

1950'S

County League Schedule

Game Tonight
Spring Creek vs Dayton (8:00)
(At Clover Hill Park)

Games Sunday
Towers vs Keezletown (3:00)
(At Clover Hill Park)
Grottoes at Bridgewater
Ottobine at Dayton
Briery Branch at Spring Creek

Teams	Won	Lost	Pct.	G.B.
Bridgewater	5	0	1.000	
Dayton	4	1	.800	1/2
Clover Hill	3	2	.600	2
Spring Creek	2	3	.400	3
Briery Branch	1	4	.200	4
Keezletown	1	4	.200	4
Towers	1	4	.200	4

Ottobine Wins Over Grottoes

CLOVER HILL, July 23—Ottobine scored all of its runs in the first inning tonight as the club registered a 5 to 1 Rockingham County League victory over Grottoes.

Galen Long limited the East Rockingham outfit to four hits and the only run came in the seventh on a pair of errors and two infield outs. Long fanned 11. Sipe's double was the only extra base blow off the winning hurler.

Ottobine collected only seven hits, four of these coming in the first. McAllister was driven from the mound in the first and Good limited Ottobine to three hits the remainder of the contest.

In the big first inning, there were singles by Gordon Shifflett, Frank Cline and Paul Rivercomb, and a double by Paul Myers, the latter coming with two on base.

Frank Cline was the only Ottobine hitter to connect for two hits.

The Clover Hill Park management announced that Spring Creek and Keezletown would play off a postponed contest here Saturday night. The spokesman said the staging of the game was tentative.

Watermelon Night At Clover Hill

Watermelon Night will be observed at the Clover Hill Park tonight when Dayton and Grottoes clash in a Rockingham County League contest at eight o'clock.

Clover Hill Is Victor, 4 To 3

CLOVER HILL, Sept. 4—Clover Hill scored a run in the tenth inning here Saturday night to carry off a 4 to 3 victory over Spring Creek and take a 1-0 series lead in the best 3-of-5 semi-final play-offs.

The two teams will clash here Wednesday evening at eight o'clock.

Galen Long went the route for the victors, giving up nine hits while Heatwole started for the losers, bowing out to Dorman in the second. Connie Turner came on in the ninth and was tagged with the loss.

Frank Cline with a single and a double and Bob Martin with a pair of singles paced the victors. Harold McNett had a double and a single for the losers while Owen Lee Wright had a pair of singles.

Spring Creek tallied twice in the first and Clover Hill counted one run in the first and two in the fifth. Spring Creek came back to score one in the ninth and knot the count.

In the tenth inning Bob Martin led off with a single, moved to second on a fielder's choice and scored on an error.

Over 300 fans witnessed the first game of the county league semi-finals to be played in Clover Hill's community park.

Towers Scores A 5 To 4 Win Over Ottobine Nine

Results Last Night
Towers 5, Ottobine 4

CLOVER HILL, July 9—Roscoe Shaeffer scattered eight hits here this evening as the Towers nine came up with a 5 to 4 County League victory over Ottobine.

Ernie Knicey, with two hits in three trips, including a double and Dove and Knott with two bingles each, set the pace for the winners who collected a dozen hits off Randy Crawford in a game played before a crowd of over 500 fans.

Bill Simmons with two hits, including an inside-the-park home run and a single and Randy Crawford and Frank Cline with a pair of hits paced the Ottobine team at the plate.

County League games are scheduled in the Clover Hill Park Saturday night and again on Sunday afternoon.

Ottobine Wins As Clover Hill Park is Opened

Over 700 Witness County Loop Game After Ceremonies

CLOVER HILL, July 1—A huge crowd, a thrilling baseball game and perfect weather tonight combined to make the formal opening of the Clover Hill Community Park an occasion long to be remembered.

The Ottobine club won over Towers, 5 to 4, in a sharply fought Rockingham County League battle as the more than 700 fans cheered.

Bill Shull, of the Towers club, however, provided the biggest moment of the evening when he clouted a 350-foot home run with two on base in the ninth. He was a pinch-hitter but achieved the distinction of being the first player to drive one out of the brightly illuminated park with its spacious stands and other facilities.

Ellis Matheny was the master of ceremonies and said the building of the park was a piece of outstanding work for the community. He added that those members of the Clover Hill Ruritan Club, of which Bernelle Hill is the hard-working president, and who spearheaded the park movement, deserves great credit.

President Hill expressed the thanks of the Ruritan club to all who contributed finances and labor to the park. George Dausen, president of the Rockingham County League, paid a compliment to the community for building the park. He urged that all clubs in the league make use of the excellent facilities.

J. N. Miller, president of the Clover Hill Recreation Association, threw out the first ball. W. C. Hedrick, of Hinton, was introduced. He donated the timber from which the stands were constructed.

President Hill said the park is a demonstration of what a community can do if everyone co-operates and works hard. He added that the recreational facilities will mean much to the Clover Hill community.

Galen Long, the Ottobine ace, was overpowering the visiting Augustans from Towers until Shull connected for his ninth inning blow. But, the Ottobine club had piled up a sufficient margin to offset the three runs.

Ernie Knicey went the route for Towers. He was tapped for nine hits, one less than the losers collected off Long. Cassidy and Long were the only players to collect two hits.

Year Drivers' double was scored two in the seventh, was what proved to be the deciding blow. Ottobine tallied three runs in the second on singles by Simmons and Long, an error, and a sacrifice.

It was one of those games in which the result was in doubt until the last man was retired; perfect for the christening of the Clover Hill Community Park.

Keezletown And Ottobine Win In County Loop

Results Last Night
Keezletown 5, Grottoes 2
Ottobine 28, Bridgewater 3

Teams	Won	Lost	Pct.	G.B.
Bridgewater	18	7	.720	
Towers	17	8	.680	
Keezletown	15	10	.607	1
Dayton	13	11	.542	2
Grottoes	12	13	.480	3
Ottobine	12	13	.480	3
Spring Creek	3	22	.120	8
Briery Branch	2	22	.083	15 1/2

Game Tonight
(8:00) Towers vs Briery Branch
(Clover Hill)

Games Sunday
Bridgewater at Spring Creek
Briery Branch at Towers
(At Grottoes)

Dayton vs Keezletown
(At Grottoes)
Grottoes vs Ottobine
(At Clover Hill)

Game Monday
Dayton vs Bridgewater
(Clover Hill)

Keezletown's nine scored three times in the eighth inning at Grottoes last night to carry off a 5 to 2 win over the host club and Ottobine romped to a 28 to 3 victory over Bridgewater in the other Rockingham County League game.

Opening tonight at Clover Hill a full slate of games is on tap for the league with Dayton and Bridgewater set to collide in a Monday night game that had been scheduled for Tuesday night. President George Dausen said the battle was moved to Monday night because the Ruritan Club wants to use Clover Hill park for a community affair on Tuesday night. In addition to that battle, a full schedule is on tap tomorrow afternoon in the league which is still hopeful of placing the lid on the season next Friday when Spring Creek and Ottobine clash at Clover Hill.

Playoff openers are scheduled to start for the loop a week from tomorrow. Last night at Grottoes Keezletown used 8 hits, the same number given up by winner Ben McDonaldson to take that five-two win over Grottoes. Lee McAllister was the loser and helped his own losing cause with a second inning home run and a single. Doug Good had a double and single for the losers while Sites and McDonaldson with 2-for-5 and 2-for-3 paced the victors.

Harry Lee Simmons and Whalen Long paced the Ottobine nine to their victory over top-place Bridgewater. Simmons clouted a four-base blow in the second inning with a mate aboard and repeated with another round tripper in the fourth inning. He had a triple and single, 4-for-7 to go with that pair of big blows. Whalen Long got his homer in the eighth inning and had two singles and a double, 4-for-7 to go with that hit to share hitting honors with Long. Frank Cline had a pair of triples for the winners who banged out 21 hits while Dandy Crawford was giving up eight in chalking up the victory.

1950'S

Spring Creek Is Victor, 8 To 2

CLOVER HILL, July 22—Spring Creek made 13 hits count for an 8 to 2 victory over Clover Hill this afternoon as Carl McNett went the distance to pick up the win.

Randy Crawford started for the losers, bowing out to Tommy Hanlon in the sixth.

Jack Turner, with three hits, including a double and Harold McNett, with two hits, including a triple, paced the victors. Hanlon, Crawford and Lawrence Swartz each had a pair of hits for the losers.

Spring Creek scored twice in the first and scored three times in the sixth to wrap up the victory.

Dayton Bests Ottobine, 5-2

Results Yesterday
Dayton 5, Ottobine 2

Game Tonight
Keezletown vs Bridgewater (8:00)

CLOVER HILL, July 12—Dayton used the six hit hurling of Harry Shull and timely hitting before a good crowd here this evening to come up with a 5 to 2 victory over Ottobine, their third win in as many days in Rockingham County League play.

Galen Long, the losing hurler also gave up only six hits and fanned one more than did Shull, eleven, but the winners tallied single markers in the first, second and eighth innings and wrapped it all up with a two-run sixth inning.

Eugene Blakemore took the hitting spotlight for the winners, pounding out a triple and single in four trips but he had to share that spotlight with tan "Tackle" Spencer pounding out a home run in the second inning, the drive clearing the leftfield fence to give Dayton a 2-1 lead. Gordon Shifflett's double and a single by Randy Crawford had knotted the count at 1-all in the first inning for Ottobine.

Blakemore was the only player to collect more than one hit in the hurler's duel.

County League Meets Today, 6:30

Results Saturday
Grottoes, 12; Spring Creek, 5.
Yesterday's Score
Clover Hill, 9; Bridgewater, 1.

Game Tuesday
Spring Creek vs Briery Branch (At Clover Hill)

The Rockingham County League board of directors will meet this evening at 6:30 at the News-Record on South Liberty Street. President George Dausas said last night that all teams shall be present and bring their scorebooks.

Spring Creek shoots for a fourth place berth tomorrow night at Clover Hill, meeting Briery Branch. If the Spring Creek nine wins they will knot Bridgewater for fourth place and make necessary a sudden-death playoff for the position at Clover Hill on Wednesday. A Spring Creek loss will move Manager Bud Kibler's nine into the playoff.

In weekend action, Grottoes topped Spring Creek, 12 to 5 and Bridgewater bowed to Clover Hill yesterday, 9-1.

Clover Hill Is Victor, 13-3

CLOVER HILL, June 20—Clover Hill made 15 hits count for a 13 to 3 victory over a Briery Branch nine here this evening, getting five hit hurling from Randy Crawford.

Payne, Rozzalo and George Crawford worked for the losers with Paul Revercombe leading the attack at the plate for the Clover Hill nine as he got four hits in five trips. Wayland Long had a pair of doubles in 3 trips to pace the victors.

Gil Cook and Rozzalo with two singles each, paced the losers.

Clover Hill Is Victor, Finals Open Wednesday

Score 3 To 1 Win Over Spring Creek; Play At Grottoes

Results Last Night
Clover Hill 3, Spring Creek, 1

Game Wednesday
Clover Hill at Grottoes (8:00)

CLOVER HILL, Sept 10—Clover Hill scored single markers in the fourth, eighth and ninth frames here this evening to post a 3 to 1 victory over a Spring Creek nine and advance to the Rockingham County League championship finals.

Those finals, President "Big" George Dausas said tonight, will open Wednesday evening at eight o'clock at the Grottoes Park with Manager Wilbur Garber's Cards as the host nine.

President Dausas said that the finals will be played on alternate nights in alternate parks, Grottoes and Clover Hill. After the Wednesday evening opener at Grottoes the series will move to Clover Hill on Friday night, back to Grottoes on Monday night, Sept 17th.

4 of 7 Series

The finals will be a best 4-of-7 series between Grottoes, which grabbed the regular season championship and second-place Clover Hill. Presentation of the season championship trophy will be made at the Wednesday night opener to Grottoes for their top-place finish in the 1956 campaign.

Here this evening Layton Evans gave a Spring Creek nine only four hits two being collected by Owen Lee Wright who got a pair of singles.

Carl McNett tossed for the losers, gave up only 8 hits but that, still Clover Hill needed to take the crucial victory.

A triple by Bill Simmons in the fourth and Frank Cline's double knotted the count for Clover Hill at 1-1. The victors got the lead run in the eighth on Galen Long's single, an error and a sacrifice fly.

Spring Creek had tallied in the first inning on Owen Wright's single, an error and a sacrifice fly.

All Star Game Wednesday At Clover Hill

CLOVER HILL, Sept 19—A collection of Valley League All-Stars will battle the All-Stars from the Rockingham County League at the Clover Hill Park here Wednesday night at eight o'clock under the sponsorship of the Clover Hill Rural Club.

Receipts from the All-Star clash go toward payment on the debt made in building the park here. Umpiring is donated and the players are donating their services and there will be no advance in prices.

Slated to see duty for the Rockingham County League All Stars are: Roscoe Shaeffer, Towers; Galen Long, Ottobine; Harry Lee Simmons, Bridgewater; Lynwood Sipe, Grottoes; and Harry Shull, Dayton, pitchers; Fred Pence, Keezletown, and Carl McNett, Spring Creek, first base; Charles Good, Grottoes, and Tommy Byrd, Dayton, second base; Donnie Deeds, Keezletown, and Kenny Downey, Dayton, third base; and Walter Dove, Towers, and Harry Arey, Bridgewater, shortstop. Outfield duty is due to fall to Lindy Kersh, Dayton; Lee McAllister, Grottoes; Wayland Long, Ottobine; Herb Raish, Dayton; Harold McNett, Spring Creek; Bill Simmons, Ottobine; Zeke Michael, Towers; Robert Cassidy, Towers; and Jamie Will, Bridgewater.

The Valley League Stars are scheduled to include Ted Boslack, Bobby May, Staunton; John Kent, Fred Caswell, Joe Nicely, Junior Stinet and Bill Quinn, Waynesboro; Virgil Huffman, Lefty Lindamood, Ralph Guston and Bobby Will, Harrisonburg; Paul Foltz, Ed Davis, Gene Giuseppe and Weldon Grimsley, Elkton; Dick Glickerson, Paul Carlock and Johnny Steadman, Linville; Mike

Clover Hill Is Victor, 17-4

Results Last Night

Clover Hill 17; Briery Branch 4

A Clover Hill nine used 17 hits for a 17 to 4 victory over Briery Branch at Clover Hill last night as "Doc" Deputy chalked up a 6-hit mound win.

Bill Long started for the losers and was tagged with the loss giving way to Hummel in the sixth.

The Branch nine had a 2-1 lead until the fourth when Clover Hill went out front 3 to 1. The winners wrapped up the victory with 8 runs in the sixth.

Aubrey Simmons with 4 hits in 3 trips, including a pair of triples and a double and Jim Shull and Ed Simmons with three hits each paced the winners. Dewey Eppard with two singles was the only loser to get more than one hit.

W S V A
T-V
Channel 3
★ ★ ★ ★
TUESDAY, SEPT. 4

- 11:15 AM—Love of Live
- 11:30 AM—Search for Tomorrow
- 11:45 AM—The Guiding Light
- 12:30 PM—As The World Turns
- 1:30 PM—Ernie Ford Show
- 2:00 PM—NBC Matinee Theatre
- 3:00 PM—The Brighter Day
- 3:15 PM—The Secret Storm
- 3:30 PM—Edge of Night
- 4:00 PM—Comedy Time
- 4:30 PM—Western Trails
- 6:00 PM—Feature Theatre
- 7:00 PM—Phil Silvers Show
- 7:30 PM—Cavalcade Theatre
- 8:00 PM—Jane Wyman Show
- 8:30 PM—Spotlight Playhouse
- 9:00 PM—\$64,000 Question
- 9:30 PM—Wrestling from Baltimore
- 10:00 PM—The Pendulum
- 10:30 PM—The Playhouse

The Major Leagues

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
NATIONAL LEAGUE

Results Yesterday
Pittsburgh 7, St. Louis 6.
Cincinnati 7, New York 4.
Brooklyn 6, Milwaukee 3.
(Only games scheduled)

Today's Games
Probable Pitchers
Pittsburgh at Brooklyn (night)—Hall (5-3) vs Spooner (6-5).
New York at Philadelphia (night)—McCall (5-4) vs Roberts (21-10).
Cincinnati at Milwaukee (night)—Fowler (9-9) vs Spahn (13-13).
St. Louis at Chicago—Poholsky (7-9) vs Rush (11-9).

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Results Yesterday
No games Scheduled

Today's Games
Probable Pitchers

Chicago at Cleveland (night) 8 Johnson (6-3) vs Maglie (0-1).
Washington at New York—Mcdermott (8-8) or Porterfield (10-15) vs Ford (15-6).
Detroit at Kansas City (night)—Foytack (0-0) vs Ceccarelli (3-6).
Boston at Baltimore (night)—Sullivan (16-12) vs Lopat (5-10) or Moore (6-10).

Simmons Loses In Late Attack By 6-5 Score

Paul Caricofe Scores All Of Turks' 5 Runs

Results Saturday
Staunton 3, Harrisonburg 2.
(Staunton leads 3-2 in 4 of 7 series)

Games Tonight
In Memorial Stadium, 8:15.

The Harrisonburg Turks dropped their second straight Valley League finals series to the Braves at Staunton Saturday night.

Harrisonburg will have to win tonight or the season's laurels will go to Staunton which has a 3 to 2 lead in the series.

Allen Biff or Billy Burkholder will get the call from Manager Lindamood while Staunton is expected to call on Buddy Dey.

Junior Simmons was going great guns against the Braves until the seventh when Staunton rallied to score four runs, which proved to be the ball game. With two away, Bud Smith hit a double to right field which cleared the loaded bases. Many fans thought that Deane Wescott was going to make the catch but he didn't. Simmons had limited the Braves to one hit to that time.

Smith scored the fourth run of the big round when he singled. Simmons virtually handcuffed the Braves for six innings. Dick Gilkerson came in in the seventh and yielded what proved to be the deciding run.

5 Runs For Caricofe
While it may not be a record, this is one for the books.

Paul Caricofe, Turks third sacker, scored all five Harrisonburg runs, crossing the plate in the first, third, fifth, seventh and ninth innings—alternate innings. Veteran players could not recall a game when one player had scored all of a team's runs when they numbered as many as five. League President C. C. Michel said he believes the performance is one for the books, at least for the Valley League books.

Junk Eye, Turk shortstop, paced the hitters with three singles and a double. He batted in two runs. Manager Ted Bostack, returning to action for the Braves, collected three singles. Paul Caricofe banged out a pair of one basers in addition to his five runs scored.

The Turks started the scoring in the first. Philly Gilkerson singled. Caricofe who forced Gilkerson took second on a wild throw and scored on Eye's first hit. Caricofe doubled in the third and tallied again on a hit by Eye. Caricofe started on his way to another run in the fifth when he walked. He moved to third on Wescott's single and tallied when Burkholder flew out to right.

