



By Roger Musselwhite

Climaxing a determined uphill struggle with a storybook ending, the Port baseball team celebrated the opening of the current season with an extra-inning victory over Hicksville, 3 to 1, two weeks ago on the loser's field. The Port batters looked pretty sharp in the early innings, getting hits in each of the first five innings. This fact was lessened by a bad case of first game jitters which made their scoring attempts fruitless.

Hicksville Tacks the Lead

The Comets combined their only two hits of the day to produce a run in the fourth. Port came back with the equalizer in the sixth, as Pete Fatizzi batted in a run with a sacrifice fly. The game stayed that way until the eighth inning. Ron Musselwhite started the fireworks with his second hit of the day. This was all the priming Lou DiLeo needed as he followed with a booming home-run to centerfield. Joe Rezek, who had relieved Paul Nuzzolese in the fifth, was

credited with the win. Together they recorded 19 strike-outs. Port had three additional hits, a double by Newman and singles by Nuzzolese and Rog Musselwhite.

Port Clobbers W. Hempstead

After a shaky first inning, the Port nine proceeded to blast the West Hempstead pitching staff which had previously given up only four hits per game, for nine hits and nine runs in earning a 9 to 3 decision on the Sands Point field during the vacation. The Rams got three runs in the first inning off the eventual winner Rod Hull on two hits, two walks, and an error. Port came back with two in the bottom of the first on safeties by Newman, Fatizzi, and DiLeo. Lloyd knotted-up the game at three-all by driving in Fatizzi with a single. Aided by a series of walks and errors, Port collected five runs in the third. Not satisfied with their total, the Blue and White added two more insurance runs on two singles by soph Howie Gibbons, a single by Ron Musselwhite, and a single by Jim Gilbert. Nuzzolese and Rezek also pitched for Port.

Port Squeezes By Roslyn

Last week the Port baseball squad ran into a determined and powerful Roslyn team, which held them scoreless for six inn-

ings before the winners could push across the deciding run in the top of the seventh inning. The Hilltoppers held Port, who had previously averaged nine hits per game, to only two hits. Roslyn collected four hits from Nuzzolese and Rezek, who again combined to go the distance, striking out a total of ten batters. Rezek was credited with the win, his second of the season. Fatizzi lead off the seventh with an infield single, and Bob Dell followed with the all-important, run-scoring single that gave Port its victory.

Outwit Sea Cliff

Continuing their winning ways the Port baseball team had little trouble in defeating Sea Cliff, 3 to 1, last week on the winner's diamond. The Cliffmen scored a run in the first inning

on one hit, their only hit of the game. From that point on the Port pitchers, Hull and Dohm, had everything under control, while their team-mates picked up three runs. Howie Gibbons led the batters with two singles. DiLeo singled in the fourth and Lloyd singled him home. In the fifth, Cifarelli, Newman, and Ron Musselwhite collected hits which provided Port with the winning margin. Bob Dohm went four innings and was the winning pitcher.

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