



# The Gazette

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## The first day of pool play offers 2 surprises

### Hastings and Prior Lake sit at 2-0

By John Sherman

Going into the State Division I American Legion Tournament, Eden Prairie and Mankato National were the two teams in the driver's seat to win and move on to the Central Plains Region.

Eden Prairie, ranked No. 1 in the Scheels Statewide Legion Poll, won its first two games, as did second-ranked Mankato National. No surprises there. Both clubs are capable of shutting opponents down with their deep pitching. No. 4 St. Michael had a great first day with two decisive wins.

The two surprises on the first day of pool play were 2-0 records for Hastings and Prior Lake,

teams ranked in the second 10 of the latest Scheels poll. The host Rochester Redhawks also got through the first day 2-0 to the delight of Rochester fans.

"We have seen great competition so far," Division I baseball director Bruce Young said at the end of Thursday's games. "Friday will be interesting. You have two undefeated teams in Pool 2. Eden Prairie will play the Redhawks at 12:30 p.m. at Massey Field.

"Another good matchup on Friday will be Prior Lake against St. Michael at 12:30 at John Adams Field," director Young added. "St. Michael is the defending champion. Prior Lake has won all seven of its postseason games."



**Zach Condon of the Rochester Redhawks swings his bat in a game against Bemidji at Dale Massey Field at Mayo High School on Thursday, July 27. The Redhawks won the game 7-3 and they went undefeated on the day.**

## Wes Thompson, Luther Dorr enter Hall of Fame

When Luther Dorr was a boy in rural Princeton back in 1959, the local American Legion Baseball coach wanted him on the team on one condition: that he could make it to town.

So he would always be trying to find a ride to town. When he couldn't, he rode his bicycle 14 miles, mainly on a gravel road.

As a man, he became the editor of the Princeton newspaper, and during his 33 years in that role he expanded coverage of Legion Baseball, even hitting the road to cover tournament in places like Grand Rapids and Alexandria.

He gave back to baseball by becoming an official scorer, doing public announcing and sometimes doing analysis for radio broadcasts.

Dorr was inducted last year into the Minnesota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame and played town ball for 47 years. He also played base-



**From left are Jason Fink, Wes Thompson, Luther Dorr and Tim Engstrom. Thompson and Dorr were inducted into the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame.**

ball in high school, college and the Army. He has been a member of Princeton Post 216 for 58 years. He has been the 10th District base-

ball director for four years.

Thompson is a 49-year member of The American Legion. He is a member of Waite Park Post 428.

He also is a member of the Sons of The American Legion. He is a past 6th District commander and serves on the National Security Council for The American Legion at the national level. He is an Army veteran.

He started in Legion Baseball as manager for the Upsala team. Later, he managed the Foley team, then the Waite Park crew. He has been the 6th District baseball director for 15 years.

He has bartended at the Legion posts in Foley and Waite Park. He took first place in Minnesota and 10th in the nation for the U.G.L.Y. Bartender Contest in the 1980s. The name stands for Understanding, Generous, Loving, You, and it raises funds for multiple sclerosis.

Both men were inducted into the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame on Wednesday in Rochester.

# Here it is! Recaps of the first 12 games on July 27

## GAME 1

Northfield  
100 001 0 2 8 2  
Mankato American  
360 000 x 9 13 1

Thompson, Worden (7) and Cahoon. Wojcik, Willaert (4) and Kopesky. WP Wojcik, LP Thompson.

Riston Wojcik and Caden Willaert teamed up to pitch Mankato American to a 0-2 first-round victory over Northfield at Mayo Field. Owen Studtmann and Landon Metcalfe each had three hits for Mankato National and teammate Nicholas Werk hit a home run. Kam Kaiser led Northfield with three hits.

## GAME 2

Bemidji  
102 000 020 5 7 2  
Eden Prairie  
111 000 021 6 9 0

Kapaun, Bodina (8) and Ganske. Hunter, K. Meadows (6), Dykstra (8), Flom (9) and C, Meadows. WP Flom. LP Bodina.

Joey Flom, shortstop and captain of the Eden Prairie Eagles, did it all in the 6-5 nine-inning win over Bemidji at Massie Field. Flom hit two doubles and scored twice. He came on in relief and was the winning pitcher. Catcher Connor Meadows had a three-for-four day with an RBI. Landon Hanson had three of Bemidji's seven hits.

## GAME 3

Wayzata  
011 300 0 5 9 3  
Sartell  
100 010 1 3 9 2

D. Smith, Skoro (1), Swenson (2) and Pribula. Johnson and Thompson. WP Swenson. LP Johnson.

In a well-played game at Hudson Field, Wayzata slipped past Sartell 5-3. Gaard Swenson, the Wayzata lefthander, pitched five plus innings for the win. Will Thompson was strong on the mound for Sartell with a complete game and had two hits. Catcher Jonathan Pribula hit a home run for Wayzata

while teammates Charles Gearen and Adam Deselich hit doubles. Kyle Boutwell was the only Wayzata player with two hits. Dylan Simones had three hits for Sartell.

## GAME 4

Prior Lake  
602 40 12 14 0  
Winona LeJetz  
000 00 0 3 2

Schulte, Mong (2) and Keeney. Hundorf, Shields (4) and Heftman. WP Mong. LP Shields.