The Majors

By The Associated Press
AMERICAN LEAGUE

Yesterday's Results
New York 7-3, Baltimore 4-3
Washington 6, Boston 4
Cleveland 9, Kansas City 2
Detroit 5-1, Chicago 1-4

Team	Won	Lost	Pct.	G.R.
New York	77	40	.658	114
Chicago	69	47	.595	114
Boston	61	55	.520	74
Detroit	57	59	.489	114
Baltimore	56	59	.487	20
Cleveland	56	61	.479	21
Washington	45	72	.382	22
Kansas City	44	73	.376	23

Today's Schedule
(Probable Pitchers)
Cleveland at Kansas City
Tomanek (1-1) or Daley (1-8) vs Gorman (2-7) or Daley (1-8)
Only game scheduled

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Yesterday's Results
New York 5-1, Philadelphia 4-0
Pittsburgh 1-0, Brooklyn 2-0
Chicago 8, Cincinnati 2 (2nd game ppd. rain)
St. Louis 8-6, Milwaukee 6-0 (first game 10 inns)

Team	Won	Lost	Pct.	G.R.
Milwaukee	72	45	.615	—
St. Louis	65	51	.560	64
Brooklyn	65	53	.551	74
Cincinnati	61	55	.520	104
Philadelphia	60	57	.513	12
New York	56	64	.467	174
Chicago	45	69	.395	254
Pittsburgh	43	73	.371	284

No games scheduled

Ruritan Horse Shoe League

Results Last Night
Dayton 5, Bridgewater 0
Clover Hill 5, West Rockingham 0
Cross Keys-Mill Creek 4, Linville-Edom 1

Teams	Standings	Won	Lost
Dayton		35	10
Clover Hill		35	10
C. Keys-Mill Creek		34	11
West Rockingham		19	26
Linville-Edom		10	35
Bridgewater		0	45

STOCK CAR RACES



MASSANUTTEN SPEEDWAY
KEEZLETOWN, VA.

SUN., SEPT. 11, 1955—2:30 P.

- 4 FAST HEATS
- 2 FAST FEATURES

Admission \$1.25—Children Under 12 Admitted Free
Accompanied by an Adult

COME EARLY RACES WILL START
PROMPTLY AT 2:30 P. M.

Pre-Squirrel Season

SHOOTING MATCH

FRIDAY NITE, SEPTEMBER 30 — 7:00 O'clock

at CLOVER HILL PARK

PRIZES: Ham, Oysters, Beef and Sporting Goods

Sponsored by CLOVER HILL RURITAN CLUB

12 and 16 gauge shotguns—Not Responsible in Case of
Accidents 9:17-24-26

5 GALS GAS \$1.39

Crystal Service Station
205 N. Liberty Harrisonburg

1950'S

Clover Hill handed Grottoes a 10 to 0 shellacking last night in the Clover Hill Park to even the Rockingham County League final series at two all.

The fifth game will be played at Grottoes Saturday night.

Layton Evans limited Grottoes to four hits and did not issue a pass. Lynn Sipe, yielding only eight hits, was the victim of wildness and errors, which contributed considerably to the size of the Clover Hill count.

Paul Revercomb set the pace for the winners with a double and three singles, driving in four runs. Morris, with a two-baser and a single, got half of the Grottoes hits.

Frank Cline, in shortstop for Clover Hill, performed brilliantly, handling an even dozen chances.

Clover Hill started the scoring in the fourth when Revercomb's double and Wayland Long's single were coupled with an error and pass for a pair of runs. Five runs crossed the plate in the sixth on a triple by Bill Simmons, a double by Evans, singles by Revercomb and W. Long, walks and errors.

Ottobine Nine, Grottoes Win In County Loop

Results Last Night
Ottobine 11, Spring Creek 8
Grottoes 9, Keezletown 6

Ottobine and Grottoes chalked up wins in Rockingham County League play last night. Ottobine taking an 11 to 8 win over Spring Creek while the Keezletown nine was bowing to Grottoes, 9 to 6.

At Clover Hill's new park, a crowd of over 500 watched an Ottobine nine, trailing 6 to 8 moving into the final frame rally to shove over five runs in that frame and carry off the win.

Randy Crawford traveled the distance for the win while Click, Cook and Turner tossed for Spring Creek. Turner getting the loss.

Manager Gordon Shifflett had three hits in five trips to lead the Ottobine nine while Wright, with a pair of doubles was the big gun for the losers.

At Grottoes the home club scored four runs in the seventh inning to take a win over Keezletown, 9 to 6 with Bobby Diehl's double with two on in that inning the big blow Charlie Good and St. Clair also picked up hits in this frame with Keezletown errors also helping.

Ray Brown went the distance for Grottoes, giving up nine hits while Raymond Martin and Ben McDonaldson shared the mound duties for Keezletown, giving up seven hits.

Big Freddie Pence the Bridgewater College ace athlete banged out a triple and three singles for Keezletown while Donnie Deeds and brother Lawrence Deeds each had a pair of safeties

Clover Hill Tops Grottoes

Results Last Night
Clover Hill 5, Grottoes 1
Clover Hill leads in best 3-of-5 series, 2-0

Game Tonight
Linville vs Briery Branch (8:00)
(At Clover Hill Park)

GROTTOES — A Clover Hill nine made 8 hits count for a 5 to 1 victory over Grottoes here Friday evening to take a 2 to 0 lead in their best 3-of-5 semi-final playoffs in the Rockingham County League.

Eddie Long worked the distance for the winners and A. C. Jenkins tossed the distance for the losers.

Clover Hill tallied single runs in the fifth, sixth and ninth innings and scored a pair in the seventh frame. The Cardinals got their only marker of the game in the opening inning.

Galen Long with two hits in 3 trips and Frank Cline with two hits in 5 trips paced the winners. Dar Lam had a double and single in four trips for the losers while Clyde Jenkins had three hits in 4 trips to lead Grottoes.

Clover Hill Is Victor, 18 To 1

Results Last Night
Clover Hill 18, Spring Creek 1

Game Friday
Grottoes vs Briery Branch
(At Clover Hill Park)

Games Saturday
Clover Hill at Grottoes
Keezletown at Linville
Sunday
Briery Branch at Bridgewater

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill's nine hit early and often here Wednesday evening to score an 18 to 1 victory over Spring Creek in a Rockingham County League game.

Wenzel went the distance to mark up the victory, giving up only four hits and scattering them among as many players.

Suter started for the losers and gave way to Click with the starter tagged with the loss.

Jimmy Shull pounded out a 2-run homer for Clover Hill in the second inning. Carr, Galen Long and Shaffer each had three hits to pace Clover Hill's 17-hit attack.

Clover Hill Is Winner, 5 To 3

Saturday's Score
Clover Hill 5; Grottoes 3

Games Tuesday
Keezletown vs Spring Creek
(At Clover Hill)
Linville at Grottoes

Wednesday
Bridgewater at Clover Hill

GROTTOES — Clover Hill gave the mound nod to young Wilson Showalter here Saturday night in a Rockingham County League game and the former Turner Ashby High ace gave a brilliant performance in a 5 to 3 victory over the Cardinals.

Showalter gave up six hits, fanned 13 and walked five as he bested the veteran Leonard Sipe. Sipe walked three and fanned a half dozen.

Harrison Homer

Clover Hill counted single markers in the third, fourth, fifth, sixth and eighth frames. Grottoes struck for one marker in the first on Shirley Harrison's homer and got two more runs in the fifth frame.

Harrison, in addition to his work at the plate contributed two brilliant catches off the bat of big Virgil Huffman that robbed him twice of a triple. The game also marked the return of Harry Saufley to the Cardinals after a tour of duty in the service.

Harrison with his home run and a single lifted his hitting mark for the season to .518. Leighton Evans who had a double and single in three trips and two RBI's lifted his batting mark to .380 for the Cards.

Aubrey Simmons with three hits in four trips paced the winners. Raymond Carr, Wenzel, and the veteran Virgil Huffman had two hits each for the winking Clover Hill nine.

Long Homers To Give Clover Hill A 4 To 3 CL Win

Wayland Long's homer with one on in the seventh gave Clover Hill a 4 to 3 victory over Keezletown last night in a closely contested Rockingham County League game.

Clover Hill tallied three runs in the seventh, the first coming when Hanlon singled, stole second and scored on Crawford's one-baser. Then Long hit for the circuit.

Layton Evans hurled eight innings for the winners and was relieved in the ninth by Crawford. Evans gave up 11 hits but fanned ten.

Ben McDonaldson went the rout for Keezletown and was tagged for nine hits.

Warren Armentrout led the Keezletown hitters with a triple and single.

Watermelon Night At Clover Hill Park Tonight

Game Tonight

Linville at Clover Hill

Sunday

Spring Creek at Bridgewater
Grottoes at Keezletown

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill entertains a Linville nine in Rockingham County League play here Saturday evening with "Watermelon Night" to be observed by the local club that promised plenty of melons for those attending.

Clover Hill will probably call on young Wilson Showalter who toiled for Turner Ashby High during the season and has posted wins in his last three outings while Linville will probably counter with either the veteran Dick Gikerson or Jay Shoemaker on the mound.

Yesterday's Scores
Grottoes 10, Towers 2
Dayton 8, Spring Creek 8
Ottobine 20, Briery Branch 3
Bridgewater 9, Keezletown 4

Saturday's Results
Dayton 24, Briery Branch 4

Game Tonight
Bridgewater vs Ottobine (8:00)
(Clover Hill Park)

Dayton scored a double win in Rockingham County League play over the weekend, romping to a 24 to 4 win over Briery Branch Saturday night at Clover Hill and matching that with an 8 to 5 victory over Spring Creek yesterday at Dayton.

Grottoes, Ottobine and Bridgewater were turning in the other wins, Towers bowing to Grottoes, 10 to 2, Ottobine rolling over Briery Branch 20 to 3 and Keezletown bowing to Bridgewater, 9 to 4.

Harry Shull picked up the mound win for Dayton in that Saturday night slugfest while Sammy Ritchie was the mound victor in yesterday's win over Spring Creek. Howdyball was tagged with the night loss at Clover Hill while the victory went to Shull, with Cook the loser yesterday. Yesterday's win was highlighted by home runs off the bats of Gene Blakemore and Kenny Downey.

Downey had a triple and single to go with his four base knock also.

Whalen Long and Randy Crawford pounded out five hits for Ottobine yesterday as they romped over Briery Branch, 20 to 3 with Galen Long and Gilbert working on the mound for the winners and Howdyball, Fudmberger and Wenger tossing for the losers. Simmons and Frank Cline clouted home runs for Ottobine while Howdyball was the lone player for Briery Branch to get to hits.

1950'S

Paul Rivercombe's infield hit in the ninth inning at Clover Hill led the home nine to a 4 to 3 win over Bridgewater, the first setback of the young season for Manager Kibler's nine. Harold Trumbo worked the route for the losers and Leighton Evans got the win.

Danny Geiser with a single and double that drove in a pair of the Bridgewater runs paced the losers while Billy Dovel had a pair of singles and Bobby Will had a triple. The 7 Clover Hill bingles were scattered among as many players, all of them being singles in a game played before the biggest crowd of the season at the Clover Hill Park.

Keezletown And Clover Hill Win In County Loop

Results Last Night

Keezletown 16; Spring Creek 7

Results Wednesday

Clover Hill 8; Towers 2

Games Tonight

Clover Hill vs B. Branch (8:00)

(At Clover Hill Park)

Towers at Grottoes (8:00)

Keezletown and Clover Hill picked up Fourth of July holiday victories in the Rockingham County League with the Keezletown nine scoring a 16 to 7 victory over Spring Creek on Thursday night and Clover Hill besting Towers 8 to 2 on Wednesday evening.

Harold McNett and Wright with doubles paced Spring Creek. Six errors by the losers didn't help the pair of hurlers after Keezletown jumped off to a 4-0 lead in the first and added 8 runs in the fifth.

Galen Long tossed Clover Hill to their 8-2 victory Wednesday night as his mates got off to a 6-0 lead in the first inning off loser Connie Knott who gave way in that frame to Shaeffer.

Rivercomb with three hits paced the victors while Shaeffer, Cassidy and Michael had two each for the losers.

Clover Hill Is Victor, Evans Tosses 4-Hitter

Even C. L. Playoff At 3 Games Each; Final On Wednesday

Clover Hill evened up the Rockingham County League final series last night by besting Grottoes, 3 to 1 behind the masterful four-hit pitching of Leighton Evans.

Clover Hill Is Victor, 17-6

Results Last Night

Clover Hill 17; Briery Branch 6

Team Standings

TEAMS	Won	Lost	Pct.
Grottoes	18	3	.857
Bridgewater	13	6	.684
Clover Hill	12	8	.600
Keezletown	11	9	.550
Br. Branch	11	11	.500
Spring Creek	6	13	.316
Towers	6	13	.316

Games Sunday

Towers at Briery Branch
Clover Hill at Spring Creek
Bridgewater at Keezletown

A Clover Hill nine banged 15 hits and got good hurling from a pair of hurlers at Clover Hill Park last night to score a 17-6 victory over Briery Branch.

Galen Long and Paul Huff worked for the winners while Hummel, Cook, Payne and Coley tolled for the losers.

Wayland Long had 4 hits in trips including a home run the victory. Smith and Myers a pair of hits for the losers.

Results Last Night

Clover Hill 4; Spring Creek 2
Clover leads best 3 of 5 game series, 2 games to 1.

Game Monday

Spring Creek at Clover Hill (8:00)

CLOVER HILL, Sept. 7 — Defending champion Clover Hill took another step forward toward the Rockingham County League final here this evening when they scored a 4 to 2 victory over Spring Creek. The win, which went to Galen Long, gave the CH nine a 2-1 lead in the series. Fourth game in the series is set Monday night at eight o'clock at the park here.

Long, in going the route to beat Dorman, gave up 8 hits, one more than the victors got off the loser.

Aubrey Simmers and Bill Simmons each with a single and a double set the pace in the hitting department for the winners. Harold McNett and Owen Wright had a pair of hits each for the losers. Spring Creek scored one in the third inning and Clover Hill bounced back in the sixth to knot the count with a single tally.

Clover Hill wrapped up the victory with a 3-run spree in the eighth inning. Galen Long started Clover Hill on the way in that frame, with a single.

Frank Cline drew a walk and Bill Simmons promptly doubled to score two runs. Layton Evans chased Simmons across with a single.

Spring Creek came back to score once in the final frame on a walk, a single and a double before Long put out the fire to send his team into the series lead.

Clover Hill Is

Victor, 3 To 0

Results Last Night

Clover Hill 3; Bridgewater 0
(Clover Hill wins semi-finals in best 3-of-5, 3-1)

Game Thursday

Clover Hill at Grottoes (8:00)
(Opening game in best 4-of-7 -finals)

CLOVER HILL — A Clover Hill nine that played second and third fiddle to Bridgewater all season long got good hurling from Galen Long here Tuesday night to score a 3 to 0 victory over Bridgewater and wrap up their half of the Rockingham County League semi-finals, 3 games to 1.

The Clover Hill nine will travel to Grottoes on Thursday evening at eight o'clock to battle the Cardinals in the opener of a best 4-of-7 series with games set every other night. Second game is scheduled here Saturday evening if the Thursday night at Grottoes battle is not rained out.

Brothers Lead

Galen Long gave the losers only 7 hits here Tuesday night while his brother, Whalen Long pounded out three singles in 4 trips to pace the winners. Galen Long had a pair of singles for Clover Hill as did Joe Foltz. Gene Coakley with a pair of singles paced the winners.

The winners tallied twice in the third on a single by Galen Long, a walk to Aubrey Simmons, a Whalen Long single and another single by Joe Foltz. Whalen Long's single, a walk to Jimmy Shull and an error gave the winners another marker in the fifth frame.

Whalen Long's brilliant catch turned the tide for the winners in the fourth inning. With Johnny Hensley on with a single, big Griff Gilkerson pounded one deep to centerfield and Long went back to take the ball off the fence and rob Gilkerson of an out-of-the-park drive, or a sure double.

CLOVER HILL, Aug. 24 — A Clover Hill nine, trailing at one point, 6 to 2 here this evening, staged a rally to score an 8 to 6 victory over a Bridgewater nine in the Rockingham County League.

Randy Crawford, who took over from starter Layton Evans posted the win, going in with his club behind by that 6 to 2 count. Harry Lee Simmons went the route for the losers.

The two teams square off again Sunday afternoon at three o'clock at Bridgewater.

Three singles a walk and Galen Long's double highlighted a 3-run eighth inning for Clover Hill that wrapped up their come-from-behind victory.

Rivercomb with three hits and Galen Long with a single and that payoff double, paced the victors. Mel Will with three hits set the pace for Bridgewater which out-hit Clover Hill, 14 to 12.

County League Opens Sunday In 4 Parks

Games Sunday
Towers at Clover Hill
Keezletown at Briery Branch
Grottoes at Bridgewater
Spring Creek at Dayton
(All games at 3:00 o'clock)

The Shenandoah Valley's oldest continuous active baseball circuit, the Rockingham County League lifts the curtain on another season tomorrow afternoon with four battles set at Clover Hill, Briery Branch, Bridgewater and Dayton if the weatherman gives them a smile.

League President George Deussen said last night that all the clubs are ready to go and he pointed out that the league, which enjoyed one of its most successful campaigns last season, expects an even better campaign this year.

Bridgewater, under the veteran player Bud Kibler carried off last year only to lose out in the playoffs as they had in four previous years with Clover Hill's championship.

The league, which sees the players share in some financial return if the gate is good for the season is made up of youngsters breaking into baseball and veterans whose high school days are in the yesteryear but who still cling to the love of the game.

None of the players lay claim that the baseball is the best in the world in their league but the long history of the lopp that dates back to the early 20's is proof that a baseball league which operates properly can live without large gate receipts and certainly the loyal fans who left off last fall will be right back in the four parks tomorrow when "Play Ball" is called for the veteran circuit.

Young Wilson Showalter who until June graduation shared the mound burden for Turner Ashby High turned in his best hurling performance of the season Saturday night, in a 1-hit, Clover Hill 4 to 0 win over Linville. Showalter gave up a double to Wood in the third inning and did not allow but one to get as far as third base the rest of the way in besting the veteran Dick Gilkerson on the mound.

1960'S

Clover Hill in Romp, 12 To 3

Wednesday's Score
Clover Hill 12; Spring Creek 3
(Only game scheduled)

Games Friday
Grottoes vs Branch
(At Clover Hill Park)
Towers at Linville

Young Wilson Showalter, the former Turner Ashby High hurling ace, fanned 16 at Clover Hill Park last night as a Clover Hill nine romped over Spring Creek, 12 to 3.

Ernie Knically started for the losers, was tagged with the loss and gave way to Heatwole in the ninth inning as the winners collected 17 hits to the half-dozen given by Showalter.

Bill VanPelt with 3 hits in 3 trips, including a triple, teamed with Leroy Carr and Jim Nichols to set the hit pace for Clover Hill. Carr and Nichols had three singles each.

DeRay Miller with four hits, one a double, paced the losers at the plate.

Clover Hill 5 Linville 0

Clover Hill, behind the masterful five-hit hurling of Wilson Showalter Wednesday night blanked Linville, 5-0, in a Rockingham County League game.

The winners tapped Sonny Derrow for eight hits. He also was in fine form. Donnie Howdyshell with two doubles and Wayland Long led the Clover Hill attack.

Ralph Reedy got two of the Linville hits.

The score:

Linville 000 000 000-0
Clover Hill 100 201 10x-5

Spring Creek Victor, 15-11

Monday's Score
Spring Creek 15; Clover Hill 11

Game Tonight
Grottoes at Clover Hill

Wednesday
Keezletown vs Linville
(Linville Park)

Spring Creek outlasted Clover Hill in a Rockingham County League game last night, 15 to 11 with Ernie Knically picking up the mound victory.

Bill VanPelt started for the C. H. nine but gave way to Bill Wenzel in the fourth, with VanPelt the Loser.

Ernie Knically started for the winners, gave way in the fifth to Cromer and came back in the eighth frame to finish up on the mound.

John Huffman with 4 hits in 5 trips and Ernie Knically with three hits, including a pair of hits, paced the winners.

Leroy Carr had 3 hits for Clover Hill while Don Howdyshell had a homer in the first with none on and Jim Nichols had a homer in the ninth with two on for Clover Hill. Spring Creek wrapped up the victory with an 8-run frame.

Clover Hill Nine And Towers Even After Two Games

Saturday's Scores
Grottoes 4; Linville 3
Clover Hill 19; Towers 4

Monday's Scores
Grottoes 12; Linville 5
Towers 9; Clover Hill 3

Game Tonight
Grottoes at Linville (8:00)

The Grottoes Cardinals grabbed a 2-0 lead in the Rockingham County League playoffs at home last night as they downed Linville 12 to 5 following a Saturday night 4 to 3 victory at Ruritan Park in Linville.

