

## HEADS UP PLAY GIVES JV GREYHOUNDS WIN IN EXTRA INNINGS OVER RIVER RIDGE HOUNDS WIN 5-4

The last game of the season was full of baseball... a lot of baseball.

The Hounds jumped out to a 4-0 start in the 1<sup>st</sup> inning only for the Knights to chip away at that score tying it up in the bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup>. In the top of the 8<sup>th</sup>, with the bases loaded (and it took a lot to load them), **Jensen Morneau** was clocked in the side of the helmet awarding him a base with no place to put him. **Ryan Healy** trotted home to break that tie and give Pope the win. The win avenged a very damp 3-7 loss to the Cherokee County team less than a week ago.

**Jacob Israel** made his sixth start of the season for the Hounds. Israel pitched 3 and 2/3 innings recording 3 strikeouts and giving up three runs. In the bottom of the 4<sup>th</sup> with two outs and a runner on first, **Ian Hair** came in, threw two pitches, recording just 1/3 inning of work for a much needed third out. **Maddox Corya** took the mound in the bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup> and pitched a long four innings in relief. **Corya** faced the final 16 batters of the game giving up just one run on two hits and 3 strikeouts. **Corya's** composure and steadiness on the bump kept the game tight allowing the Greyhounds to record the win.

It started with a barn burner of a first inning for the Hounds. **Thomas Williams** led off with a full count line drive double to left field. With one out, **Maddox Corya** tapped a blooper over the second baseman allowing **Williams** to move to third base. **Davis Smith** walked to load the bases. **Parker Troughton** then earned a base and an RBI after working the full count into a walk. With **JC Slavis** at the plate, **Corya** scored on a wild pitch followed by two balls later, **Smith** scored on another wild pitch. **Slavis** then cranked a ball to center that crossed up the fielder earning him a double on the play and **Troughton** crossing the plate for an RBI. Twenty-five minutes later, the inning ended with Pope up 4-0.

Starting pitcher, **Israel** got in a little bit of a jam in the bottom of the first with runners on first and second and one out. He reached back and got a K swinging for the second out. A heads up play by **Jensen Morneau** from behind the plate to throw behind the runner leaning on first to **Thomas Williams** ended the inning. In the bottom of the third, **Israel** was in a bigger pickle with the bases loaded with 2 outs and the Knights threatening to put more runs on the board, he went to his tank, again, and threw three straight pitches to record a strikeout to end the inning.

**Maddox Corya** entered the game with the score 4-3 in the bottom of the fifth. A climb the fence maneuver in foul territory by **Davis Smith** recorded the first out of the inning. The second out was a catch in left field by **Ryan Healy** on a hard-hit ball. The Knights scored but were held there by a *Thank You, Thomas* running catch by **Thomas Williams** in right field. The score had moved to 4-4.

In the seventh, **Everett Espe** got out his cape and laid out to save extra bases on a liner to shallow center field. The dive tallied the second out of the inning followed by a nifty catch in foul territory by **Davis Smith** to end the inning. 4-4 tie at the end of regulation play.

With the game in free baseball mode in the eighth, **Ryan Healy** drew a 1 out four pitch walk. With two outs, Jack Healy beat out an infield hit for a single. **Thomas Williams** singled on a bunt to the third baseman to load them up. **Jensen Morneau** then stepped into the box. In what appeared to be a move by the pitcher to try to command the ball back to his hand after he threw it, plunked **Morneau** with a in the earhole with a 1-2 count at 67mph. **Ryan Healy** strolled home as Morneau took his base. The inning ended with an out on the basepaths but the Hounds were up 5-4.

Corya came out of the dugout charged up with the lead and set the batters down in 1-2-3 order to end the game. What a game.

With the win, the JV Greyhounds moved their record above .500 ending at 11-10 for the season. A fabulous showing... We can't wait to see what next year holds.

Good Luck to the Varsity Team as they embark on Region and Tournament Play on the road to much more success! Bring the Banner Home!

And, with that, the writer will show her age and end with the only graphic in the JV write ups of the season. A throw back to understanding punctuation as shared on Saturday mornings.

