

LLWS: Edmondson Throws No-Hitter, Hits Homer For South Carolina

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP) — Alex Edmondson threw his second no-hitter in eight days and hit a two-run homer in the first inning to help Taylors, South Carolina, beat Cranston, Rhode Island, 7-1 on Friday in the state's first ever victory in the Little League World Series.

Edmondson struck out 15 a week after striking out 12 in his no-hitter in the Southeast championship.

Throwing around 80 mph, the right-hander struck out the side four times. He struck out 10 straight between the third and sixth innings in South Carolina's first LLWS game since 1950. Charleston in 1949, and Clinton in 1950, failed to win games in the state's only other appearances.

"No South Carolina team had been here in 65 years and no team had ever won a game at the Little League World Series so it means a lot. It's a big deal," Taylors manager Kevin Tumblin said.

Edmondson also had an RBI single and was 3 for 4 at the plate.

Terrence Gist hit long home run to the top of the hill beyond left field in

the third inning, giving South Carolina a 3-1 lead. Ben Tumblin and Gage Laymon added RBI singles in the fourth and sixth innings, and South Carolina finished with 13 hits.

Rhode Island scored its lone run in the first when David Marchetti walked and came home on two wild pitches and a dropped third strike.

On Sunday, South Carolina will play Lewisberry, Pennsylvania, on Sunday. Lewisberry beat Webb City, Missouri 18-0 in four innings in a night game.

Rhode Island will play Missouri on Saturday.

In other openers Friday, it was: Bonita, California 14, Bowling Green, Kentucky 2 in four innings; Pearland, Texas 1, Portland, Oregon 0; Mexicali Baja California, Mexico, 1, White Rock, British Columbia 0; Tokyo 7, Taipei, Taiwan, 5; Kampala, Uganda 4, Santiago de los Caballero, Dominican Republic 1; and Barquisimeto, Venezuela 5, Sydney 2.

Pennsylvania 18, Missouri 0

Cole Wagner had two homers, a double and

a single and drove in six runs in four at-bats and Lewisberry routed Webb City.

Wagner hit a grand slam and a two-run home run during an eight-run third inning and Pennsylvania scored 18 runs in the two middle innings. Pennsylvania finished with 16 hits and gave its fans from Lewisberry, a two-hour drive from Williamsport, plenty to cheer.

The Mid-Atlantic champions scored 10 runs in the second inning, highlighted by Kaden Peifer's three-run home run that made it 4-0. Pennsylvania had nine hits in the inning, the first seven reached base and five straight had hits at one point. Chayton Krauss, Jake Cubbler and Adam Cramer all were 2 for 2 in the inning. Pennsylvania added eight runs in the third inning that started with Wagner hitting a mammoth home run to dead center field. His grand slam traveled even farther, nearly reaching the top of the hill beyond the center field wall.

California 14, Kentucky 2

Bonita hit a record-tying five home runs in an 11-run third inning to easily beat Bowling Green.

Antonio Andrade opened the homer spree, pinch-hitter Nick Maldonado had a two-out grand slam, and Nate Nankil, Levi Mendez and Walker Lannom also homered. Bonita tied the series record set by the Dominican Republic in 1992. Dante Schmid also homered for Bonita.

"We got hyped up and that passes on,"

Schmid said. "It feels amazing."

Carson Kelley hit a two-run home run for Kentucky.

California will play Texas on Sunday.

Texas 1, Oregon 0

Isaac Garcia broke up a perfect game with a home run in the fourth inning, then threw 1 2-3 innings of hitless relief to lead Pearland past Portland.

Jarrett Tadlock and Garcia combined on a one-hitter and had 11 strikeouts.

"That was a great baseball game. There were no errors, no walks and one hit by each team," Pearland manager Andrew Solomon said. "That was baseball at its finest. It was an awesome game at any level, but to watch boys who are 12 and 13-years-old play that level on that stage was incredible."