While the Cardinals were taking a 2-0 lead into tonight's battle at Linville's Ruritan Park Towers bounced back at Clover Hill last night to down Clover Hill 9 to 3. Ernie Knically had marked up a 19 to 4 Saturday night victory.

If Grottoes and Linville get their game in at Linville this evening, Clover Hill and Towers will battle Wednesday night at Clover

W-Cover P-1, L-Hartow 14-2

Nichols Hurls, Bats Clover Hill Win, 5-3

BRIDGEWATER — Pitcher Jim Nichols tripled home Rodney Shifflett with the winning run in the sixth inning as Clover Hill beat Bridgewater, 5-3, Sunday to keep pace with second place Grottoes. Nichols had relieved starter Tommy Fulk in the third, and was credited with the win.

Many runners were left stranded as the teams managed only eight runs from 36 base runners. Each team had 14 hits, three walks, and an error.

Five Clover Hill players had two hits. Nichols had a single in addition to his triple.

Mac McCurdy rapped two doubles and a single for Bridgewater. Wayne Whitmore punched three singles.

The loss dropped Bridgewater into a fifth place tie with Twin County.

Clover Hill 020 012 000-5 14-1
Bridgewater 011 109 000-3 11-1
Fulk, Nichols (3) and Shifflett, Whitmore (4) and Huffman. W-Nichols. L-Hansley.

COUNTY LEAGUE

THE STANDINGS

	W	L	Pct.	G.B.
Harrison	19	4	.826	—
Grottoes	15	8	.652	3 1/2
Clover Hill	15	8	.652	3 1/2
Bridgewater	14	10	.583	4 1/2
Rockingham	11	13	.458	7 1/2
Twin County	11	13	.458	7 1/2
Linville	7	17	.292	11 1/2
Keezletown	3	21	.125	15

Hill Park in their third game.

The Cardinals from Grottoes could wrap up the 3-of-5 series this evening with a victory but they will be going without the services of Eddie Morris who suffered an eye injury when he was hit by a pitched ball Saturday night. He was taken to Rockingham Memorial Hospital where he was treated and released. Doug Good sprained his ankle last night.

The long ball was the story for the Cardinals last night as Bobby Tate pounded out a pair, in the first with one on and in the fourth with one on; Jim Morris also hit a homer in the seventh with the bases loaded and Lonnie Reynolds pounded out a homer in the seventh frame with one mate aboard and he and Jay Shoemaker paced the losers with 3-for-4 while Tate had 3 hits in 4 trips for the Cards.

Jesse Eppard got the win with relief help from Lynn Sipe in the sixth inning. Crawford took the loss giving way to Ben McDonaldson in the third with Smith coming on in the eighth.

Provided the first two games are played as scheduled the playoffs will, on Thursday night play host to Linville in Game No. 2 of their half of the playoffs and Friday's game will find Bridgewater host to Clover Hill at Clover Hill Park.

Clover Hill Park officials said last night that an admission of 50 cents will be charged during the playoffs at that park.

"The park trustees made the rates at other parks," said Mr. Hill noted that most of the increase will be shared with clubs which used the park during the regular season but which were eliminated from the playoffs.

Trustees of Clover Hill Park noted that a modest attendance increase was recorded at the park over last season and that admission next year will revert to the usual 35 cents.

Get 12 Hits

At Clover Hill Saturday night the host nine made a dozen hits and the hurling of Randy Crawford, Bob Wills and Wilson Showalter count for a 10 to 7 win over Towers.

Vic Peyton tossed for the losers, giving way in the third to Jim Sheffer with Peyton the loser.

Billy VanPelt had three hits in four trips including a homer in the seventh with two mates aboard to team with Wilson Showalter in leading Clover Hill at the plate. Wilson Showalter had three hits in 4 trips and had a double in his collection. Bud Sheffer batted for Towers in the sixth with none on while C. Sheffer had three hits in 5 trips, including a triple, to lead Towers at the plate.

Wilson Showalter picked up the 19 to 4 Saturday night victory with Michael the loser. Clover Hill counted 5 runs in the seventh and six runs in the ninth on Saturday night. Don Howdyshell and Kenny Newman each had 3 hits for the Clover Hill nine Saturday night.

1960'S Clover Hill Romps To CL Crown, 10-0

Clover Hill Wins Over Bridgewater

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill gave Jim Nichols four runs in the first five innings, and he protected the lead with a five-hitter to defeat Bridgewater, 4-3, Friday night.

The victory moved Clover Hill into a three-way tie with Grottoes and Linville for second place in the County League race. All three have finished the season with 21-11 records.

Bridgewater, now 20-11 and a half game behind the three second-place clubs, can throw the team into further confusion with a season-ending victory over Keezletown Sunday.

That would create a four-way tie and make a playoff necessary before the beginning of the semi-final series involving the top four teams.

Clover Hill scored single runs in the second and fourth innings on bases-loaded infield outs. They added the final two in the fifth when Sonny Martin doubled after Jim Shull walked and Nichols singled.

Roger Seale scored both Bridgewater runs. In the sixth he walked, advanced on a single and scored on an error. In the eighth he walked again and rode home on Griff Gilkerson's double.

Bridgewater 000 001 010—3 5 3
Clover Hill 010 120 002—4 5 3
Hensley, Whitmore (4) and Hensley; Nichols and Simmons.

Nichols Fans 22, Clover Hill Wins

Jim Nichols fanned 22 men Tuesday night to hurl Clover Hill to an 8-3 victory over Towers. Pacing the Clover Hill attack were: Don Howdyshell 3-5, W. Long 2-4 and Jim Shell 2-5 including a homer.

Schaffer started for Towers and was relieved by Acord in the eighth.

Clover Hill swept to a 19-0 win over Grottoes and to the County League playoff title behind the two-hit pitching of Wilson Showalter Saturday night.

Showalter did not allow a runner as far as third, and the Hillmen matched his superb mound job with a 13-hit attack. Clover Hill grabbed an early run in the first-inning, then locked up the game with a five-run outburst in the third.

The Hillmen added three more

Clover Hill Blasts Linville

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill pounded 18 hits while Jim Van Pelt was spinning a five-hitter Friday night to blast Linville 20-0 in a Rockingham County League game.

The win lifted Clover Hill into third place, a half-game behind first-place Harriston. The loss dropped Linville to sixth.

VanPelt was shaky only in the first when he gave up a pair of singles. After that, he scattered three other singles to notch the win.

Jim Shull and Larry Fox contributed home runs to Clover Hill's 18-hit attack. Shull's round-tripper came with none on in the sixth, and Fox's came with one on in the eighth.

After building up a 9-0 lead in the first six innings, Clover Hill pushed across nine more in the seventh.

Harriston Falls To Clover Hill

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill teamed up the pitching arm and batting power of Jim Nichols and the fielding ability of Donnie Hill to knock Harriston into a tie for first place and to gain themselves a second place seat in the County League with a 3-1 victory Tuesday night.

Nichols went the distance from the mound, striking out 12 Harriston batters and allowing seven hits. In the third inning with Harriston leading 1-0 on a home run by Donnie Coffey, Nichols doubled in two runs for a lead in the second inning.

Hill saved the game in the bottom of the eighth as Harriston put men on first and second. Don Alexander sent a sharp line drive into left center that sent Hill deep for a sparkling catch over his head to end the threat.

in the sixth and one in the seventh.

Showalter struck out 10 and walked only one in hurling Clover Hill to the playoff crown. The Hillmen locked up the best-of-seven series in four games.

Jenkins' Hit In 11th Wins For Hillmen

A double in the 11th inning by A. C. Jenkins gave Clover Hill a 4-3 victory over Bridgewater Saturday night. The win kept Clover Hill chances for first place alive. The loss left Bridgewater in front by only a half-game.

Jenkins' hit came on a two-strike two-out pitch and scored Jay Shull, who had walked, and Howdyshell, who had singled.

Bill Vanpelt homered in the eighth inning to tie the game for Clover Hill.

Clover Hill lost a big scoring chance in the 10th inning when Johnnie Hensley reached over the right-field fence to grab Wilson Showalter's drive for the out to end the inning.

Hensley started for Bridgewater and tossed a no-hitter for five and a third innings. Wayne Whitmore relieved in the eighth, and Gene Clatterbuck came on in the tenth and took the loss.

Showalter went the distance for Clover Hill, walking only one and striking out 10.

Whitmore was the big gun for Bridgewater with four hits in five trips.

Bridgewater 002 000 000 01—3 7
Clover Hill 000 001 010 02—4 7

Clover Hill Tops Briery Branch, 8-3

Clover Hill downed Briery Branch, 8-3, Wednesday night to continue its drive on second place, in the County League.

Leroy Carr, Bill Vanpelt, and A. C. Jenkins each had two hits to pace the Clover Hill attack. For Briery Branch, J. Smith was two-for-five.

Jim Knicey was the winner for Clover Hill although he was relieved by Showalter in the sixth and Jenkins in the ninth. S. Cook started for Briery Branch and McDonakson came on in the seventh.

Clover Hill also won the regular season title.

Wayland Long smacked a double and scored on Randy Crawford's single in the first to give Showalter the only run he would have needed.

But Clover Hill went on a five-run rampage in the third to clinch the contest. Jim Nichols, who had three-for-five, opened the third with a single.

Jim Knicey, Leroy Carr and Bill VanPelt followed with consecutive singles to score two runs. Wayne Dunbrack drove in another pair with a double, and

A. C. Jenkins aided his own cause with a run-scoring single.

In the three-run Clover Hill sixth, Long doubled and scored on Nichols' single. Carr tripled to drive in Nichols then scored the third run when VanPelt singled.

Doug Shifflett, Grottoes' starting pitcher, had the only two hits off Showalter. Shifflett singled in the first and doubled in the fourth. Showalter faced only 31 batters in hurling the shutout.

Grottoes 000 000 000—0 2 2
Clover Hill 105 003 10x—10 13 1

Clover Hill Wins, 10-3

CLOVER HILL — Wayne Dunbrack led a 13-hit Clover Hill attack Wednesday night and the Hillmen blasted Briery Branch, 10-3.

Dunbrack had five hits, including a double, in five trips.

The victory moved Clover Hill within a half-game of first place Keezletown, which was idle, in the County League standings. The Hillmen are 18-5, and Keezletown is 17-5.

Gene Knicey scattered seven hits and had a shutout until the seventh inning.

Clover Hill picked up a pair of runs in the second and iced the game on Bill VanPelt's two-run home in the third. The Hillmen scored in every inning except the first and fifth.

Clover Hill 022 101 112—10 13 2
B. Branch 000 000 120—3 7 5

Knicey and VanPelt; Taylor, L. Cook (6), E. Cook (8) and Cupp.

1960'S

Clover Hill, 10-0

LINVILLE — Jim Nichols hurled five no-hit innings to help Clover Hill swamp Linville, 10-0, in a County League game Wednesday night.

Nichols scattered five hits in the first four innings, then retired 17 in a row for the win.

Clover Hill opened the scoring with a run in the fourth on singles by Mike Cline, Bob Shifflett and Ken Lineweaver.

With a 4-0 lead in the seventh, the Hillmen clinched the battle with five runs on singles by David Lineweaver, Jim Shull and Earl Gayle, two errors and a double by Dewayne Rhodes.

Lineweaver paced Clover Hill with three hits and Kenneth Weaver had two hits.

Clover Hill 000 111 151-10 14 0
Linville 000 000 000-0 8 5
Nichols and Rhodes, Clatterback and Bocock. W—Nichols L—Clatterback.

Clover Hill Takes Blue Sox, 7-2

CLOVER HILL — Wilson Showalter fanned 11 and scattered seven hits to lead Clover Hill to a 7-2 win over Elkton Friday night.

With a 2-0 lead in the sixth, Clover Hill smothered Elkton with singles by Richard Early and Bill Vanpelt, a double by Jim Nichols, two walks, a two-base error and a sacrifice fly by David Lineweaver for five runs.

Down 7-0 in the ninth, Elkton came back with a single by Tony Grimstey, an error and a two-run single by Bob Tate.

Nichols paced Clover Hill hitting with a single and two doubles. Tate had three safeties for the Blue Sox.

Elkton 000 000 002-2 7 1
Clover Hill 001 015 000-7 9 2
Knighton, Grimstey (6) and Smith, Showalter and Rhodes. W—Showalter, L—Knighton.

Hillmen Defeat Linville, 6-0

CLOVER HILL — Jim Nichols allowed two hits and struck out 17 batters hurling Clover Hill to a 6-0 County League victory over Linville Friday.

The Hillmen scored a no-hit run in the second inning on two walks, a double steal and a wild pitch.

In Clover Hill's sixth Frank Cline and Nichols drew walks, Larry Fox beat out a bunt and a walk to Bill Van Pelt forced in Cline. Nichols and Fox came home on Martin's single, boosting the score to 4-0.

Clover Hill added a single tally in the seventh when Cline singled, advanced to second on a wild pitch, and scored on a single by Fox. Kenny Weaver triple and scored on an error in the eighth inning for the final run.

Fans Thirteen

At Clover Hill Wilson Showalter maked up 13 strikeouts and gave Grottoes only three hits in posting a 5-0 victory over the Cardinals. The Simmons boys, Aubrey and Eddie with two hits each paced the winners. Showalter scattered the three Cardinal hits among as many players.

Wayland Long's sensational running over-the-shoulder catch in the ninth inning preserved Showalter's shutout.

Clover Hill Wins, Ties For Second

GROTTOES — David Lineweaver's two-run single in the ninth gave Clover Hill a 6-5 win over Grottoes here Tuesday and lifted the Hillmen into a tie for second in the County League.

Lineweaver's game-winning single was his third of the game.

Grottoes scored four times in the fourth to take a 4-1 lead.

Larry Wright's inside the park homer with one on in the fourth sparked a four-run inning for Grottoes and gave them a 4-1 lead.

Gene Sheffer's two-run homer in the seventh pulled Clover Hill even, but Grottoes went ahead again with one in the bottom of the inning.

Hillmen's Bats Rip Twin County

CLOVER HILL — After losing two games to Twin County this season, Clover Hill pounded out 29 hits to clobber the Twins 28-2 Wednesday night.

The win, coupled with a Bridgewater loss to Grottoes, pushed the Hillmen into third place behind Linville and Harriston.

Jim Nichols, the winning hurler, gave up eight hits while holding the Twins to two runs.

Jim Shull and Bill VanPelt each knocked their third home runs of the season to lead the Clover Hill barrage. VanPelt's round-tripper was an inside-the-park hit.

Twin County 000 010 010-2 8 4
Clover Hill 207 302 110102-28 29 2
Nichols and Shull. M. Summers, Steadman (4), Alders (6), Martz (6), Nauman (7), Fulk (7), M. Summers (7) and B. Strickler.
W—Nichols (6 2), L—Summers (1 3).
Home runs — Clover Hill, Shull and VanPelt.

Clover Hill, 3-2

CLOVER HILL — A hit batsman forced in an eleventh-inning run and gave Clover Hill a 3-2 win over Grottoes Saturday night.

With the contest at 2-2, the Hillmen loaded the bases on an error, a single by Dewayne Rhodes and a walk. Grottoes hurler Herman McCarthy — who allowed only five hits throughout the contest — then hit Ken Shull with a pitch to bring in the winning run.

Jim Nichols and Rhodes paced Clover Hill with two hits each, while Nelson Fox, with three hits, and Eddie Beahm, with two, paced Grottoes.

GROTTOES — Right-hander Jim Nichols turned in a sparkling two-hit performance for Clover Hill as the Hillmen shut out Grottoes, 3-0, in the opening game of their County League semifinal series.

Nichols gave up a first-inning single to Larry Tate and a second inning safety to Clyde Jenkins in notching his win. He struck out 11 and issued four walks.

From the last out in the fourth until the potential last man in the game Nichols set one man advanced past first base for Grottoes.

Meanwhile Clover Hill batters were pounding Virgil Cook for 11 hits. Four Hill batters collected two hits apiece to lead the attack.

Clover Hill scored first in the third inning. Bill Vanpelt doubled to open the inning, and scored on a single by Randy Crawford.

Then in the fourth singles by Dave Lineweaver and Rodney Shifflett produced another Clover Hill score.

In the seventh the Hillmen added an insurance run as Jim Shull drove home Frank Kline. Kline had reached base on an error.

Tonight the semifinals go to Clover Hill when Harriston will meet Briery Branch. Harriston holds a 1-0 advantage with a 1-0 win Monday. Clover Hill and Grottoes meet again at Clover Hill Thursday night.

The winners of the semi-final rounds will play in a best-of-seven series to decide the league championship. Harriston pulled down regular season honors, but now lacks hitting power with the loss of Darr-Lam.

Pitching has proved the difference so far in both games. Harriston's Harry Harlow threw a four-hitter Monday.

Clover Hill Wins Over Rebs, 10-5

CLOVER HILL — Home runs by Donnie Howdyshell and Jim Shull scored five runs to pace Clover Hill to a 10-5 victory over the Twin County Rebs Friday night at Clover Hill Park.

Howdyshell got his round-tripper in the second with two on and catcher Shull unloaded his blast in the eighth with one teammate aboard.

Bill Vanpelt went the distance and struck out 11 in raising league-leading Clover Hill's record to 24 wins against five losses.

Joe Ritchie, Twin County's starter, took the loss.

Clover Hill will meet Bridgewater in a game tonight at Clover Hill.

1960'S

Clover Hill, Grottoes In CL Victories

Wednesday's Scores
Clover Hill 10; Linville 8
Grottoes 11; Bridgewater 6

Game Friday
Bridgewater at Linville

Saturday
B. Branch at Clover Hill

Clover Hill and Grottoes marked up victories last night in Rockingham County League play.

Clover Hill took a 10 to 8 decision from Linville with Wilson Showalter, coming on in relief of Bill Wenzel in the fifth, picking up the victory.

Clete Shuler got ninth inning relief help from Mike Jenkins to post the 11 to 6 victory for Grottoes over Bridgewater.

Score Eight

At Clover Hill a host nine counted 8 runs over the first two innings only to see Linville bounce back to count 4 in the third, one in the fifth and three in the sixth to knot the score at 8-all. Clover Hill counted the go-ahead ninth run in their sixth and added an insurance marker in the seventh off loser Sonny Darrow who came on in relief in the third, taking over from starter Joe Smith.

Leroy Carr pounded out 3 hits in 5 trips to pace the winners while Wayland Long had two hits in 4 trips, including a triple.

Showalter, who got the victory aided his on cause with a first inning homer with two mates aboard. The blow went over the fence in right.

Clover Hill Takes Third On 11-2 Win

BRIDGEWATER — Lefty Wilson Showalter notched his sixth win of the season Sunday afternoon as he led Clover Hill to a 11-2 defeat of Bridgewater in a battle for third place in the County League.

The win gave Clover Hill a full game margin over Bridgewater and left them three games out of first.

The Hillmen took a brief lead in the top of the first when the leadoff batter, Bill VanPelt unleashed a home run into left field.

Bridgewater bounded back with an unearned run in their half the opener with a hit batsman, a throwing error and a sacrifice fly.

Harriston Wins Over Clover Hill

CLOVER HILL — After two straight losses, Harriston got back on the winning path Wednesday night with a 5-2 win over Clover Hill.

Harriston had rolled to a 15-0 record before losing to Bridgewater and Elkton.

Wednesday they scored all their runs in one inning and relied on their ace southpaw Harry Harlow to hold the Hillmen scoreless until the ninth.

