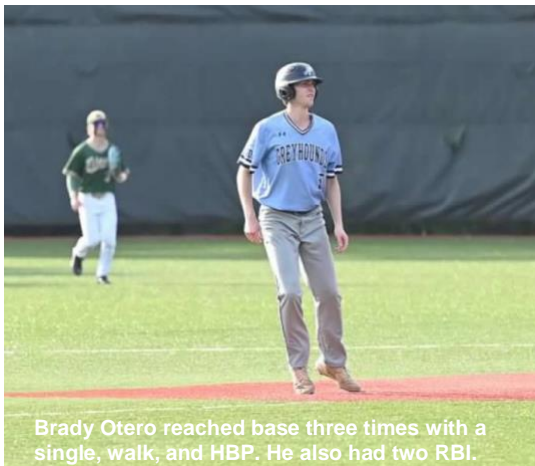
**Andrew Nelms** had two hits, including a double, single, two RBI, one run scored, and one stolen base. **Tanner Morneau** had two hits, including a double, single, two RBI, and two runs scored. **Carter Joachim** had two hits with a double, single, scored one run, and stole one base. **John Stuetzer** reached base 5-of-5 times with a triple, three intentional walks, one full count walk, scored two runs, had one RBI, and stole one base.

**Griffin Tamucci** slugged a triple, scored one run, was hit by a pitch, and had a successful sacrifice bunt to advance a runner that eventually scored. **Brady Otero** reached base three times with a single, walk, HBP, knocked in two RBI, and scored one run. **Drew Abney** reached base two times on a walk and HBP. **Bryce Chapin** walked one time. **Luke Winbush** had a sacrifice bunt to advance a runner that eventually scored.



Griffin Tamucci hit a 344 foot triple off the fence, scored one run, and was hit by a pitch.

In the top of the first inning, Pope scored two runs on two hits to take a 2-0 lead. Stuetzer led off and walked on a full count. With one out, Stuetzer stole second base. Morneau hit a two-strike opposite field line drive double to the right center field gap and scored Stuetzer. Morneau advanced to third base on a wild pitch. The next pitch was another wild pitch and allowed Morneau to score from third. Abney walked on a full count. **Regan Cochran** ran for Abney. With two outs, Tamucci hit a first pitch 344 foot blast off the right center field fence for a triple. Tamucci was left stranded at third base.



Brady Otero reached base three times with a single, walk, and HBP. He also had two RBI.

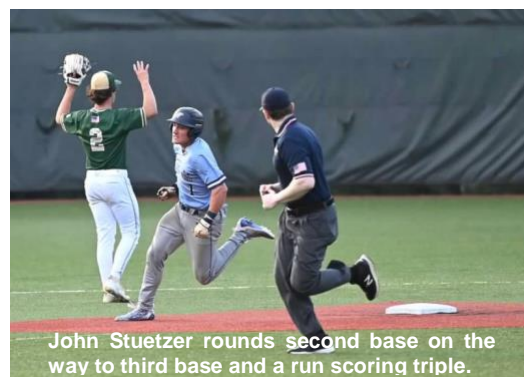
In the top of the second inning, Pope scored one run on one hit to take a 3-0 lead. Otero led off with a walk on four straight balls. Winbush moved Otero to second base with a successful sacrifice bunt to third base. With one out, Stuetzer was intentionally walked. Nelms made the Titans pay for the free base and hit a line drive single past the pitcher's head into center field and scored Otero from second. Stuetzer ran to third base on the hit.

In the top of the third inning, Pope scored one run on no hits to take a 4-0 lead. With one out, Tamucci reached base with a two-strike HBP to the arm. Four

pitches later, the BT catcher threw to first base in a pickoff attempt, but the ball was overthrown and Tamucci advanced to second base. On the next pitch, Hill struck out swinging, but the ball was in the dirt. The BT catcher threw to first base to complete the strike out. Tamucci timed the throw and ran to third base. The BT first baseman threw to third, but the throw sailed over the third baseman's head. Tamucci sprinted home and scored standing up.

In the top of the fourth inning, after BT cut the Pope lead to 4-2, the Hounds responded in a big way. The Hounds sent eight batters to the plate and scored four runs on four hits to take a 8-2 lead.

Joachim led off and reached base by a throwing error by the shortstop. Stuetzer crushed an opposite field line drive triple to the bottom of the right center field fence. Joachim scored all the way from first base on the play. Nelms followed and attempted a squeeze bunt, but fouled off the pitch and fell behind in the count 0-2. Nelms then took matters into his own hands and slugged the next pitch over the left fielder's head for a double that scored Stuetzer. Nelms advanced to third base on a balk.



John Stuetzer rounds second base on the way to third base and a run scoring triple.

Morneau hit a 0-2 line drive ground ball single up the middle into center field and scored Nelms. Abney was hit by a pitch. Cochran ran for Abney. Tamucci put down a sacrifice bunt down the third base line and advanced Morneau to third and Cochran to second. With two outs, Otero hit a clutch first pitch line drive single up the middle into center field to score Morneau and move Cochran to third.

Pope travels back to Blessed Trinity on Friday for a 6:00 game to determine the region championship.