Mexico 1, Canada 0

Daniel Zaragoza singled home Raul Leon in the bottom of the sixth inning to lift Mexicali Baja California past White Rock.

Leon led off with a triple to right and Leon singled in the next at-bat, leaving Canada starting pitcher Matthew Wilkinson with a no-decision.

Mexico will play Japan on Sunday.

Japan 7, Taiwan 5

Kengo Tomita hit two home runs in Tokyo's victory over Taipei.

Shingo Tomita led off the game with a home run to right-center for Japan, and Kengo Tomita made it 2-0 with his first homer. Kengo Tomita's second home run, a solo shot in fifth, gave Japan a four-run lead.

Kengo Tomita also singled in Japan's four-run second inning.

Yen Cheng Yu hit a two-run home run for Taiwan in the sixth.

Venezuela 5, Australia 2

Yeiner Fernandez hit a three-run home run in the top of the sixth inning in Barquisimeto's victory over Sydney.

Fernandez's opposite-field shot traveled an estimated 310 feet and nearly hit cars in the Volunteer Stadium parking lot — some 100 feet past the outfield fence that sits 225 feet from home plate.

Jake Burns homered for Sydney. Venezuela will play Uganda on Sunday.

Uganda 4, Dom. Republic 1

Francis Aleo hit a two-run double and also earned the victory in Kampala's victory over Santiago de los Caballero. Jovan Edaku pitched two innings for the save.

Twins Rally Past O's

BY LA VELLE E. NEAL III
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

BALTIMORE (TNS) — The Twins used a three-run rally in the eighth, and replacement closer Kevin Jepsen struck out the side in the ninth, as they beat the Orioles 4-3 at Camden Yards.

The Twins trailed 3-1 in the eighth, looking feeble to that point, when they rallied. Miguel Sano led off with a walk. Trevor Plouffe singled. Torii Hunter was hit on the arm with a pitch to load the bases.

Eddie Rosario hit a sacrifice fly to right, allowing Sano to score. But what won't show up in the box-score is that Parra, a fine outfielder, tried to throw Plouffe out as he advanced to third. Hunter took advantage and advanced to second as Plouffe was safe a third.

Kurt Suzuki, who set up the Twins' first run with a 70-foot infield dribbler in the fourth, got jammed this time and floated a single between Adam Jones in center and Jonathan Schoop at second. Plouffe scored easily. Hunter read the ball off the bat and throttled around third to score the lead run. Two excellent reads by Hunter led to the winning run scoring.

Trevor May pitched the eighth and looked good while doing it. But manager Paul Molitor went with Jepsen in the ninth. Jepsen earned his sixth save, the other five coming while with the Rays.

Twins starter Tommy Milone didn't get a decision, was cruising and leaving a trail of zeroes in his wake.

Then his night, and the Twins' night, changed in three pitches.

Things escalated quickly.

Milone marched into the sixth having retired 13 straight batters. He threw first pitch strikes to 10 straight batters during that run, so he dictated the action. He began the inning holding a 1-0 lead.

Nolan Reimold singled to left on a 1-0 pitch to lead off the inning — just the Orioles' second hit of the game to that point.