Harriston loaded the bases in the fifth frame on a single by J. B. Coffey and walks to Don Nicely and Don McClamrock. The first run was forced in when Bill Heishman was hit by a pitched ball. A single by Harlow sent two more across and Carl Alexander and Gary Cash each connected for run-scoring safeties.

Clover Hill tallied two runs in the ninth on base hits by Frank Cline, Richard Early, Bob Shiflet and Jim Shull.

Harlow struck out 11 and didn't allow a walk in picking up his eighth win of the season. He also led Harriston at the plate with a pair of singles in four trips.

Early had three hits for Clover Hill.

Then Showalter connected for his first home run of the season, a two-run blast in the second inning, to give him a comfortable margin to work from.

The long ball went to work for Clover Hill again in the seventh when first baseman Frank Cline lofted a solo homer.

Bridgewater's only other score came in the eighth frame on a triple by Al Costa and a single by Ken Newman.

VanPelt, who leads Clover Hill's home run department with four, also had three singles during the afternoon. Showalter added two singles to his four-bagger and Earl Gale, Jim Nichols and Jim Shull each had two hits.

Clover Hill 141 000 121-11 17 1
Bridgewater 100 000 010- 3 8 3
Showalter and Shull, Hanley and Newman. W-Showalter (6-3). L-Hanley (3-3). Home runs - Clover Hill, VanPelt, none on in 1st; Showalter, one on in 2nd, and Cline, none on in 7th.

Home runs—Harriston, Gale, Morris.

Clover Hill Bombs Twins

CLOVER HILL—Clover Hill exploded for seven runs in the eighth inning Friday night to take a come-from-behind victory over Twin County, 10-7, and maintained their tie for the lead in the County League standings.

Jim Shull and Sonny Martin each powered home runs in the eighth inning outburst as Clover Hill came from a 6-3 deficit.

Shull's homer led off the inning which saw three Twin County pitchers vainly try to stop the Hillmen's barrage.

Martin's blast came after Jim Nichols had driven home three runs with a double.

Larry Fox picked up his fifth win for the Hillmen, going all the way and being touched for nine hits.

Clover Hill 020 010 070-10 12 2
Twin County 020 010 061- 7 9 2
FOX and Simmons, Dove (7); LANTZ, Hottle (8), Sorrell (8) and Ritchie.
Home run—Clover Hill, Shull, 8th with none on and Martin, 8th with one on. Twin County, Blosser, 2nd with none on.

BRIDGEWATER — A single run in the 12th inning, protected by a powerful job of relief hurling, boosted Clover Hill to an 11-10 win over Bridgewater Sunday afternoon.

The Hillmen threatened to take the victory in the 11th frame when doubles by Jim Nichols and Dewayne Rhodes, a single and three walks produced three runs and gave them a 10-7 advantage.

But Bridgewater stormed back in the bottom of the frame, scoring three times on a base on balls, a triple by Keith Spitzer and a pair of singles.

In the top of the 12th, Clover Hill's Bob Shiflet reached on an error, stole second and scored on Earl Gale's single, one again putting the visitors in the lead.

This time Clover Hill manager Buck Bowman meant to leave with the victory. He moved Rhodes, who had caught the 11 previous innings, to the mound. The big righthander got the first batter to ground out to the shortstop, then fanned the other two.

Nichols, the starter, was credited with the win. Jesse Lynch, who relieved Donnie Fulk in the 11th, took the loss.

Clover Hill 020 004 100 031-11 11 3
Bridgewater 020 004 100 020-10 11 3
Jim Nichols, Rhodes (12) and Rhodes, Van Pelt (12); Wymer, Whitmer (7), Fulk (11), Lynch (12) and Minnick.

Harriston, Hillmen Win County Games

GROTTOES — Carl Alexander homered in the eighth inning to break a 1-1 tie and give Harriston a 2-1 victory over Linville in County League baseball Tuesday.

Harriston scored its first run in the fourth inning as Don

Nicely walked, advanced to second on Wayne Brinkley's single, and scored on a hit by J.B. Coffey.

Linville tied the score in the top of the eighth inning when Don Messerly and Jerry Hollar walked and Seymour Sullivan singled.

Alexander had three hits for Harriston, and Sullivan got three hits for Linville.

Linville 009 000 010-1 4 0
Harriston 000 100 010- 2 3 1
Hollar and Lance, Mawyer, Dobbins (8) and Eavey, W-Dobbins, L-Hollar.
HR—Harriston; Carl Alexander.

Hillmen 3, Grottoes 1

CLOVER HILL — A single by Allen Shull in the eighth inning scored two runs to break

a 1-1 tie giving Clover Hill a 3-1 County League victory over Grottoes Tuesday.

Clover Hill scored a run in the first. Jim Shull walked, stole second, moved to third on a single by Frank Cline, and scored on a sacrifice fly by Larry Fox.

Grottoes tied the score in the second inning when Zack Finkelberg got on by an error, moved to third on a double by Larry Tate, and came home on a single by Ed Beahn.

In Clover Hill's seventh inning Jim Nichols walked, Bill Van Pelt doubled, and Shull hit his two-run single.

Nichols struck out eight and walked two for Clover Hill.

Grottoes 010 000 000-1 0 1
Clover Hill 100 000 200- 3 3 3
Clayton, Tate (7) and Sheets, Nichols and Shull, W-Nichols, L-Clayton.

1970'S

Hill Pounds ACs By 11-3

CLOVER HILL — Clover hill walloped the Harrisonburg AC's, 11-3, Tuesday night behind the pitching of Wilson Showalter.

Showalter went the route striking out 10 and collecting his fifth win of the season.

Clover Hill scored four runs in the first inning, enough to decide the game, on singles by Frank Cline, Joe McCue, Dennis Forren and Showalter.

The AC's came back in the bottom of the inning to score three runs and leave the bases loaded on their third out.

Frank Cline led Clover Hill's batting attack with three safeties.

Lineweaver 3-Hits ACs

Dave Lineweaver, three-hitter and struck out 10 (Clover Hill topped Harrisonburg AC's 5-2, Sunday at Sinaua School County League game.

Lineweaver had allowed only two singles until the bottom of the ninth when Steve Showalter's double gave the ACs their first run.

The Bucks' two-run sixth inning was the deciding factor in the win.

Steve Lough's double started the action — and Jim Shull pitched a single to move Lough to third.

Ron Frears followed with an RBI sacrifice bunt. Frank Cline walked and Shull scored on a double steal that put Cline out at second.

Eddie Bowman doubled toward and singled for an RBI to lead Clover Hill at bat.

CLOVER HILL — Joe McCue's three-run homer with two out in the ninth gave Clover Hill a 7-5 win over Harrison here Wednesday night.

Harrison's loss, coupled with Linville's win over Bridgewater, left the two tied for the County League lead with 144 records.

McCue's homer followed singles by Frank Cline and Donnie Hill and gave Clover Hill its second win of the season over front-running Harrison.

The win also stretched the Hillmen's victory streak to five games — their longest of the season.

Dave Lineweaver, who relieved starter Danny Alexander with two on and none out in the ninth, got the mound victory. It was his first appearance of the season.

Lineweaver retired the first two men he faced, but then gave

up an infield single to Donnie Nicely to load the bases. But he fanned opposing pitcher Harry Harlow to end the threat.

McCue, Kenneth Weaver and Allen Shull each had triples for the Hillmen. Weaver also had a pair of singles.

Harrison: 200 021 000—5 9 3
Clover Hill: 020 100 013—7 11 1
Harlow and Eavey; Alexander, Lineweaver (9); L—Harlow.
Home run—Clover Hill, McCue (two on in 9th)



J. N. MILLER

THE STANDINGS

	W	L	Pct	G	B
Harrison	16	4	.800	—	—
Linville	15	5	.750	1	—
Bridgewater	14	8	.636	3	—
Briery Branch	10	13	.435	7 1/2	—
Grottoes	9	12	.429	7 1/2	—
Clover Hill	9	13	.409	8	—
Twin County	7	13	.350	9	—
Harrisonburg ACs	5	17	.227	12	—

County League To Fete Miller

CLOVER HILL — At its all-star game here Friday night, the County League will pay tribute to J. N. Miller, who was largely responsible for organizing the Clover Hill Recreation Association and Community Park.

Mr. Miller, 82, leased in 1952 the land for the Clover Hill Park and on June 30 of that year pulled the switch illuminating the park's first night baseball game.

Mr. Miller has been active in community affairs since 1925, when he organized and became the first leader of the Clover Hill 4-H Club. In 1927 the club won the state championship pennant.

A county League official said

that Mr. Miller spent much of his time trucking club members on tours and to rallies at Massanutten Caverns. He also hosted watermelon feasts and other social activities on his farm.

For many years he was manager and clerk of the Clover Hill Mercantile Co. and in 1947 he bought it. He has operated the store ever since.

Mr. Miller has frequently bought the food and equipment for community church and social club suppers and lawn parties, a County League spokesman said. He is a flower growing enthusiast and has donated many of his flowers to churches and the sick.

Clover Hill Bumps AC's

CLOVER HILL — Gene Peterson gave up only three hits, including a three-run homer to Woody Johnson in the third, to lead Clover Hill to a 9-4 victory over the Harrisonburg AC's here Saturday night in a game shortened to five innings by rain.

Peterson struck out five in lifting his record to 5-3 and the team's record to 8-12. Steve Lough poked two triples and Ron Freres three singles to pace Clover Hill's 12-hit attack.

Clover Hill, 11-3

BRIDGEWATER — Clover Hill led three home runs and kept Bridgewater from taking advantage of hits enroute to an 11-3 victory over Bridgewater in the Rockingham County League Friday evening.

Bob Newman started the Clover Hill slugfest with a solo blast in the fourth inning. Steve Lough, who went 3 for 3 for the game, with a single, home run, and double, added a two run blast in the sixth.

Richard Tysinger topped off the Clover Hill win with a three run homer in the ninth inning.

Randy Mitchie was responsible for one of the three Bridgewater runs with a solo homer in the fourth. Bridgewater failed to take advantage of several Clover Hill mistakes. Three times Bridgewater had the Bases loaded, but couldn't score.

Clover Hill: 000 102 503 — 11 — 12 1
Bridgewater: 002 100 000 — 3 — 12 1
Peterson and Shull, Miller (8); Heathwole, Alters, (7) and Poe. W—Prson (4-1), L—Heathwole (not available)
HR—Bridgewater, Mitchie (4) none on; Clover Hill, Newman (4) none on; Lough (4) one on; Tysinger (9) two on.

Hillmen Beat Grottoes, 3-1

GROTTOES — Dave Lineweaver pitched a five-hitter and fanned eleven batters as the Clover Hill Bucks downed Grottoes 3-1.

Harry Harlow got the lone Grottoes run on a homer off the first pitch of the second inning.

Mary Varner doubled and singled for the Bucks for one RBI and Fred Hill bagged two singles for Clover Hill.

Clover Hill: 101 000 001—3 8 1
Grottoes: 010 000 000—1 5 1
Lineweaver and Lough; Shifflett and Sipe, Cook (7); W—Lineweaver,

1970'S

Clover Hill Rout

Grottoes In Opener

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill slammed nine hits, including a two-run homer by Steve Lough, to open its County League season with a 10-0 rout of Grottoes here Saturday.

The Bucks wasted no time in taking the lead. Bob Newman doubled home a run in the first after Mike Smith reached base on a walk. Larry Fox sacrificed Newman in for a quick 2-0 lead.

In the second, Ron Frers doubled and Richard Tysinger walked and both men advanced on a wild pitch before Ronnie Fulk singled both runs across.

Lough's blast came in the fifth with Smith aboard after another base on balls. Fox followed the homer with a single, stole second and scored on Tysinger's single.

Tysinger, with two singles, was the only hitter with more than one hit, but Newman got on base five successive times on two walks, two errors and a base hit.

The game was the season-opener for both teams.

Lough's Slam

Paces Buck Win

Steve Lough hit a grand slam home run in the top of the first inning to power Clover Hill past Harrisonburg, 11-1, in a rain-shortened County League game here Sunday.

The game was called after five complete innings.

The first six Buck batters reached base. Bob Newman singled to lead off. Bowman drew a walk and Frank Cline was safe on a fielders' choice. Ron Frers singled in one run, and a walk to Larry Cupp and a single by McCue loaded the bases for Lough.

Clover Hill, 7-3

LURAY — Lefthander Dave Lineweaver fanned nine Luray batters and his Clover Hill teammate Alan Shull went four-for-five at the plate to lead the Bucks to a 7-3 victory here Tuesday.

The win boosts Clover Hill to 2-0 and evens Luray's record at 1-1.

Lineweaver walked three men in his first decision of the season and allowed just four hits.

Shull had a double and three singles for two RBI and the Bucks' Larry Fox boomed a solo home run in the seventh to pace the victory.

Bucks, 7-3

CLOVER HILL — Steve Lough's inside-the-park home run broke up a 3-3 tie and boosted Clover Hill to a 7-3 win over Grottoes here Tuesday.

The Bucks had taken an early 3-1 lead, but the Cardinals scored twice on three singles in the fourth to knot the score at 3-3. Kenny Sipe and Darrell Roadcap each connected for an RBI single in the inning.

Clover Hill took the lead for good in the fifth when Eddie Bowman reached base on an error and Lough lifted his homer into left centerfield.

The Bucks added two more runs in the eighth on Fred Hill's double, singles by Larry Erbaugh and Wake Gooden and an error.

Lough, who had a single in addition to his homer, was the only Clover Hill batter with two hits.

Roadcap, the Grottoes hurler, had two RBIs, and Sipe led all hitters with a single, double and triple in three trips.

The victory, coupled with Linville's loss Tuesday, gave the Bucks a half-game lead in the Rockingham County League.

County League

THE STANDINGS

	W.	L.	Pct.	G. B.
Linville	5	2	.714	—
Luray	5	3	.625	1/2
Clover Hill	5	4	.556	1
Grottoes	3	3	.500	1 1/2
Twin County	4	4	.500	1 1/2
Briery Branch	4	5	.444	2
Harrisonburg ACs	4	5	.375	2 1/2
Bridgewater	2	5	.286	3

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill's Larry Erbaugh and Dave Lineweaver checked the Harrisonburg on five hits as the Bucks downed the ACs, 6-1, here Tuesday night.

Erbaugh gave up one single and struck out six through the first five innings, and Lineweaver gave up one run in the ninth.

Alan Shull slammed a three-run double and scored in the fourth for the Bucks. Bob Newman cracked a pair of singles and drove in one run.

Calvin Williams drove in the ACs lone run with a double in the ninth and rapped out a pair of singles.

The win boosted Clover Hill's record to 17-3, and the loss left Harrisonburg 3-15 for the season.

Bucks, 5-3

LINVILLE — Clover Hill moved into a first place tie with Linville by defeating the Patriots, 4-3, Saturday afternoon.

Eddie Bowman singled across Larry Erbaugh with two outs in the top of the ninth to erase a 3-3 tie and give the Bucks the win.

Clover Hill fell behind early in the game but rallied to push across three runs in the sixth. Bob Newman led off the inning with a double. Steve Lough drove home Newman and was safe at second on an error. Larry Cupp singled and then stole second, before Dave Showalter drove in both with a double.

Peterson Pitches, 2-0

No Hitter Over AC's

CLOVER HILL — Gene Peterson pitched a no-hitter for Clover Hill Tuesday night in a pitching dual eventually won by Clover Hill, 2-0, over the Harrisonburg AC's.

Peterson struck out seven and walked two as he faced 28 batters.

Donnie Long, though picking up the win, pitched a strong game as he fanned nine batters.

The Bucks scored the winning run in the fourth on a single by Larry Fox. The extra run in the sixth was on a double steal by Al Shull.

Clover Hill Stops Reds

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill's Larry Erbaugh checked Bridgewater on five hits to shut out the Reds, 3-0, in the first game of their best-of-five County League playoff series here Tuesday night.

Erbaugh fanned 11 batters and walked one enroute to his first shutout of the season.

The Bucks took a 1-0 lead in the fifth inning. After one out, Richard Tysinger singled and Erbaugh walked. Ed Bowman grounded to short, but the ball rolled past the Reds' shortstop. Bridgewater's third baseman, Mel Morris, recovered the ball and threw Tysinger out at home when he attempted to score from second. Allan Shull singled to right

and Erbaugh raced home.

In the eighth, Clover Hill added two more runs, when Shull singled; Steve Lough singled to center, and Bob Newman drove in Shull with a base hit to left-center.

With runners on first and second and one out, Wayne Whitmer relieved Bridgewater starter, Larry Fox. Whitmer walked Ron Frers to load the bases. Larry Cupp grounded to Morris at third and forced Newman, but Lough scored when Morris went for a double-play at first. The throw to late and Cupp was safe. Whitmer struck out Tysinger to end the inning.

In the ninth, the Reds loaded the bases and staged a comeback threat

with two outs. Ted Croy doubled. Gene Hill walked and Don Bowman hit a short single which loaded the bags, but Morris popped up to second to end the threat and the game.

Tonight the Grottoes Cardinals host the Linville Patriots at the Clover Hill park in the second game of their best-of-five series. Grottoes leads the series, 1-0, after the Cards defeated the regular season champs Monday night. Game time is 8 p.m.

Bridgewater 000 000 000—5 1
Clover Hill 000 010 020—3 0 1
Fox, Whitmer (8) and Poe; Erbaugh and Showalter, W. Erbaugh (3-3); L. Fox (na.)

1970'S

Bucks Drop Pats, Reds

BRIDGEWATER — Clover Hill moved a game ahead of Twin County and 1 1/2 games ahead of Linville in the Rockingham County League by sweeping two of weekend games.

The Bucks downed Linville, 6-4, Friday night and came back for an easy

10-3 win here Sunday over the Reds.

The Bucks will host Twin County tonight with the league lead on the line.

In Saturday's game, the Bucks took a 6-3 lead with two runs in the seventh and then behind the pitching of Fred Hill, held off a late Linville rally.

Hill, after some early walks, came down in the late inning to up the score to 6-0. He had nine strikeouts, but only five walks.

The win gave the Bucks a 3-2 lead in the two teams' series this summer and kept the visiting team's win streak at one.

The visitor has won every Clover Hill game this season.

Bob Newman, who led the Bucks with three hits, opened the seventh with a home run. The Bucks added another run in the inning when Frank Cline, who walked and stole second, scored on Sam Hess's single.

Hess drove in two runs on two singles and Larry Cupp added two singles in the eighth to give the Bucks a 6-3 lead.

Cricket Simmons led the Patriots with three hits in five at-bats, including a pair of doubles. Doug Armentrout had two hits and scored twice.

Gene Peterson struck out 12 and threw over Bridgewater.

Despite the 90-plus degree weather, Peterson went the distance to even his record at 3-3.

Richard Tysinger, Larry Erbaugh and Frank Cline each had three singles as the Bucks powered out 16 hits.

Bridgewater fell to 4-19 with the loss.

The Reds lost Saturday night in a 4-0 forfeit to Twin County. Bridgewater failed to field a team for the game which had been rescheduled from Friday.

Bucks Edge Reds

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill's Fred Hill clubbed a ground-rule double in the bottom of the 11th to drive home the winning run and hand the Bucks a 4-3 victory over Bridgewater here Wednesday night.

Bucks Topple ACs In 31-Hit Slugfest

CLOVER HILL — Larry Cupp unloaded a three-run homer in the bottom of the seventh to power Clover Hill to a 17-11 County League victory over Harrisonburg here Wednesday night.

The Bucks trailed, 11-10, going into the bottom of the seventh, but Cupp's first-homer of the season gave Clover Hill a 13-11 lead.

The Bucks padded their lead with four more runs that inning before the game was called because of the league's 11 p.m. curfew.

Sam Hess homered, singled twice and knocked in five Buck runs. Steve Lough added a triple and pair of singles to drive in three runs.