Prior Lake, the Sub-State 4 champion, rolled to a 12-0 win over Winona LeJetz in the opening round at John Adams Field. Jaxson Barrett had a perfect day at the plate for the winners by going three-for-three with a home run, four RBIs and three runs scored. Derek Gust added two doubles.

## GAME 5

Tri-City Red  
000 102 1 4 12 0  
Northfield  
000 602 x 8 10 0

Fleishhacker, Anderson (6) and Price. Hutton, Mellgren (6) and Cahoon. WP Hutton. LP Fleishhacker.

Shortstop Jake Geiger, who wears No. 99 on his baseball jersey, had a Gretzky-like day in Northfield's win over Tri-City Red at Mayo Field. He hit a grand-slam homer in the fourth inning and followed up with a two-run homer in the sixth for six RBIs. Jack Henrich of Tri-City Red countered Geiger's hitting prowess with a four-for-four game

## GAME 6

Bemidji  
000 003 0 3 6 3  
Rochester Redwawks  
200 032 x 7 4 1

Lundeen, Ganske (5) and Lowe. Carlson, Hruska (7) and Prindle. WP Carlson. LP Lundeen.

The host Rochester Redhawks defeated Bemidji 7-3 with starting pitcher Kasey Carlson improving to 6-1 for the season. He worked 6 and

2/3 innings before Sam Hruska finished the job. Carlson struck out nine and allowed one walk and six hits. Zach Condon, Kyle Leopold, Mason Leimbek and Carson Beavers each had one hit for the Redhawks. Ty Lundeen went two-for-three to lead Bemidji.

## GAME 7

Wayzata  
020 130 0 6 12 1  
Hastings  
202 400 x 9 10 0

Seel, Welk (2), Pribula (4) and Rowan. Odman, Tjomsland (6) and Teigland. WP Odman. LP Welk.

Hastings was outthit 12-10 by Wayzata, but was able to manage a 9-6 victory at Hudson Field. Shortstop Mark DeNoyer hit a three-run homer to lead Hastings. John Teigland, Connor Zgoda and Tanner Anselment each had two hits for the winners. Kyle Boutwell went three-for-four to lead Wayzata. Jake Berkland, Zach Pettit and Adam Deselich each had two Wayzata hits.

## GAME 8

Winona LeJetz  
000 10 1 5 2  
St. Michael  
230 51 11 8 1

Spiten, Viestenz (4) and Benick. Klinkhammer, Kay (4) and Glass.

Catcher Dillon Glass had six RBIs on three hits as St. Michael moved to 2-0 in pool play by defeating Winona LeJetz 11-1 in five innings at John Adams Field. Ryan Luster had two hits and scored three runs for the winners. Kaleb Klinkhammer threw three scoreless frames in recording the pitching win. Jon Going had two of Winona's six hits.

## GAME 9

Foley  
000 020 02 5 11 1  
Tri-City Red  
210 001 00 4 8 3

Emmerich, Dahmen (7) and Petersen. Hoemann, Bale (7) and Shields. WP Dahmen. LP Bale.

Trey Emmerich hit a sacrifice fly for the eventual winning run as Foley rallied past Tri-City Red 5-4 in a game at Mayo Field. Josiah Peterson scored two of Foley's runs. Aiden

Micholski hit a home run and two singles for the Falcons. Jack Henrich hit a pair of doubles for Tri-City Red.

## GAME 10

Rochester Redhawks  
104 211 3 12 13 4  
Mpls. Post Office (Washburn)  
200 200 7 11 11 2

Sadowy, Peterson (7) Prindle (7) and Condon. Frye, Hass (5), Huisken (6) and Steen, Coffman (3). WP Sadowy. LP Frye.

The Rochester Redhawks held off Mpls. Post Office's seven-run rally in the bottom of the seventh inning to win 12-11. Three home runs helped the Redhawks' cause. Connor Beavers, Kyle Brindle and Mason Leimbek went deep for the winners. Kasey Carlson had five hits. Gopher Post Office had a big game from Jaime Mennicke had a triple and a home run for Post Office. Teammates Milan Arado and Jackson Conway each had three hits..

## GAME 11

Hastings 031 012 0 7 7 0  
Duluth 300 300 0 6 10 3

J. Nick, Heeren (7) and Hudoba. Gillespie, Tjomsland (4) and Teigland. WP Tjomsland. LP Heeren.

Hastings came up with two runs in the top of the sixth inning on the way to a 7-6 win over Duluth. Gavin Odman had a pair of hits and scored two runs for Hastings. Sawyer Tjomsland had two RBIs for Hastings. Jayger Atkinson went three-for-three with two RBIs for Duluth. Dylan Cole also had three hits for Duluth.

## GAME 12

Delano 001 001 0 2 5 1  
St. Michael 350 001 x 9 12 2

Bruett, Hinkle (2) and Kruse. Bernard, Glass (4) and Rathman (7). WP Bernard. LP Bruett.

St. Michael, the defending champion in the Division I Legion ranks looked sharp in a 9-2 victory over Delano. Catcher Dillon Glass led the Mike's with a three-for-three day. Teammate Evan Saunders had two hits and three RBIs. Starting pitcher Reed Bernard improved to 6-0 for the season.