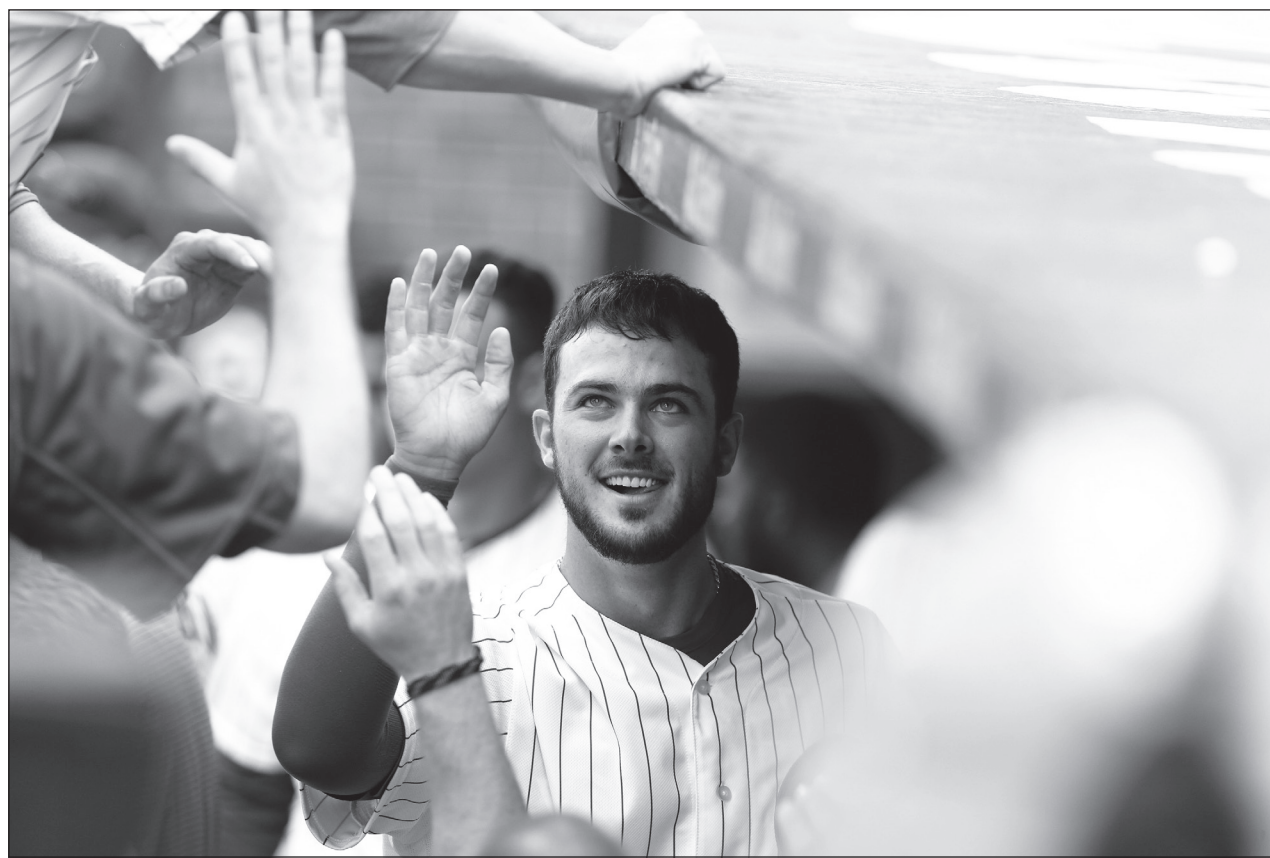
Milone opened with a fastball to Manny Machado, who dumped it into right for single. Reimold moved to third.

Milone then threw a first-pitch curveball to Parra. Suzuki set his glove at the knees but began to lift his glove because the pitch was up in the strike zone. Parra didn't miss it, hitting a no-doubt to right for a 3-1 Orioles lead.

Three pitches. Three hits. Altered evening for Milone and the Twins.

Milone was replaced by Casey Fien two batters later. Milone threw 86 pitches, right near the 90-95 pitch limit the Twins set for him because it was just his second start after coming off the disabled list. He looked stronger than his final line suggested, as he needed just nine pitches to get through the fourth and eight in the fifth.

The Twins offense had Orioles starter Wei-Yin Chen on the ropes but mustered just one run over the first seven innings. They eventually railed and have won consecutive road games after losing 10 of their previous 11 games away from Target Field.



Chicago Cubs third baseman Kris Bryant (17) is congratulated in the dugout after scoring on a double by teammate Miguel Montero in the sixth inning of a game against the Atlanta Braves at Wrigley Field on Friday in Chicago. The Cubs won 5-3. Cubs manager Joe Maddon is not a big fan of the mid-afternoon starts that are common for Cubs home games, like the 3 p.m. Central start for Friday's game.