Bobby Jenkins and Tom Martz each rapped four singles for the ACs. Jenkins drove in three runs and Martz added two RBIs.

Calvin Williams' three singles drove in another Harrisonburg run.

The victory boosted Clover Hill's lead in the standings to two games over Linville. Bridgewater, which was second going into Wednesday night's contest with Twin County, lost its game and dropped to third — 2 1/2 games behind the Bucks.

Harrisonburg slipped below .500 to 9-10.

Bucks Crush Cardinals, 24-6

GROTTOES — Backed by a 19-hit attack including four home runs — two by Steve Lough — Clover Hill clobbered Grottoes, 24-6, in an eight-inning contest here Friday night.

The game was called after eight innings because of the 11 p.m. County League curfew.

Lough drove in five runs with his pair of homers and a single. His first homer in the fifth was a solo shot but in the eighth he slammed a three-run homer.

Bob Newman was two-for-three including a two-run homer. He added a pair of singles. Fred Hill blasted a two-run homer and had a single.

Dave Lineweaver had three hits in five trips to the plate to drive in three runs.

Lineweaver also struck out 10, walked six and gave up six hits to collect his third win of the season. He went the distance for the Bucks, who are now 9-3.

Jeff McCauley slammed a two-run homer to open the Cardinals' scoring in the eighth inning. He also had a single in five times at bat.

The loss dropped Grottoes to 6-8.

Clover Hill	205	244	34	—	24	19	2
Grottoes	000	000	42	—	6	11	3

Lineweaver and Showalter, Shull (7); Smith, Morris (3), Roadcap (5), Meadows (7), Plecker (8) and Jenkins, Meadows (8). W — Lineweaver, 3-0; L — Smith, 2-2.

HRs — Clover Hill: Hill, fourth one on (2); Lough, fifth none on (4); Newman, fifth one (3); Lough, seventh two on (5). Grottoes: McCauley, eighth one on (1).

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill moved out to a full-game lead in the County League race Friday night.

The Bucks defeated Bridgewater, 9-5, here, while Twin County was losing to Grottoes.

Clover Hill pushed its record to 14-4 with Friday's win, while the Twins slipped to 14-6 and dropped into a second-place tie with Linville. Bridgewater fell to 4-16.

The Bucks broke a 1-1 tie in the bottom of the fourth with four runs on three hits, a hit batter and an error. Steve Crawford's two-run double was the Bucks' key hit of the inning.

After the Reds trimmed the lead to 5-3 with a pair of runs in the fifth, the Bucks erupted for four more in the bottom half of the inning.

David Showalter and Richard Tysinger each slammed two-run homers in the inning.

Pitcher Gene Peterson picked up his first victory of the season. He fanned 11, did not allow a walk but was rapped for 12 hits.

GROTTOES — Allen Shull doubled in Larry Erbaugh and Gary Simmons in the top of the 10th inning to break a 4-4 tie and give Clover Hill a 6-4 win over Grottoes Friday night.

The win, coupled with Linville's loss to Twin County, gave the Bucks sole possession of first place in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

Clover Hill is 14-5, Linville is 13-6.

Erbaugh led off the 10th with a single and moved to second on a sacrifice bunt. Gary Simmons walked to put on first and second.

Shull then lashed a base hit into right center to score both runners.

Grottoes, 3-14 on the season, didn't threaten in the bottom of the inning.

Bucks Gain Finals, 5-0

CLOVER HILL — The Clover Hill Bucks took the best-of-five semi-final playoffs series and moved into the finals of the Rockingham County Baseball League playoffs with an easy 5-0 win over Grottoes Friday night.

The Bucks, who have won seven straight playoff games going back to last year's championship series, had little trouble after breaking open the defensive-minded game with five runs in the fifth.

Steve Lough led off the inning with a

single. Wake Gooden and Richard Tysinger walked to load the bases with one out. Frank Cline leashed a full-count single to center to score two runs and leave runners at first and third.

Cline was thrown out at second on a steal attempt, but Tysinger, who didn't break on Cline's steal, scored moments later when Bob Newman singled.

Eddie Bowman singled behind Newman. Bowman then stole second and when the throw from the catcher sailed into left-center, Newman scored from third.

Larry Cupp singled in Bowman to complete the scoring.

For the first four innings, the game was a pitching duel between Jeff McCauley of Grottoes and the Bucks' Gene Hill.

Clover Hill put its first man on base when Sam Hess singled in the second inning. Lough followed with a bunt, but McCauley made a diving catch to his left and doubled Hess off first.

McCauley tired in the fifth but finished the game.

Hill, who struck out 13, scattered just four hits and allowed four walks. He

retired the last nine men he faced, five of them on strikeouts.

The Bucks went through the three-game series without allowing an earned run. Grottoes scored only two unearned runs in the series.

Bowman led the Bucks with two hits. Seven others had one apiece.

The Bucks will meet the winner of the Linville-Twin County series in the finals.

Linville, which routed the Twins 14-4 Thursday, leads the series, 2-0 and could wrap it up tonight.

The Patriots, who finished behind both regular-season champion Clover Hill and Twin County, could force a rematch of last year's final if they win in New Market tonight.

Clover Hill won last year's playoff finals, 4-1, after losing the opening game. If Linville wins tonight, the finals can begin Monday.

Grottoes	000	000	000	—	0	4	2
Clover Hill	000	050	00x	—	5	9	0

McCauley and Taylor; Hill and Hess. W — Hill (1-0), L — McCauley (9-2).

Bucks, Hill Blank Reds

GROTTOES — Backed by an 11-hit attack and the four-hit pitching of Fred Hill, Clover Hill crushed Grottoes, 11-0, in a game shortened to 6 1/2 innings by rain here Tuesday.

Sam Hess led the Bucks at the plate with a two-run homer and a single. Richard Tysinger drove in three runs with a triple and a single.

Hill went the distance for Clover Hill to pick up his second win. He fanned four, walked two and scattered four hits for his first shutout of the season.

The Reds' Mike McCray suffered a dislocated elbow in the first inning when he tried to score.

The win kept Clover Hill on top of the County League standings with a 4-0 record, while the loss dropped Grottoes to 2-3.

Larry Erbaugh opened the inning with a single and Dave Lineweaver came into pinch-run for him. Lineweaver was sacrificed to second by Randy Newman before Hill unloaded his double.

Hill also added a pair of singles and Larry Cupp rapped out four singles to drive in one run.

The Reds jumped on starter Erbaugh, who went the distance for the win, for three runs in the first inning, including Gary Poe's two-run double.

The Bucks, who were held scoreless through the first four innings, broke the ice in the fifth with three runs to tie it up, 3-3.

The victory pushed Clover Hill to 5-1 and sole possession of second place in the County League — a half-game behind Twin County. Bridgewater slipped to 2-5.

1970'S

Bucks Rip Bridgewater, 29-8

BRIDGEWATER — Clover Hill opened its season by pounding out 18 hits and walking out 14 walks for a 29-8 victory over Bridgewater Wednesday night in a Rockingham County League game.

The Bucks, the league's defending champions, had three batters with three hits or more. Eddie Bowman led the way with four in four trips and had three stolen bases.

Steve Lough, who had a grand slam home run, drove in eight runs, and Larry Cupp went three-for-five.

The game was stopped after eight innings.

Clover Hill	360	139	25	-	29	18	2
Bridgewater	013	000	31	-	8	7	9

Hill: Tysinger (6) and Lough; Bowers, Whitmore (2), Knucely (3), Fulk (6) and Poe. W — Hill (1-0). L — Bowers (0-1).
HR — Clover Hill: Lough (1) 6th three on; Cupp (1) 6th none on.

Bucks, Peterson Down Shenandoah

CLOVER HILL — Gene Peterson outdueled Frankie Shenk as Clover Hill downed Shenandoah, 4-3, in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Thursday.

Peterson, 9-2 on the season, struck out six and walked just two in taking his fifth complete-game win of the season.

The Bucks overcame a 3-0 deficit with four runs in the third. Mike McCray opened the inning with a single and stole second. Ed Bowman singled in McCray and stole second. Sam Hess followed with a single that sent Bowman to third. Bowman and Frank Cline, who was running for Hess, then completed a doublesteal which scored Bowman. Walks to Alan Shull and Wake Gooden loaded the bases, and Larry Erbaugh drove in the winning runs with a two-run single.

Shenandoah's three-run second inning was sparked by Chap Slye's two-run double. Slye also had a single for Shenandoah, now 13-15.

McCray, Gary Simmons and Erbaugh each had two singles for the Bucks, who host Harrisonburg on Saturday.

Clover Hill is 20-8.

Keith Lawson's single up the middle scored Sam Hess from third in the Clover Hill win over Grottoes.

Hess opened the 10th with a single and moved to second on an error. Allen Shull's sacrifice bunt moved him to third.

The Bucks scored even though Hess missed the sign. He broke for home before the pitch, thinking the bunt was on. Lawson took a full cut and looped the ball into centerfield.

"If Lawson hadn't gotten a piece of the ball, Hess would have been dead in his tracks," a Clover Hill spokesman said.

Gene Peterson went the distance for the Bucks, who appeared in control until the ninth inning when the Cardinals scored four runs to send the game into extra innings.

"I just didn't throw well in the ninth inning," Peterson said. "We didn't have the relief pitchers, so I had to stay in."

Peterson appeared to get the touch back, retiring the side in order in the 10th. He struck out eight and walked just one in winning. He scattered seven hits.

Wake Gooden led the Bucks with three singles. Hess had a double and single and drove in two runs.

NEW MARKET — Clover Hill's Bucks rocked Twin County starter Dave Botkin for eight runs in the second inning and went on to down the Twins, 18-7, in a County League game Thursday.

The Bucks, now 18-3 on the season, batted around in the second with Sam Hess, Larry Cupp and Tim Bocock each getting two hits in that inning.

Cupp led the Bucks with four hits in the game. Hess and Bocock each added three and Steve Hess and Wake Gooden had two apiece.

Twin County, after falling behind 8-1, cut the margin to 8-7 in the third, but got no closer as they fell victim to pitching woes.

The Twins, led by Mark Blosser's two hits, fell to 3-19 with the loss.

Peterson, Bucks Edge Bridgewater

CLOVER HILL — Gene Peterson went the distance to hurl the first shutout of the season as league-leading Clover Hill edged Bridgewater, 1-0, Wednesday night in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

The Bucks gave Peterson his one-run cushion in the fifth when Frank Cline, who gained first on a fielder's choice, scored on a double steal from third.

Cline, who had moved from first to third, on a single by Allen Shull, scored when he threw to catch Shull stealing second was short and bounded into centerfield.

Bridgewater didn't threaten until the ninth when consecutive singles by Bob Newman and Harold Knucely with one out put men on first and second.

But Peterson pitched out of the jam by striking out opposing pitcher Fred Hill and getting J. D. McCurdy to fly out.

Peterson struck out seven and walked none as he upped his record to 6-1. It was his fourth complete game win of the season.

The loss dropped Hill to 7-4. He also had seven strikeouts, but walked four.

The Bucks, 17-4 on the season, are now 1 1/2 games ahead of second-place Linville. Bridgewater, in third place, fell to 13-10 with the loss.

Clover Hill, 9-0
GROTTOES — Clover Hill continued to outdistance the County League baseball field Wednesday night with a 9-0 shellacking of Grottoes.

The Bucks are 17-2 and lead second-place Linville by 4 1/2 games.

Gene Peterson, 1-0, pitched nine innings, holding the Cards to four hits. He struck out 15 and walked none.

Rick Engle, Tim Bocock and Eddie Bowman led the Clover Hill attack with two hits each. Engle whacked a first-inning solo home run and a single, Bocock a single and a double and Bowman two singles.

Clover Hill	290	285	000	-	9	18	1
Grottoes	000	000	000	-	0	4	2

Peterson and Hess: Barford, Queenberry (5) and Taylor. W — Peterson (1-0). Barford (record not available). HRs — C.H.: Engle, 1st, none on (1).

CLOVER HILL — Gene Peterson threw a five-hitter and six Clover Hill players collected two hits each Monday night in a 7-2 County League victory over Harrisonburg.

Peterson, the league's winningest pitcher, struck out six and walked four while improving his record to 7-1. He allowed only one earned run.

Alan Shull led the Bucks' attack with a single, a double and three RBI. Mike McCray, Eddie Bowman, Sam Hess, Steve Hess and Keith Lawson each added two hits.

Lawson and Steve Hess also had RBI. Clover Hill's other runs came on a balk and an error.

The win upped the Bucks' record to 15-6. Harrisonburg is 3-17.

Clover Hill	010	210	102	-	7	14	1
Harrisonburg	000	002	000	-	2	5	4

Peterson and Hess: Banziger, Edg Burgess. W — Peterson (7-1). L — Banziger (0-2).

Clover Hill, 15-13

NEW MARKET — Steve Hess singled in the tying and go-ahead runs in the seventh inning Friday night to lift Clover Hill to a 15-13 County League victory over Twin County.

Clover Hill, which won its 11th straight game, trailed, 8-1, before rallying. The Bucks scored seven runs in the seventh to go ahead.

Hess's two-run single made it 14-13. Hess later scored the final Buck run on Keith Lawson's single.

Hess had five RBI for the game. He had a two-run single in the sixth and drove in a run with a fielder's choice in the fifth.

The league curfew stopped the game after eight innings.

Twin County, which pounded 18 hits off three Clover Hill pitchers, scored three runs in the first and five in the second.

Bubba Brown led the Twins with two singles and two doubles in five at-bats. He drove in three runs.

Eddie Bowman, Gary Simmons, Sam Hess and Lawson joined Steve Hess with two hits apiece for Clover Hill.

Friday's win pulled Clover Hill to within 1 1/2 games of first-place Linville. The teams meet tonight at Clover Hill.

The loss dropped Twin County to 8-16.

Bucks Edge Twins In Ninth, 4-5

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill pushed four runs across in the bottom of the ninth to edge Twin County, 5-4, and move into a first-place tie with the Twins here Monday night.

Leading 2-1 going into the ninth, the Twins scored two runs on back-to-back solo homers by Riley Rau and Doug Heatwole, who is leading the league with seven homers this season.

Then Clover Hill took over.

David Showalter led off the Bucks' ninth with a single. After Steve Lough flied out, Larry Cupp walked and Ron Frers singled to drive in Showalter to tighten the score to 4-2.

Twin County pitcher Tony Ferrara attempted to pick Cupp off at second, but threw the ball into centerfield. Second baseman Bob Wease missed the cutoff throw from center and the ball rolled into the third base sideline stands, allowing Cupp to score and Frers to move to third.

Richard Tysinger walked, putting runners at the corners.

But Frers was called out for interference when he was hit by Bob Newman's grounder to third. Newman and Tysinger were both safe.

Ed Bowman, who had singled earlier, drilled a shot to leftfield to drive in the

tying and winning runs.

Tysinger had singled home the Bucks' first run in the seventh. The Twins scored one run in the first and gained another in the fifth on Steve Showman's solo homer.

Larry Erbaugh collected his fourth win for the Bucks. He fanned eight, walked three and scattered six hits.

The two teams are tied at 10-3.

Twin County	100	010	002	-	4	8	2
Clover Hill	000	000	104	-	5	10	1

Ferrara and Lantz; Erbaugh and Showalter. W — Erbaugh, 4-0; L — Ferrara, 0-1.

HRs — Twin County: Showman, fifth none on (2); Rau, ninth none on (2); Heatwole, ninth none on (7).

County League Sets Tribute For Veteran Buck Bowman

Lester K. (Buck) Bowman didn't play baseball in high school because "they didn't have buses and things then, and I didn't have a way to get home."

But Buck — not many people would recognize him as Lester K. — has made up in the county league any baseball time he may have missed in high school.

He has put in 45 years as a player and manager with Ottobine and Clover Hill. For his "dedication and service," the league has labeled its all-star game Saturday night as Buck Bowman Day.

The veteran will be introduced and presented a gift in pre-game ceremonies which begin at 7:30 p.m. at Clover Hill park.

At 61, he is still listed on the Clover Hill roster. His usual position is in the coaching box at third base. But he also occasionally takes over the managerial reins from Jim Shull, and don't be surprised if Buck picks up a glove and strolls to the

outfield some night before the summer is over.

He appeared in two games last year. "I got two hits, too," he beams with a bashful bit of pride.

A County League spectator also recalled a catch which Buck's shyness prevented him from recounting.

The opponents chattered about fattening their batting averages by hitting the ball "out there where ole Buck is." The first drive in the game was a well tagged ball, "ole Buck" galloped back and gloved it.

"He puffed for three innings afterward, but he got it," the spectator added.

Buck Bowman's County League days began with Ottobine about 1925. He played and managed a bit there until the team moved to Clover Hill in 1955.

That was his last full year as a player. "I batted .308 that year. But that was kinda unusual. I usually was down about .250 to .270," Buck recounted.

Buck then turned to managing, and for over a dozen years, his Clover Hill teams were at or near the top of the league.

He turned the managerial chores over to Shull last year, but still assists.

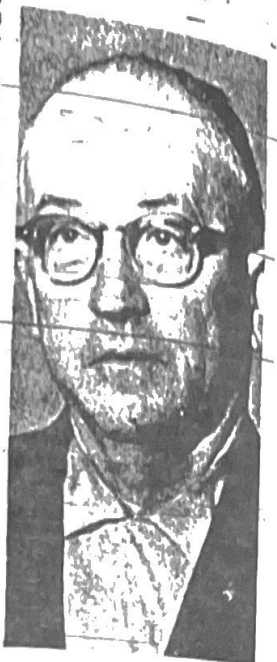
"If Jim can't be there, I take over. I make about three-fourths of the games, but I'm just too busy to always be there when they start batting practice at 6:30 — and that's not good," the County League veteran explains.

He's kept busy by his full-time job as a salesman for a farm supply firm, plus caring for 27,000 chickens and "a few hogs, too." Buck likes to talk more about the teams he managed than of his playing days.

As a player, he says, "I wasn't that good. I just filled in. Anywhere they needed a player, I went there."

Most frequently, it was second base. But often it was to the outfield.

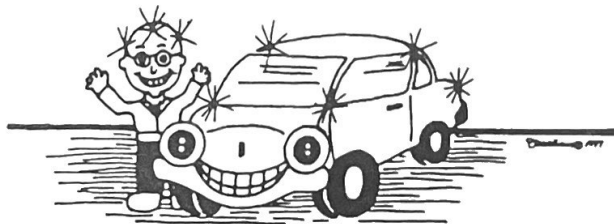
Saturday night, he will fill in under the league's spotlight.



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1980'S

Bucks Top Reds, 14-4, Stay Alive

ACs Snap Streak, Top Bucks, 8-7

Bucks Clinch RCBL Flag

CLOVER HILL — Gary Simmons making his first start of the season handcuffed Twin County on five hits as the Bucks took an 8-2 Rockingham County Baseball League win Thursday.

The victory lifted the Bucks a full game ahead of Shenandoah's Indians for first place in the league. The two teams meet tonight in Clover Hill.

Simmons, who usually starts in centerfield and has only thrown sparingly in relief this season, was backed by a 15-hit attack that included three home runs.

Ed Bowman and Simmons homered in the first and Sam Hess homered in the seventh.

Alan Propst led the Bucks with four hits and Simmons and Bowman added three each. Hess and Brian Alderfer had two hits each.

Cairn Mongold, who broke up Simmons' shutout bid with a two-run homer in the ninth and Mark Blosser each had two hits for the Twins.

The win left Clover Hill with a 19-5 record. Twin County is 11-16.

ELKTON — Clover Hill clinched first place in the Rockingham County Baseball League Thursday as the Bucks trounced Elkton 16-3.

Brian Alderfer, who had seven RBI, hit a grand slam homer in the bottom of the first inning with Jim Kramer, Gary Simmons and Alan Propst on base to give the Bucks all the runs they needed.