Cubs Manager Maddon Not A Fan Of Late-Afternoon Games At Wrigley

BY PAUL SULLIVAN
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO (TNS) — The Cubs played a 3:05 p.m. Central time game against the Braves on Friday and will again Saturday, but this could be the last year the club schedules the late-afternoon starts, at least if the players have a say.

Players and manager Joe Maddon don't like so many different starting times because it breaks their familiar routines.

The Cubs' business department likes the 3:05 p.m. starts on Fridays because it gives fans a reason to take off work early, but Maddon's increasing clout in the organization could change

their minds.

"I definitely had that talk with the guys upstairs," Maddon said. "It's awkward. I'm not going to deny it's awkward. You get used to playing at 1 p.m. or 6 or 7 (p.m.)."

Maddon also pointed out it's not really his call. He just works for the team.

"Hopefully that's something we can work our way

through," he said. "I know I don't have any influence on that right now. I'm not even trying to influence that. But it's something to discuss moving forward."

Maddon definitely has Cubs President Theo Epstein's ear, and if it turns into a battle between the business and baseball sides, Epstein is likely to come out on top.

Symmonds Boycott Shines Light On Cash, Sponsorship In Track

BEIJING (AP) — Almost as important as how fast the U.S. athletes run this week at world championships is how they look doing it.

The gear the Americans wear in Beijing is worth millions of dollars for the country's track and field federation, even though each individual athlete can only hope to see a small fraction of it.

And Nick Symmonds won't get a penny.

Symmonds, the defending world silver medalist at 800 meters, is boycotting this year's worlds because of what he called a restrictive, unclear policy written by USA Track and Field regarding exactly when American athletes are required to wear team-sponsored Nike gear while in Beijing.

At practice? Yes. At the meet? Yes. In a coffee shop? To him, confusing.

Symmonds, who is sponsored by rival shoe company Brooks, didn't want any part of it.

"This is hopefully the straw that breaks the camel's back, and maybe, finally, leads to an

overhaul," said the 31-year-old Idaho native, who plans to be hiking in the mountains when the 800-meter final takes place Tuesday.

Symmonds has been lighting up the sponsor-driven, money-conscious and often-bickering world of track and field with his renegade stand on an issue that has dogged athletes in Olympic sports for decades.

They are the best at what they do, but are not paid anywhere near what even middling players in the NBA, NFL, baseball or European soccer make. They subsist on prize money. (First place at the worlds is worth \$60,000), appearance money, bonuses for top finishes at major meets and, quite often, a stipend from the governing body that oversees their sport. Also chipping in via various channels is the U.S. Olympic Committee, which brings all the sports under one umbrella for the Olympics.

Yes, an occasional marketing sensation comes up. But for every Michael Phelps, there are dozens of Nick

Symmondses and even more athletes who never reach his level.

So, the most practical way for the second- or third-tier Olympic athlete to make ends meet is to find a sponsorship deal from a shoe, or swimsuit, or apparel, company that has deep roots in their sport.

"They're basically taking what they make and sinking it back into training," said Peter Carlisle, a longtime agent whose list of clients includes Phelps. "And to get that NGB or USOC money, or at least an amount that would make a difference, you almost always have to be pretty well established. It's very hard to pay for a career that way."

Recently, USA Track & Field signed a deal to extend Nike's sponsorship through 2040 at an average of about \$20 million a year. That large amount gives Nike the right to fit all the U.S. athletes in its gear when they compete at the biggest events.

Symmonds questions whether the \$20 million is worth giving up the freedom to choose what he wears and

when.

Responding to the criticism, USA Track & Field released figures stating it spends roughly 50 percent of its \$30 million annual budget on direct payments to athletes, for their expenses and high performance programs. The federation also has to fund non-elite programs that serve nearly 100,000 members.