Kramer, Propst, Alderfer and Thomas had three hits each to pace Clover Hill.

Fred Hill 4-3 picked up the win and Dave Loker absorbed the loss.

Clover Hill 23-6 has a bye in the first round of the County League playoffs.

CLOVER HILL — Keith Smith's two-run single in the top of the ninth drove in two runs to lift Harrisonburg to an 8-7 win over Clover Hill and break a 15-game losing streak.

The win left the ACs with a 2-16 record.

Greg Maynard opened the ninth with a single off Clover Hill starter Gene Peterson, who was 6-0 coming into the game. Mark Pucker singled, and Blake Leake doubled to drive in Maynard. Smith then lined to right to drive in the winning run.

Clover Hill had jumped on the ACs early on home runs by Ernie Vincent and Dale Becraft, but Harrisonburg reliever Ruddy Mowbray stopped the Bucks on two hits in the last five innings.

Darren Maynard led the ACs with a double and two singles. Roscoe Burgess and Gary Barton had two singles each.

Gary Simmons led the Bucks, now 10-9, with three hits. Alan Shull added two singles. Clover Hill hosts Harrisonburg Thursday.

Harrisonburg 130 000 101 — 8 10 1
Clover Hill 200 400 000 — 7 9 2
Bonsall, Mowbray (4), Martin (9) and Faulconer, Peterson and Hess, WP — Mowbray (1-2), LP — Peterson (6-1).
HR: CH — Vincent, 1st two on (2); Becraft, 4th two on (4).

Clover Hill 13-0

LINVILLE — Doug Erbaugh fired a three-hitter for his sixth victory, and Sam Hess drove in six runs as Clover Hill battered Linville 13-0 in County League baseball Saturday.

The victory kept the Bucks from losing ground to first-place Shenandoah in the torrid RCBL race. The Indians rallied twice Saturday to trim third-place Grottoes 9-8.

Erbaugh struck out 11 batters and didn't issue a walk as he raised his record to 6-1, tops in the County League.

Hess powered a two-run homer and a pair of singles to account for his six RBI. Alan Propst collected four hits, and four other Clover Hill players had two hits apiece as the Bucks 13-5, mounted an 18-hit attack.

The Patriots fell to 4-16.

Clover Hill 280 210 011 — 13 18 2
Linville 000 000 000 — 0 3 2
Erbaugh and Hess, M Hill, Will (2), J Hill (5) and R Hill
W: Erbaugh (6-1), L: M Hill (0-2)
HR — CH — Hess, 4th one on (3)

Clover Hill, 10-4

CLOVER HILL — Gene Peterson threw an eight-hitter and Sam Hess and Gary Simmons each had three hits as Clover Hill opened the County League playoffs with a 10-4 victory over Harrisonburg Saturday night.

The second game of the best-of-five quarterfinal series will be played tonight at Clover Hill.

Peterson struck out 12 and walked three while holding the ACs without an earned run. Harrisonburg used six Clover Hill errors to get three runs in the second inning and one in the fifth.

The Bucks came back with four runs in the bottom of the second, when Rick Engle had a two-run single, and broke the game open with four runs in the fifth. Keith Lawson capped the fifth-inning burst with a two-out, three-run triple.

Hess and Simmons each had three singles, and Mark Puckett had three singles and a double for Harrisonburg.

Bucks Win, 6-0, Extend Series Lead

CLOVER HILL — Backing Larry Erbaugh's five-hit pitching with their own 12-hit attack, Clover Hill shut out Harrisonburg 6-0 here Monday night.

The win gave the Bucks a 2-0 lead in their County League best-of-five first-round playoff series.

The Bucks jumped to a 3-0 lead in the second inning, establishing all the cushion Erbaugh needed to take his first win of the playoffs. He was 5-2 in the regular season. Erbaugh struck out eight and walked four.

Clover Hill used three singles and aggressive baserunning for its first three runs. Sam Hess led the second with a walk and moved to second on Fred Hill's sacrifice bunt. Doug Erbaugh singled to right, scoring Hess, and then moved to second on the throw home.

After Keith Lawson flew out deep to left, Drew Shull singled in Erbaugh and took second on the throw to the plate. Rick Engle followed with a single to score Shull. Again the runner tried to move up, but Engle was tagged out on the throw to second.

The Bucks added two in the fifth when Gary Simmons tripled and scored on a triple by Sam Hess. Hess scored on Doug Erbaugh's single.

The final run came in the sixth when Engle singled, moved to second on a sacrifice bunt and to third on a wild pitch. Simmons walked and tried to steal second. He was thrown out, but Engle scored on the play.

Doug Erbaugh led the Bucks with three singles and two runs batted in. Sam Hess and Gary Simmons had a single and triple each; Engle had two singles.

Randy Faulconer and Kevin Smith had two singles each for Harrisonburg.

Harrisonburg 000 000 000 — 0 5 3
Clover Hill 000 001 00x — 6 12 1
Mowbray, Bonsall (7) and Faulconer, L. Erbaugh and Hess, Shull (8), WP — Erbaugh (1-0), LP — Mowbray (0-1).

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill's pitching staff turned out to be hits at the plate Tuesday night.

The Bucks, forced to use pitchers Gene Peterson at first base and Larry Erbaugh in rightfield, downed Shenandoah 12-2 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game. The pitching staff, including starter and winner Doug Erbaugh, had eight of 12 hits.

Peterson's two-run single in the first keyed a three-run burst that put the Bucks ahead to stay. Doug Erbaugh added a two-run single in the third. Peterson and Larry Erbaugh had RBI singles in the seventh.

Peterson had three singles in the game, as did Jim Shull, the team's manager who was forced to catch, and Doug Erbaugh. Larry Erbaugh and Dale Becraft had two hits each.

Jim Kramer and Dave Hish each had a pair of hits for Shenandoah.

Clover Hill is now 12-10; Shenandoah fell to 10-13.

Shenandoah 000 000 000 — 2 3 3
Clover Hill 000 120 01x — 12 12 1
Clinebinst, Jenkins (3), Hish (7) and Forke, D. Erbaugh and Shull, WP — D. Erbaugh (2-2), LP — Clinebinst (1-1).

CLOVER HILL — Gene Peterson scored eight hits and Rick Engle and Ed Bowman combined for six hits and a RBI as Clover Hill defeated Bridgewater 14-4 Friday night and stayed alive in the County League playoffs.

The victory was the Bucks' first in the best-of-five semifinal series which will be played Monday night at Clover Hill.

In the league's other semifinal playoff series, regular season champion Linville leads Grottoes 2-1. Their fourth game will be played tonight at Clover Hill.

Peterson struck out six and walked four in going the distance for his second playoff victory. He had a previous win over Harrisonburg in the league's opening round of playoffs.

He had few problems Friday after the Bucks gave him a 6-1 lead in the second inning when they knocked out Redd's starter Larry French.

Clover Hill added single runs in the third and fifth innings and scored three runs in the fourth and sixth frames to take a 14-2 lead.

Engle had three singles and five RBI to lead Clover Hill's 18-hit attack. Bowman added a double, two singles and an RBI. Five Bucks had two hits each.

Clover Hill used six hits, two walks and an error in the six-run second inning. Engle opened the scoring with a two-run single, and the third run scored on an error. Dale Becraft, Sam Hess and Bowman singled in runs later in the inning.

Gary Simmons' groundout drove in the Bucks' third-inning run, and Engle got his second two-run single in the fourth. The other fourth-inning run scored on an error.

Ernie Vincent's single drove home Clover Hill's fifth-inning run.

In the sixth, Hess had a two-run single and Engle a sacrifice fly.

Bridgewater got an unearned run in the first and scored in the second on Joe Will's bases-loaded sacrifice fly.

Brent Miller's triple and Tim Bocock's groundout produced two Bridgewater runs in the seventh.

Mike Bocock, who singled twice, was the only Bridgewater player with two hits.

Simmons, Becraft, Hess, Vincent and Fred Hill each had two hits for Clover Hill.

Clover Hill 24-3

ELKTON — Alan Propst drove in seven runs and Clover Hill jumped on Elkton for a season high 23 hits Sunday as the Bucks routed the Blues 24-3 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

Propst led the way with a home run and three singles. Ed Bowman, Gary Simmons, Fred Hill and Jeff Mowbray each had three hits and drove in three runs.

The Bucks are 17-10 and host Grottoes tonight in a make-up game Saturday. Rainout game.

1980'S

Clover Hill, 20-8

ELKTON — Daren Curry collected four hits as Clover Hill whipped Elkton 20-8 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

Ed Bowman added two hits and four RBI in the curfew-shortened affair.

Clover Hill is 11-7; Elkton, 5-13.

Clover Hill 200 000 20 — 20 10 8
Elkton 000 000 00 — 0 20 8
Martin, E. Estes (7) and Mowbray; Shifflett, Halmich (3), Miller (3) and Escrowd, Printer (7).
WP — Martin (MA); LP — Shifflett (MA).
HR — CH: Kohn, 6th, one on; Bowman, 6th, one on; Curry, 7th, none on; Thomas, 8th, two on.

Clover Hill, 10-9

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill overcame 6-0 and 8-3 deficits to beat Twin County 10-9 Friday in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

Shortstop Darren Curry (two hits, four RBI) capped the Bucks' comeback with a bases loaded double off reliever Kevin Foltz in the eighth. The three-run hit gave Clover Hill a 10-8 lead.

Clover Hill is 13-7 while the Twins slipped to 8-12.

Twin County 000 200 001 — 9 8 7
Clover Hill 200 020 23x — 14 11 5
Mongold, K. Foltz (8) and Bralley; Estes and Mowbray; Martin (4).
WP — Estes (1); LP — Foltz (na).
HR — CH: Curry 1st one on (7); Estes 5th one on (3); Bralley 1st three on (na).

Clover Hill, 11-10

NEW MARKET — A five-run rally in the eighth inning carried Clover Hill over Twin County 11-10 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

Mike Estes' two-run double in the eighth cut Twin County's lead to 9-8. After two batters reached base, Tommy Thomas hit a three-run homer to give Clover Hill the lead.

In the ninth inning, with the one-run lead, Clover Hill pitcher Fred Hill struck out the side to end the game.

Clover Hill, 13-6

GROTTOES — Clover Hill clubbed four home runs and pitcher Mike Martin won his fifth consecutive Rockingham County League game, 13-6 over host Grottoes, in a rain-delayed game called by curfew after seven innings Friday.

Grottoes received a four for four performance from center fielder Aron McCarthy while left fielder Seymour Solomon III went two for two with three RBI.

Clover Hill is 15-8; Grottoes, 9-15.

Clover Hill, 9-8

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill overcame an early 6-0 deficit Friday night to top Elkton 9-8 in Rockingham County League baseball.

Bucks' reliever Sparky Simmons scattered seven hits over the final 7½ innings to hold off Elkton.

Darren Curry homered and doubled to drive in two runs for the Bucks. Terry Huffman added three hits and two RBIs and Gary Simmons had a pair of hits.

Clover Hill, which plays at Shenandoah tonight, is now 16-8.

Billy Leap led Elkton with three hits and catcher Greg Dofflemeyer had two hits and two RBIs.

Elkton 000 101 000 — 8 13 4
Clover Hill 000 111 00x — 9 13 8
Loker, M. Dean (3) and Dofflemeyer; Harmon, Simmons (2) and Mowbray W — Simmons (3) L — Dean (na).
HR — E. Dofflemeyer 2nd, one on (na), Dunbrak 2nd, none on (na); CH: Curry 6th, none on (1).

Clover Hill, 9-3

NEW MARKET — Gary Simmons, Tommy Thomas and Darren Curry each had two hits to lead Clover Hill to a 9-3 win over Twin County in Rockingham County League baseball Friday night.

Fred Hill went the distance for the Bucks, now 15-6, striking out seven and walking four. Hill gave up five of Twin County's 10 hits in the first inning.

Wayne Murphy had three hits to lead Twin County, while Stanley Moyer and Kevin Foltz each added two hits.

The Bucks host Grottoes 8 p.m. today.

Clover Hill, 11-7

LINVILLE — A pair of solo home runs helped lift Clover Hill to an 11-7 win over Linville in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

Center fielder Clint Curry's homer came in the first inning; catcher Jeff Mowbray's in the fourth.

The Bucks had five players with two hits each.

Linville was paced by first baseman Daryl Alexander's three-run homer and left fielder Todd Simmons' one-run blast.

Clover Hill is 10-6; Linville, 13-6.

Clover Hill 100 220 220 — 11 14 9
Linville 000 003 121 — 7 11 3
Burch and Mowbray; Siciliano and Brubeck.
WP — Burch (1-0); LP — Siciliano (2-1).
HR — CH: Curry, 1st, none on (sixth of the year); Mowbray 4th, none on (third); L. Alexander 6th, two on (third); Simmons, 8th, none on (right).

Clover Hill, 4-2

CLOVER HILL — Randy Moats struck out 14 and walked three in nine innings of duty as Clover Hill downed Elkton 4-2 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Wednesday.

Clover Hill was paced by shortstop Darren Curry's two singles and third baseman Mike Jenkins' two hits.

Left fielder Dave Loker led Elkton with two doubles and an RBI.

Clover Hill is 12-7.

Elkton 002 000 000 — 2 7 0
Clover Hill 000 112 001 — 4 6 3
Shifflett; Saylor (6); Dofflemeyer (3); and Dofflemeyer, Life (1); Moats and Mowbray.
WP — Moats (2-2); LP — Saylor (NA).
HR — none.

Clover Hill, 12-2

CLOVER HILL — Darren Curry went five-for-five and Gary Simmons went three-for-three to lead Clover Hill to a 12-2 victory over Elkton Friday in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

Clint Curry and Simmons each had homers and Mike Estes belted a grand slam for the Bucks. Clover Hill is in second place at 11-5, while Elkton is in fourth at 7-9.

Playoff Battle Brewing In RCBL's

By ROB WASHBURN
Special Correspondent

With a week to go in the regular season, there is a history-making pennant race brewing in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

Linville, Clover Hill and Bridgewater are all within two games of each other in the race for first place, and Twin County and Elkton are just a game apart in their battle for the fourth and final playoff spot.

According to RCBL commissioner Karl Olschofska, there was a four-team tie for second place in the league during the mid-1960's, but there have never been three teams in the running for the top spot this late in the season.

Despite the added pressure, all of the

managers involved think it's good for the league.

"I don't think it's ever been this close," Clover Hill manager Ed Bowman said. "It keeps the players and the fans interested and makes it that much more challenging. It's been a lot better year for the league all around, and for it to come down to something like this is like icing on the cake."

In the battle for first place, Linville (17-5) controls its own destiny. The Patriots picked up an important 4-1 victory over Bridgewater Saturday night to open up a 1½ game lead over Clover Hill and a two-game gap over the Reds with three games to play. But before it can begin celebrating, Linville must win one of its two games with Clover Hill this Friday and Saturday night.

"That was a big win for us (against Bridgewater)," Linville manager Rob Wease said. "I think the magic number is six losses to win the pennant. We're in good shape. We finally had the true Linville team there (Saturday) night."

Getting the "true" Linville team in uniform has been a problem for Wease this season and has allowed the Bucks and Reds to close what once seemed to be an insurmountable gap. Starter Jeff Leatherman, Chris Hart, Mark Sherman and Dan Haycock all play American Legion baseball and have missed several games. To go along with that, left fielder Todd Simmons is out for the season with a knee injury and center fielder George Coffee is gone for the year with a broken jaw. But Wease remains con-

1980'S

Clover Hill 4
Elkton 3

ELKTON — Robbie Harmon's sacrifice fly in the sixth inning lifted Clover Hill to a 4-3 win over Elkton in Rockingham County Baseball League play Monday.

Clover Hill, which lost to Elkton on Saturday, trailed until Eddie Bowman's sixth-inning single tied the score. The Bucks then loaded the bases for Harmon with a walk and a single.

Chad Seals remained undefeated. Clover Hill is 17-7; Elkton, 8-13.

Clover Hill 002 002 000 — 4 7 3
Elkton 101 010 000 — 3 12 0
Seals and Bowman, Curry (7); DeLuca, Aldhiser (7) and Ecroyd
WP — Seals (3-0); LP — DeLuca (NA)
HR — none

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BASEBALL

Estes Fuels Clover Hill Win

CLOVER HILL — Mike Estes threw a three-hitter and belted a three-run homer Saturday as Clover Hill beat Twin County 6-0 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

Estes struck out nine and walked just one as the Bucks improved to 12-5. His home run gave Clover Hill a 3-0 lead in the first inning.

Right fielder Gary Simmons and second baseman Ed Bowman, also the team's manager, added solo shots to pad the lead.

Bowman and Robbie Burch finished with three hits each.

Twin County spoiled Estes' bid for a no-hitter when Brian Davis singled in the sixth inning.

The Twins dropped to 7-11.

Twin County 000 000 000 — 0 3 2
Clover Hill 311 000 10x — 6 12 1
Comer and Chitwood, Estes and C. Curry
WP — Estes (3-1); LP — Comer (NA)
HR — CH: Estes (13); Simmons (2); Bowman

Bucks Use Error; Down Linville 5-4 In RCBL

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill scored three runs in the fifth inning, including two on an error, en route to a 5-4 victory over Linville in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Saturday.

Darren Curry had three singles to lead the Bucks, who are 2-2 against the first-place Patriots this season. Fred Heatwole added two singles and an RBI for Clover Hill.

The game was tied 2-2 until Linville's center fielder failed to field Heatwole's hit in the fifth, allowing two runs to score. Heatwole scored the eventual winning run on a fielder's choice later in the inning.

Brian Wenger and Eddie Clark each smacked solo home runs for Linville, 12-5.

Clover Hill is 11-4.

Clover Hill 14
Briery Branch 1

Mike Estes belted two homers and Kenny Kelly threw a one-hitter Thursday to lead Clover Hill past winless Briery Branch 14-1 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 11-6; the Bees fell to 0-17.

Estes went 3-for-3, with a three-run blast in the second and solo shot in the fifth. He scored three runs and drove in four.

Briery Branch 000 100 0 — 1 1 1
Clover Hill 071 321 x — 14 18 2
Wood, Hottinger (2) and Cook; Kelly and Ecroyd
WP — Kelly (1-0); LP — Wood (NA)
HR — CH: Lough (1); Estes 2 (3)

there."

Clover Hill 21
Grottoes 1

Greg Conley, Brad Hoffee, Tom Gangwer and Robbie Harmon all hit home runs as Clover Hill routed Grottoes 21-1 in Rockingham County Baseball League action Wednesday.

Robbie Burch boosted his record to 2-3 in the seven-inning game. Clover Hill is 16-5; Grottoes, 7-15.

Clover Hill Downs Grottoes

CLOVER HILL — Greg Ecroyd belted a three-run homer in the sixth inning Wednesday to give Clover Hill the lead for good as the Bucks beat Grottoes 7-1 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

Clover Hill is 10-5; Grottoes is 7-11.

Mike Estes had two hits and three RBI for the Bucks. Fred Hill also had two hits, including a run-scoring double.

Steve Hartley went the distance and earned the win. He gave up 11 hits, but struck out seven and walk-

ed only two. Grottoes was paced by Lee Saylor, who had two doubles.

Grottoes 000 000 000 — 3 12 0
Clover Hill 000 000 10x — 7 12 0
Aldhiser and DeLuca (NA) and Ecroyd
WP — Hartley (2-0); LP — Wood (NA)
HR — CH: Ecroyd (4)

1990'S

Bucks Beat Reds

BRIDGEWATER — Second baseman Greg Conley belted a grand slam and a two-run homer as Clover Hill kept its faint pennant hopes alive with a 10-3 victory over Bridgewater in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

The second-place Bucks, who visit Grottoes in their regular-season finale on Sunday, improved to 16-6.

The Reds, who have already clinched at least a share of the pennant, fell to 17-6.

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Clark's Arm, Bat Propel Clover Hill Past Elkton, 6-4

CLOVER HILL — Pitcher Eddie Clark drove in two runs on two hits to lead Clover Hill to a 6-4 win over Elkton in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Thursday.

The Bucks improved to 11-6; the Blue Sox fell to 5-13.

Elkton 001 000 000 - 4 0 0
Clover Hill 001 001 000 - 6 0 0
Morin and Henley; Clark and Arbogast, W - Clark (4-1). L - Morin (NA).

2-1 win Thursday over Elkton in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 6-8; the Blue Sox are 8-9.

Curry's home run was his ninth of the season.

Clover Hill 2
Elkton 1

CLOVER HILL — Left fielder Clint Curry hit a solo home run with two outs in the bottom of the 12th inning to give Clover Hill a

Elkton 100 000 000 - 000 1 0 0
Clover Hill 000 000 010 - 001 2 10 0
Fulk, Hilliard (10) and Henley; Hottinger and Poe, W - Hottinger (2-0). L - Hilliard (NA). HRs - C. Curry (9).

Clover Hill 10
Harrisonburg Chics 5

CLOVER HILL — Neil Clatterbuck went 4-for-4 with four RBIs Saturday as Clover Hill beat Harrisonburg 10-5 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 13-9; the Chics are 14-8.

Centerfielder Tim Shifflett went 3-for-3 with one RBI for Clover Hill. Robbie Burch had nine strikeouts in a complete-game effort.

Outfielder Ike Coles had two hits for the Chics.

Harrisonburg 000 000 000 - 5 10 2
Clover Hill 270 000 010 - 10 14 1
Morris, Comer (8) and Rose; Burch and Kelley, WP - Burch (NA); LP - Morris (0-1). HRs - CB: N. Clatterbuck (9).

Clover Hill 12
Elkton 9

CLOVER HILL — Kevin Lee had two hits and three RBIs to lead Clover Hill to a 12-9 victory over Elkton in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Thursday.

Clover Hill improved to 11-7; Elkton dropped to 8-11.

Trailing 8-8, Clover Hill scored four runs in the eighth, but the game was called after that because of the league's 11 p.m. curfew.

Robbie Burch and Neil Clatterbuck had three RBIs apiece. Bobby Kelley added two hits and one RBI. Danny Rogers led Elkton with two home runs and seven RBIs.

Elkton 300 001 10 - 8 10 0
Clover Hill 100 000 04 - 12 9 0
Showalter and Clatterbuck, WP - Showalter (NA). LP - Fulk (NA). HRs - B. Rogers (NA).

Clover Hill 11
Harrisonburg 8

CLOVER HILL — First baseman Tom Gangwer and shortstop Darren Curry each had four RBIs to power Clover Hill to an 11-3 win over Harrisonburg in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

The Bucks improved to 11-11; the Chics fell to 13-11.

Clover Hill 9
Grottoes 2

CLOVER HILL — Third baseman Stacy Hottinger had three hits, including a solo homer, to lead Clover Hill to a 9-2 win over Grottoes in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Monday.

The Bucks improved to 12-7; the Cardinals fell to 5-11.

Center fielder Tim Shifflett had three hits, including a one-run single, for Clover Hill. First baseman Eddie Clark had two hits, including a grand slam.

Grottoes 100 000 010 - 2 0 0
Clover Hill 100 000 000 - 9 2 0
Mullman and Palmer; Lee, Lember (7), Hottinger (9) and Arbogast, W - Lee (3-1). L - Mullman (NA). HRs - CB: Eddie Clark (NA), Hottinger (NA).

Bucks Hand Reds First Loss

CLOVER HILL — Clover Hill hit three consecutive home runs in the eighth inning Saturday night to beat previously undefeated Bridgewater 10-3 in a curfew-shortened Rockingham County Baseball League game.

The Bucks improved to 12-8; the Reds dropped to 15-1.

Clover Hill took the lead at 9-3 on Kevin Lee's home run to left-center field, the second of three straight solo shots. The Bucks' barrage began with one out in the eighth when Neil Clatterbuck tied the game at 8-8. Tom Gangwer added an insurance run.

Bridgewater had gone ahead 8-7 on the top of the eighth when Jay Wampler doubled to score Harold Knicaly.

Gangwer paced the Bucks with two hits and three RBIs; Clatterbuck had two hits and two RBIs.

Richie Whitmore led Bridgewater with three hits, including a home run

that tied the game at 7-7 in the eighth.

The game was called after eight innings because of the RCBL's 11 p.m. curfew.

Bridgewater 100 000 000 - 8 12 1
Clover Hill 100 010 10 - 10 12 1
Bartulowicz, French (4) and Knicaly; Burch, Curry (4), Burch (5), Lee (6) and Clatterbuck, WP - Lee (NA). LP - French (NA). HRs - B. H. Knicaly, Whitmore. CH: Curry, Kelley, Clatterbuck, Lee, Gangwer.

Clover Hill 13
Elkton 12

CLOVER HILL — Darren Curry belted a three-run homer with one out in the ninth inning Tuesday to give Clover Hill a 13-12 victory over Elkton in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 10-5; the Elks dropped to 5-10.

Elkton 000 000 700 - 12 7 0
Clover Hill 201 000 000 - 13 12 0
Lohar and Henley; Zombro, Clark (7) and Arbogast, W - Clark (2-1); L - Lohar (NA). HRs - B. Zombro (NA), CH - Hottinger (NA).

the victory

Clover Hill 19
Elkton 8

CLOVER HILL — Clint Curry had three hits, including two home runs, and six RBIs to lead Clover Hill past Elkton 19-8 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks are 12-7; the Blue Sox, 12-9.

Curry's home runs were a three-run shot in the second and two-run blast in the fourth.

Clover Hill had three other homers, including two back-to-back in the seventh — Greg Ecroyd's three-run shot and Greg Conley's solo shot. Darren Curry added a three-run homer in the eighth.

The game was called after eight because of the league's 11 p.m. curfew.

1990'S

Clark, Curry Propel Bucks Past Chics, 6-5

CLOVER HILL — Eddie Clark drove in Greg Conley on a double in the 10th inning Wednesday to give Clover Hill a 6-5 victory over Harrisonburg in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

The Bucks improved to 14-7, three games behind first-place Bridgewater; the Chics fell to 8-12.

Clint Curry belted a three-run homer in the 10th to tie the score at 5-5.

000 000 011 3- 6 4 2
Harrisonburg 000 000 000 0- 0 0 2
Clover Hill
McDonald and Helmick; Simmons, Clark (9) and Martin. W—Clark (4-1); L—McDonald (NA); HRs—Clint Curry (11)

Bucks Beat Branch, 18-1

CLOVER HILL — Travis Scott and Jay Johnson each hit two home runs Saturday as Clover Hill beat Briery Branch 18-1 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

The Bucks improved to 8-9; the Braves dropped to 6-12.

Duane Shuler went 3-for-4 with a home run for Briery Branch.

Briery Branch 100 000 000 — 1 0 3
Clover Hill 000 000 110 — 18 1 1
Scott and Gordon; Johnson and S. Hottinger. W—Scott. L—Johnson. HR—E. Knight (1).

Zombro Lifts Bucks Past Elkton, 6-1

CLOVER HILL — Tim Zombro pitched a five-hit complete game Thursday to lead Clover Hill to a 6-1 win over Elkton in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 9-10; the Blue Sox fell to 5-13.

Robbie Hottinger and Travis Fox each had two hits and two RBIs for Clover Hill.

Elkton 100 000 000 — 1 0 2
Clover Hill 010 100 200 — 6 1 1
Shuler, Shilled (3) and Gordon; Zombro and S. Hottinger. W—Zombro (1-2); L—Moss. HR—Clint Helmick (7).

Bucks Beat Reds 9-5 In RCBL

BRIDGEWATER — Stacey Hottinger went 3-for-5 with two RBIs to power Clover Hill to a 9-5 win over first-place Bridgewater in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Thursday.

The second-place Bucks improved to 13-7; the Reds fell to 16-3.

David Stewart added three hits for the Bucks.

Clover Hill	9
Briery Branch	5

MONTEZUMA — Second baseman Sean Hanifee had three hits and two RBIs to lead Clover Hill to an 8-7 win over Briery Branch in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Saturday.

The Bucks improved to 15-8.

Shortstop Greg Conley also had three hits for Clover Hill, while pitcher Eddie Clark belted a three-run homer and catcher Stacy Hottinger a solo homer. Catcher Neil Clatterback had four hits, including a two-run homer, for Briery Branch.

Clover Hill 300 311 000 — 9 11 3
Briery Branch 102 010 200 — 7 10 4
Clark and S. Hottinger; Arpogast (4); Davis, Morgan (9) and Clatterback. W—Clark (5-1); L—Davis (NA); HRs—Clint Clark (11), S. Hottinger (10); BR—Clatterback (NA).

Curry's Five Hits Boost Clover Hill

ELKTON — Left fielder Clint Curry had five hits, including two homers, to lead Clover Hill to a 14-3 win over Elkton in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

The second-place Bucks, who conclude the regular season against Bridgewater today, improved to 16-8. The last-place Blue Sox finished the season with a 4-21 record.

Third baseman Stacy Hottinger had two hits, including a grand slam, for Clover Hill. Hottinger and Curry each drove in five runs.

Clover Hill 001 000 001 — 14 10 1
Elkton 000 011 001 — 3 0 3
R. Hottinger and Arpogast; Lohar and Lam. W—Hottinger (6-7); L—Lohar (NA); HRs—Clint C. Curry 2 (13, 14), S. Hottinger (11); E. Zimmerman (NA).

Clover Hill	10
Harrisonburg	7

CLOVER HILL — Eddie Clark struck out 12 — and hit a three-run homer in the first inning — to help Clover Hill beat Harrisonburg 10-7 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Tuesday.

The Bucks improved to 12-5; the Chics fell to 6-10.

Clark walked three and gave up nine hits to notch the win; at the plate, he was 4-for-5. Daren Curry and Travis Fox also homered for Clover Hill.

Harrisonburg's Chris Slonaker hit a three-run home run in the second inning.

Harrisonburg 141 000 001 — 7 0 4
Clover Hill 021 000 100 — 10 10 2
McDonald and Harris; Clark and Hottinger. W—Clark (2-1); L—McDonald (NA); HR—H. Slonaker; Clt. D. Curry, Clark, Fox.

Clover Hill 19, Grottoes 7: Christian Simmers went 4-for-6 with two home runs and four RBIs on Saturday to lead host Clover Hill to a 19-7 win over Grottoes in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 12-9; the Cardinals dropped to 8-11.

Simmers hit a two-run home run in the first inning and a solo home run in the third. He also scored four runs.

Eric Hinkle went 3-for-5 with two doubles and five RBIs for the Bucks.

Neil Clatterback led Grottoes with two hits, including a double, and two RBIs. The Cardinals' Daryl Irvine added two hits, including a solo home run in the second inning.

Grottoes 010 120 30 — 7 12 4
Clover Hill 201 006 32 — 19 19 2
Moss, Hale (8); Canoso (6); McVie (7) and Anderson. Grit. In. Hestley (8) and A. Bowman. W—Gritlin (6-2); L—Moss (8-1); HRs—G. Irvine (10); Clt. Simmers 2 (5).

Hottinger, Bucks Rout Elkton

CLOVER HILL — Designated hitter Stacy Hottinger went 4-for-6 with three home runs and six RBIs to lead Clover Hill to a 13-2 win over Elkton in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

The Bucks improved to 11-5; the Blue Sox fell to 3-5.

Clint Curry added a grand slam for the Bucks, while Eddie Clark belted a solo home run.

Buck Gordon had a homer for Elkton.

Elkton 000 000 000 — 2 7 3
Clover Hill 000 010 610 — 13 10 2
Hottinger (8) and Martin. W—Simmers (3-0); L—Martin (NA); HRs—Clt. S. Hottinger (4), S. C. Curry (2), Clark (11); Gordon (NA).

1990'S

■ Clover Hill Beats Fishersville: Steven Snapp threw a two-hitter to lead Clover Hill to a 15-0 rout of Fishersville in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

The Bucks improved to 5-11; the host Cardinals dropped to 4-14.

Snapp, a former all-state pitcher at East Hardy High School in West Virginia, struck out eight and walked seven to get the win.

Clover Hill 15 000 0-15 12 2
 Fishersville 000 000 0-0 2 4
 Snapp and Lough (5th), Butler (2), Fitzgerald (6) and Bertolin, W.—Snapp (2-2), L.—Smith (NA) HPs—Ch Lough (3)

Clover Hill Topples Bridgewater, 15-13

BRIDGEWATER — Clint Curry belted a three-run homer to lead Clover Hill to a 15-13 win over previously unbeaten Bridgewater in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday.

The Bucks improved to 7-9; the Reds fell to 12-1.

Clyman, Hinkle (8), Johnson (6), Davis (7) and S. Hollinger, Hamilton, Tom Bocock (2) and Patten, W.—Johnson (1-0), L.—Bocock, D.—Davis (1), HPs—Cl. C. Curry (4), S. Hollinger (5), Johnson (2), S. Shale.

■ Clover Hill 22, Grottoes 5: Shane Hinkle went 3-for-4 with two home runs and six RBIs to help Clover Hill rout Grottoes 22-5 Saturday in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 9-14; the Cardinals, now out of contention for the pennant, fell to 14-10.

Right-hander Steve Snapp threw a four-hitter for Clover Hill with four strikeouts and two walks.

Clover Hill 22 017 448 0-22 22 1
 Grottoes 5 210 200 0-5 4 2
 Snapp and Lough, Horney, Hale (3), Carlouso (3), McInnes (6) and Spotts, Barrow (7), W.—Snapp (NA), L.—Horney (NA) HPs—Ch Lough (8), Hensley (4), Hinkle 2 (5), Kestler (1), G. Stonaker (NA), Hollinger (NA)

■ Clover Hill 13, Fishersville 3: Christian Simmers went 4-for-5, all singles, to help Clover Hill beat Fishersville 13-3 Sunday in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The host Bucks improved to 4-10; the Cards fell to 3-12.

Shane Hinkle had a three-run home run in the third inning for Clover Hill. Jason Griffin had three singles and scored three times for the Bucks.

Fishersville 3 200 001 000-3 7 2
 Clover Hill 13 334 002 10x-13 17 0
 Gauger, Butler (2), Waddy (1) and Bertolin, M.—Martin, Snapp (7) and Lough, W.—Martin (1-1), L.—Gauger (NA) HPs—F. Hammerman (NA), Cl. S. Hinkle (2)

Clover Hill Rips Briery Branch, 12-1

CLOVER HILL — Jason Griffin pitched a complete-game six-hitter and Rusty Showalter had three hits and five RBIs to lead Clover Hill to a 12-1 pasting of Briery Branch in Rockingham County Baseball League action Friday.

The Bucks improved to 6-10; the Braves dropped to 9-8.

Griffin, who struck out three and walked one, now has four of Clover Hill's six wins.

Briery Branch 1 100 000 000-1 0 3
 Clover Hill 12 038 121 00x-12 10 0
 Griffin, J. Conley (2), G. Conley (5), Davis (7) and Curry, Gatto and Barrow, W.—Griffin (4-2), L.—Bocock (NA) HPs—G.B. C. Curry, Ch. Sabano (2), Showalter (2)

■ Elkton, Clover Hill Split: Chris Martin belted a three-run homer in the fourth inning and R.L. Franklin stole the second game of a Rockingham County Baseball League doubleheader Thursday.

In the first game, Vince Gregory hit a three-run homer in the first inning to give Clover Hill a 10-3 victory. Clover Hill is 7-16; Elkton, 5-18.

CLOVER HILL — David Fitt's three-run homer in the second inning Sunday helped Bridgewater beat Clover Hill 16-9 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

The first-place Reds improved to 17-4, 4½ games ahead of Briery Branch (12-8); the Bucks fell to 6-14.

Other big bats for Bridgewater: Tommy Bocock, who had two hits and four RBIs; Joe King, who smacked a three-run double; Tim Shiflett, who had two hits and three RBIs; Pat Shiflett, who collected two hits and two RBIs; and

Kevin Tysinger, who had two hits. B.W. Barrix hit a two-run homer for Clover Hill in the first inning; teammate Chad Hensley had three hits and four RBIs.

Bridgewater 16 001 000 004-17 11 2
 Clover Hill 9 203 040 000-9 12 2
 Hill (5) and Martin, Simmons (5), W.—Merritt (5-0), L.—Snapp (NA) HPs—E. Fitt (3), Cl. Smith (NA)

RCBL All-Stars

Fitt and eight teammates will lead the North squad into Saturday's RCBL All-Star Game, set for 7:30 p.m. at Clover Hill.

The youngest All-Star is Clover Hill shortstop Addison Bowman, a 15-year-old rising junior at Turner Ashby High School who is hitting .390 this season. He will play for the North, which is comprised of Bridgewater, Clover Hill and Elkton.

The rest of the tentative starters for the North, which were announced Monday are catcher Chris Sabitino (CH); first baseman Pat Shiflett (B); second baseman B.W. Barrix (CH); third baseman Danny Davis (B); outfielders Tim Shiflett (B), Chad Hensley (CH) and R.L. Franklin (E); and designated hitter Fitt (B).

Shiflett, who will manage the North, is undecided on a starting pitcher.

Solomon will coach the South, which is made up of Grottoes and Briery Branch.

The likely South starters are catcher Neil Clatterbuck (G); first baseman Travis Long (BB); second baseman Scoop Hanifee (BB); shortstop Darren Curry (BB); third baseman Daryl Irvine (G); right fielder Greg Conley (BB); center fielder Daryl Lambert (G); left fielder Clint Curry (BB); pitcher Jason Conley (BB); and designated hitter Seymour Solomon III (G).

Reserves for the South are Scott Clark (BB), Jeff Monroe (G) and Chris Slonaker (G), and pitchers Chris Bodkin (BB), Jack Coleman (G), Chris Davis (BB), Derek Horn (G), Dale Glass (G) and Bob Knott (BB).

Reserves for the North are Courtney Tusing (E), Eric Hinkle (E), Curtis Steele (B), Craig Eckard (B), Jesse Eppard (E) and Travis Knight (E), and pitchers Jason Griffin (CH) and Steven Snapp (CH).

Clover Hill Belts Grottoes in RCBL

GROTTOES — Addison Bowman hit four singles to help Clover Hill beat Grottoes 16-8 Wednesday in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 7-6; the Cardinals fell to 5-9.

Jason Griffin had two hits, including a three-run homer in the seventh inning, and five RBIs for Clover Hill. Vince Gregory belted a three-run shot in the ninth.

In relief of Mike Martin, Chad Hensley pitched five innings for the win. He gave up just four of Grottoes' 11 hits.

Neil Clatterbuck paced the Cards with two homers, both solo shots.

Clover Hill 16 040 002 005-16 10 3
 Grottoes 8 002 021 000-8 11 3
 Martin, Hensley (5) and Kestler, W.—Griffin (7) and Clatterbuck, W.—Hensley (1-0), L.—Horn (1-1), HPs—Cl. Griffin (1), Gregory (1), Snapp (1), Adams (2), G. Clatterbuck (2), Irvine (8)

1990'S

Griffin Stifles Reds, 5-1 Clover Hill Leads Series 1-0

By MIKE HODGE
News-Record Sports Writer

CLOVER HILL — Gone was the no-hitter. Gone was the shutout, but the postgame hot-dog still went down good — relish and all — for Jason Griffin.

The right-hander for Clover Hill threw a four-hitter Tuesday to lead the host Bucks to a 5-1 victory over the Bridgewater Reds in Game 1 of the Rockingham County Baseball League semifinal series.