USA Track & Field made CEO Max Siegel available for this story, instead referring to the statement that spelled out its finances.

USA Gymnastics president Steve Penny said national governing bodies do a "pretty good job of outlining the terms and expectations for their athletes," and that athletes should know the financial structure of their sport before they make it a career.

"Ultimately, it is the athlete's choice," Penny said. "But the goal is to create a balanced two-way street."

Athletes earned a minor victory this year when the International Olympic Committee relaxed rules that prohibited them from promoting

non-official sponsors during the games.

But that rule only applies to the Olympics. The "Statement of Conditions" that all USA Track & Field athletes had to sign to go to the worlds has, in some eyes, turned into something it wasn't originally intended to be.

"While everyone was falling asleep worrying about Rule 40, the NGBs have taken what used to be a true code of conduct — you wouldn't smoke, break a law, common-sense things — and perverted them into marketing documents," Olympic agent Evan Morgenstein said.

And so, Symmonds is staying home. How big an impact his boycott makes could take years to sort out, though his stand has certainly been noticed.

"He's giving them a voice, and he's forcing people to pay attention," said Bryan Clay, the 2008 Olympic decathlon champion. "As a fellow athlete, even though I maybe would've done things differently, I have to applaud him in what he's doing. Because it's working."

USD, SDSU Fall By 1-0 Margins

OMAHA, Neb. — A goal off a free kick by Creighton's Ylenia Sachau lifted the Bluejays 1-0 past the Coyotes in South Dakota's season opener Friday at Morrison Stadium in Omaha.

Sachau's goal in the 71st minute sealed the win for Creighton (1-0-0). Her shot was off a free kick from 28 yards out.

South Dakota freshman Parker Rytz logged her second consecutive start in goal. She recorded six saves and made several defensive stops before the Jays' offense had a chance to shoot.

Creighton outnumbered South Dakota (0-0-1) in shots 11-7. Junior Corey Strang had four shots to lead the Coyotes, with two sailing wide, one bouncing off the post, and one saved by Creighton goalkeeper Erin Scott. Sophomore Katelyn Floysand had

two shots saved by Scott and senior Teagan Eberle's shot went above of the crossbar.

The Coyotes host Iowa State for the first home game of the season on Sunday at USD Soccer Complex in Vermillion. Start time is set for 1 p.m.

Iowa State 1, SDSU 0

BROOKINGS - South Dakota State was downed by Iowa State 1-0, Friday night in the women's soccer season opener for both teams at Fishback Soccer Park. The Big 12 team scored on the Jacks half way into the first period off a corner kick as senior Haley Albert found the back of the net, giving the Cyclones an early lead.

The Jackrabbits and the Cyclones both tallied five shots in the first half of the game with Jackrabbit shots taken by Tori Poole, Nicole

Hatcher, Alyssa Brazil, and Kyli Nelson.

SDSU came back to the second half of the game stronger, taking the ball to the net harder and recording 10 shots to Iowa State's six.

The Jackrabbits return to Fishback Soccer Park on Sunday to play the Green Bay Phoenix at 1 p.m. Iowa State remains in South Dakota, traveling to USD on Sunday.

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Sanford Health EOE

FCA Evening Of Champions Sept. 9

The Yankton chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes will hold its annual Evening of Champions event on Wednesday, Sept. 9.

There will be a free pizza feed for athletes, coaches and sponsors at 6:15 p.m. in the YHS Commons, followed by the program in the main auditorium at 7 p.m. Featured speaker will be University of Nebraska men's basketball coach and South Dakota native Tim Miles.

All kids, students, coaches and faculty will be admitted for free. There is an admission cost for others.

Coaches and youth leaders planning to bring their students to the event are

asked to contact Will Eidsness at 605-660-8032 or Chuck Iverson at 605-668-1529 in advance of the events. Those interested in helping sponsor the event are also invited to contact Eidsness or Iverson for more information.

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