Griffin was splendid, striking out 11. He had a no-hitter through seven innings and a shutout through eight.

Curtis Steele stymied the no-hitter to start the eighth, splashing a single over first base. The shutout ended an inning later on three consecutive singles that found infield holes.

"I wanted both, the no-hitter, then the shutout," Griffin said while relaxing among friends and teammates behind the first-base dugout as the last of an estimated 300 fans left Buck Bowman Park. "All that matters is the win. That's the only thing. Getting the first win makes it easier on you."

The second-place Bucks, 17-10 after winning 10 of their last 11 games, lead the best-of-five series 1-0. The two clubs resume play Thursday at John Wayland Field in Bridgewater.

The winner advances to face either fourth-place Elkton or pennant-winner Briery Branch. Elkton leads that affair 1-0.

Griffin's strategy was startlingly simple: Fastball inside. Fastball outside.

"I tried to put it where my catcher was sitting," said Griffin, a 1996 graduate of Bridgewater College. "He caught an excellent game. He set up in excellent spots. I was able to hit him."

The Reds, who dropped to 15-12 after losing their seventh game in 10 outings, pushed just one runner to second base the first eight in-

■ **Clover Hill 9, Briery Branch 6:** Jason Griffin belted two home runs, a solo shot in the third inning and a two-run blast in the fifth, to help Clover Hill beat Briery Branch 9-6 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

Griffin, who finished with three hits, also picked up the win on the mound. He gave up 12 hits in nine innings. Matt Landes also had three hits for Clover Hill, including a three-run homer in the fifth.

Bart Bridges paced the Branch with three singles and an RBI.

Briery Branch	001 009 006 — 6 12 0
Clover Hill	101 290 024 — 9 18 2
Duckin, Conley (5) and Long, Hanover (8), Griffin and Martin, D. Bowman (3) W—Griffin (9-2), L—Bridges (3-1), HRs—Griffin (1), D. Bowman (1), Griffin (2), Matt Landes (1)	

■ **Clover Hill 17, Grottoes 2:**

Matt Landis had three hits, including a grand slam and a solo homer, and seven RBIs to lead Clover Hill to a 17-2 rout of visiting Grottoes in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Saturday.

The Bucks improved to 14-10; the Cardinals fell to 8-14.

Jason Griffin went 4-for-4 with a solo homer and two RBIs for Clover Hill. Shane Hinkle added three hits, including a solo shot, and three RBIs. Chad Hensley had two hits, including a two-run shot.

Ben Spotts had two hits, including a solo homer, for Grottoes.

Grottoes was actually the "home" team, although the game was played at Clover Hill due to problems with the lights at the Cardinals' field.

Clover Hill	821 020 4 — 17 17 3
Grottoes	100 001 0 — 2 4 3
R. Martin and S. Lough, M. Martin (5), Coleman, Hale (2), McNeill (7), Simmons (7) and Anderson: W—R. Martin (4-2), L—Coleman (2-4), HR—Ch. Hensley (3), Hinkle (7), Landis (2), Griffin (5), B. Spotts (6)	

■ **Clover Hill 9, Briery Branch 1:**

Dustin Bowman and Chad Hensley each homered twice to lead Clover Hill to a 9-1 win over Briery Branch in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Wednesday in Montezuma.

The Bucks improved to 13-7; the Braves fell to 10-10.

Hensley finished with four hits and four RBIs, while Bowman had three hits and four RBIs. Jason Griffin pitched a five-hitter and helped himself with two hits and one RBI.

Clover Hill	301 010 202 — 9 10 0
Briery Branch	000 001 000 — 1 0 0
Griffin and H. Miller, Trammell (8) and Hanover W—Griffin (3-1), L—Miller (1-1), HR—Ch. Hensley (7, 8), Bowman (5, 6)	

Bucks Elude Blue Sox

Clover Hill Takes 3-1 Lead In RCBL

By MIKE HODGE
News-Record Sports Writer

ELKTON — They survived with home runs. They won with bunts.

So it was with the Clover Hill Bucks, who dropped down consecutive bunt-singles in the top of the 10th inning to beat the Elkton Blue Sox 15-13 in Game 4 of the Rockingham County Baseball League championship series Wednesday at Stonewall Memorial Park.

The Bucks lead the best-of-seven series 3-1. Game 5 is scheduled for Buck Bowman Park in Clover Hill on Friday. Another win gives the Bucks the postseason title.

"The bunts won the game," Clover Hill manager Fred Hill said. "Maybe it was the wet grass. Maybe that had something to do with it. Those were two beautiful bunts. We were lucky they made an error. It was a heck of a game. Elkton never stops. They haven't stopped yet."

For nine innings, Clover Hill stayed close with the long ball. In all, the visitors whacked six homers — two apiece by Chad Hensley and Jason Griffin; one each by Shane Hinkle and Andy Morris. That hitting splurge left the contest tied at 12-12 after a regulation nine frames.

In the 10th, Hensley walked. Griffin bunted toward first. Pitcher Brad Sipe slipped, trying to scoop the well-placed ball. Next up was Morris, who punched a bunt toward the left side of the infield. Third baseman Buck Gordon gloved the ball, but overthrew first. The overthrow sailed into foul territory. Two runs scored.

Morris made second. He scored when Eric Hinkle singled to right. That made it 15-12, Clover Hill.

Elkton rallied by placing the first two runners on base, but Griffin, who relieved for Eric Keister, got three consecutive outs, two by strikeout, one by groundout.

Keister pitched well in relief of starter Justin Hill, who lasted only 2 1/3 innings. The former Broadway High School starter yielded three runs during his first 6 2/3 innings. Morris had three singles and a home run.

Clover Hill	210 803 100 3 — 18 19 2
Elkton	224 110 010 1 — 13 17 1
Hill, Keister (3), Griffin (10) and Bowman, Hogan, Wampler (8), Sipe (6) and Gordon, Hensley W—Keister (1-0), L—Sipe (4-5), S—Griffin (NA), HRs — Ch. Hensley (2), Griffin (2), Morris (1), S. Hinkle (1), E. Morris (2), Hensley (9), Sipe (6)	

■ **Campbell Boosts Bucks:** Todd Campbell had three hits, including a three-run homer, and five RBIs to lead Clover Hill to a 25-2 rout of Briery Branch in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Wednesday.

The Bucks improved to 9-6; the Braves fell to 7-6. Chad Hensley had three of Clover Hill's 20 hits, including a solo shot, and three RBIs. Justin Hill also had three hits and three RBIs.

Briery Branch	10 1 000 0 — 2 0 0
Clover Hill	05(18) 232; 25 — 25 20 1
Kiss, Conwell (3), Trammell (3), Sipe (8) and Grogan, Loh (4), Martin, Akey (6) and D. Bowman (8), Lough (7), W—Martin (1-1), L—Kiss (1-3), HR—Ch. Griffin (8), Campbell (1), Campbell (2), Hensley (4)	

Not A Pitchers' Battle

Linville Beats Clover Hill, 27-19

By GARRETT JOHNSTON
News-Record Sports Writer

CLOVER HILL — Fred Hill looked at the overworked scoreboard and thought enough is enough.

His Clover Hill team had just scored 19 runs and still that wasn't enough, not nearly enough in fact to keep pace with Linville in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Friday. The Patriots banged out 28 hits to down the Bucks by a football-like 27-19.

Even for the high-scoring RCBL, the 46 runs and 45 hits were unusual. The recreation circuit is considering replacing the hyper-active aluminum bats with wooden ones next year and Hill said it may be a good idea.

"I think it's a good argument for wooden bats," Hill said.

The teams blasted seven home runs off six different pitchers in the three-hour affair. It could have been more if the game had not been stopped after eight innings because of the 10:30 p.m. curfew. No one could remember an RCBL game with more runs, a startling statement in a league where both teams regularly score in double digits.

Linville player-manager Neil Clatterbuck powered the surge, driving in six runs on three hits, including a three-run home run in the first inning. Still, Clatterbuck said he prefers the status quo. He said the County League should stick with aluminum bats because many of the teams could not afford a switch to wood.

The expansion and front-running Patriots (16-5), who lead Elkton by a half game with three games left in the regular season, can clinch the pennant if they win their next two games — at fourth-place Briery Branch and at second-place Elkton. Elkton (16-6) still has a shot at the pennant.

1990'S

■ Clover Hill Rumps in RCBL: Addison Bowman went 2-for-4 with two RBIs and Andy Morris went 3-for-5 with a double and a triple as Clover Hill routed Fishersville 14-2 in the Rockingham County Baseball League on Sunday. The Bucks improved to 8-9; the Cardinals dropped to 4-12. Chad Hensley added a solo home run for Clover Hill.

Clover Hill 14 230 301 - 14 10 3
 Fishersville 2 000 000 - 2 7 2
 Giffin, Pull (6) and D. Bowman, Cook, Hester (1), Zeposocny (7), Waggy (7) and Apodaca, W-Griffin (4-2)
 L-Cook (NA) HP-C.H. Hensley (2)

■ Clover Hill 15, Bridgewater 8: Aaron Lough hit two home runs — a solo shot in the second inning and a two-run blast in the third — as Clover Hill beat Bridgewater 15-8 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The host Bucks also got home runs from Jason Griffin (two-run shot in the fourth), Tommy Thomas (solo in the fifth) and Eric Hinkle (solo in the fifth).

Lough added a two-run single, and both Griffin and Thomas also had three hits each.

Keith Haney paced Bridgewater with a pair of homers, a three-run shot in the sixth and a two-run shot in the eighth. Rod Pierce had three singles.

■ Clover Hill 11, Grottoes 7: Addison Bowman hit two home runs — a solo shot in the first inning and a two-run blast in the second — to help Clover Hill beat Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 7-11; the Cardinals fell to 11-9.

Bowman also had an RBI-single hit, including a double, and three RBIs for Clover Hill.

Jeff Monroe had two homers for Grottoes, a three-run home run in the second inning and a solo shot in the seventh.

The game was called in the bottom of the seventh when the umpire became exasperated with arguments from Grottoes' players.

Bucks End Marathon

'Never-Say-Die Baseball' Nets RCBL Title

By MARK BERMAN
 News-Record Sports Writer

CLOVER HILL — First, they blew a 3-1 series lead. Then, they blew a 16-9 lead in Game 7. But the Clover Hill Bucks finally managed to put Elkton away and capture the marathon Rockingham County Baseball League championship Monday night.

The second-seeded Bucks, who didn't even make the playoffs last year, outslugged the fourth-seeded Blue Sox 19-17 in the decisive Game 7 on a mild night at Buck Bowman Park to claim their first RCBL crown in 10 years.

Clover Hill, playing in front of 704 fans, won the

series 4-3 for the eighth title in its history.

Winning pitcher Jason Griffin struck out Brian Monroe to end the game and jumped into catcher Dustin Bowman's arms. The two players were mobbed by their teammates at home plate.

"We played the whole season and it came down to one game. This is definitely the most intense series and final game I've ever played in my whole life," Griffin said before accepting the championship trophy on his teammates' behalf. "The whole series was just as intense as you could possibly be. If you had to play many more games, I don't know how many peo-

See RCBL, Page 17



RCBL Finals

- Game 1: Clover Hill, 9-3
- Game 2: Clover Hill, 12-7
- Game 3: Elkton, 22-8
- Game 4: Clover Hill, 15-13 (10 innings)
- Game 5: Elkton, 6-6
- Game 6: Elkton, 18-16
- Game 7: Clover Hill, 19-17

people would make it."

Said Bowman, "Never-say-die baseball. They kept scoring and we kept scoring."

The Bucks (23-14) led 16-9 in the third, but Elkton chipped away and took a 17-16 lead in the top of the seventh on Monroe's two-run double off Griffin (12-4).

Clover Hill scored three runs off Mark Merica in the bottom of the inning to regain the lead. Griffin, who had four hits, tied the game with his second solo homer. After Andy Morris doubled, the Bucks scored twice on errors by second baseman Monroe and shortstop R.L. Franklin.

The Blue Sox, who won Friday's Game 5 and Saturday's Game 6 on ninth-inning homers by Buck Gordon, finished 18-19. "We didn't give up at all," Elkton manager Kenny Sipe said.

The Bucks had to rebuild their team after the 1994 season, when veterans such as Clint Curry, Darren Curry, Chris Davis and Sean Hanifee left for other squads.

"This is the third year we've played together now. We were starting to mature a little bit more as a team," said Griffin, a Bridgewater College graduate who moved from the infield to the mound in the seventh.

Monday's Game
 Elkton 402 322 409 - 17 10 3
 Clover Hill 475 300 304 - 19 16 6
 Rucker, Nagan (2), Wampler (2), Moris (3) and Hensley; Meritt, Griffin (7) and D. Bowman, W-Griffin (12-4), L-Rucker, HP-E. Gordon (13), Moris, Sipe, C.H. D. Bowman 2, Griffin 2 (14, 15), Hensley (15), E. Hinkle.

Saturday's Game
 Clover Hill 304 322 130 - 18 22 2
 Elkton 604 700 138 - 18 16 2
 H.H. Marsh (4), Hensley (6) and S. Lough; Sipe, Campbell (3) and Hensley, W-Campbell, L-Hensley, H.H. Marsh (6), Griffin (13), Pull (6), S. Hinkle (12), E. Gordon 2 (11, 12), Shoverster 2.

Clover Hill, which overcame five errors by shortstop Jeremy Pettit, belted six homers Monday. Bowman had two grand slams, as well as a two-run double. Eric Hinkle and Chad Hensley hit back-to-back shots for the Bucks in the second.

Brad Sipe had four hits, including a two-run shot, for Elkton. Gordon had three hits, including a grand slam. Merica also had three hits, including a solo shot.

Elkton won 18-16 on Saturday after trailing 8-0 in the third and 16-12 in the eighth. Gordon belted a three-run shot in the bottom of the ninth to win the game.

Clover Hill Goes Up 2-1

CLOVER HILL — Jason Griffin singled up the middle to score Dustin Bowman with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning Saturday, giving Clover Hill an 8-7 victory over Bridgewater in the semifinals of the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks took a 2-1 lead in the best-of-five series, which resumes at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at John Wayland Field in Bridgewater. Game 4 was originally set for tonight, but the entire playoff schedule was pushed back a day when the Briery Branch-Elkton game Sunday was postponed because of rain.

Addison Bowman was 4-for-5 with two doubles and an RBI for Clover Hill. Two other Bucks went 3-for-5: Shane Hinkle (a double, home run and three RBIs) and Andy Morris (two RBIs). Christian Simmers added

two hits and a double. Bridgewater got two hits and two RBIs from both Shawn Huffman and Jeremy Colaw.

Hinkle hit a solo shot in the seventh to give Clover Hill a 7-3 lead. The Reds, however, got back into the game with three runs in the eighth. Curtis Steele had a two-run double to cut the deficit to 7-5. Then, Griffin came in as a pitcher with the bases loaded and two outs. He hit Tim Shifflett, forcing in a run and making the score 7-6.

In the top of the ninth, Bridgewater tied the game when Jeremy Colaw doubled to right center to score Ronnie Michael.

That set up Griffin's amazing game-winner. Bowman led off the inning with a walk.

Bridgewater 300 300 301 - 1 1 1
 Clover Hill 300 310 301 - 1 16 1
 Aronoff, Tyssinger (7) and Colaw, M. Marsh, Sipe (7), Hensley (6), Griffin (6) and D. Bowman, W-Griffin (14-2), L-Tyssinger (NA) HP-C.H. Hensley (6)

1990'S

Elkton Loses Cool And Series

Clover Hill Wins Semifinals By Forfeit

By BRIAN COSTELLO
News-Record Sports Writer

CLOVER HILL — Head shaking was more appropriate than handshaking after Friday night's Elkton-Clover Hill semifinal game in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

What was a well-played contest through 6½ innings ended with a player and manager being ejected, bats and helmets strewn across the in-

RCBL SEMIFINALS

Best-of-Five

TODAY

■ Linville at Briery Branch, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

■ Briery Branch at Linville, 7:30 p.m. if necessary

field and a near-brawl at first base. And that was just the beginning of the end.

"Anything in the County League," Bucks center fielder Chad Hensley said as he walked back to his team's dugout after Clover Hill won 5-4 by forfeit and advanced to the RCBL finals.

The Bucks will face the winner of the Linville-Briery Branch series, which continues tonight at the Branch with the Patriots up 2-1 in the best-of-five series.

Friday's game, which had an 88-minute rain delay, ended after the top of the seventh inning. Brad Sipe was the final Blue Sox batter in the inning and was struck out looking by Jason Griffin, who had nine total strikeouts. Sipe then turned to umpire Gary Schuler and said the ball was a foot outside. Schuler told him to be quiet and Sipe threw his helmet at his dugout. Schuler then threw Sipe out of the game.

Elkton manager Kenny Sipe argued the call but Schuler told him to walk away and he could stay in the game. Sipe then threw his team's batting helmets and bats on the field and told the umpires: "You play the game." He was then thrown out. Brad Sipe's dismissal left Elkton with eight players because it had already used a substitute. The Sox wanted to play with eight but the rulebook stated the team must have nine players or forfeit.

011 010 1- 4 0 1
100 100 2- 0 0 1
Dane (NA), Hensley (NA) CH: Griffin (10), Campbell (4)

■ **Clover Hill 15, Grottoes 7:** Virginia Tech's Christian Simmers had three hits — a double, triple and solo home run in the third inning — and four RBIs to help Clover Hill beat Grottoes 15-7 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

Chad Hensley smacked a three-run homer in the Bucks' eight-run eighth inning. Shane Hinkle contributed three hits and two RBIs.

Grottoes was paced by Christian Saunders, who was 3-for-3 with four RBIs. Ben Spotts added two doubles and an RBI.

■ **Clover Hill 16, Bridgewater 3:**

Chad Hensley had two hits, including a solo home run in the sixth inning, and scored three times Wednesday to lead Clover Hill past Bridgewater 16-3 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 10-6; the Reds fell to 3-13.

Chris Cofer had a three-run double in the seventh for Clover Hill. Todd Campbell smacked a solo shot in the second and Mike Padgett belted a two-run drive in the third.

Bridgewater 003 000 0- 3 7 2
Clover Hill 018 201 6- 10 11 0
C. Snyder, Matthews (4), Rodings (7) and J. Snyder, Pines (5), Leonard, Griffin (5) and H.L. Bowman (6), W. Leonard (5-1), L. Snyder (NA) HRs—CH: Campbell (3), Padgett (2), Hensley (5)

■ **Clover Hill 14, Bridgewater 1:**

Jason Griffin and Shane Hinkle each hit two-run home runs in Clover Hill's 11-run first inning Monday as the Bucks routed host Bridgewater 14-1 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

Clover Hill improved to 12-7; the Reds fell to 5-15.

Christian Simmers also hit a two-run shot in the sixth inning for the Bucks. Simmers finished the night 3-for-3 with a double, home run and four RBIs. He also scored three runs.

■ **Clover Hill 12, Bridgewater 11:**

Mike Padgett went 4-for-4 with a double, home run and three RBIs on Sunday and Jason Griffin went 3-for-4 with a double, home run and four RBIs as Clover Hill beat host Bridgewater 12-11 in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 14-8; the Reds fell to 5-18.

Bridgewater's Pat Shiflet was 4-for-5 with two doubles and three RBIs, while Joe King was 3-for-5 with four RBIs.

Clover Hill 000 903 2- 12 14 2
Bridgewater 300 010 1- 11 14 3
Marin, Alley (5), Larcus (6), Hensley (6) and H.L. D. Bowman (6), Tyngler, C. Snyder (5), Matthews (7) and J. Snyder, Showalter (7), W. Hensley (2-0), L. Matthews (NA) HRs—CH: Griffin (8), Padgett (4)

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2004 Clover Hill Bucks Schedule May

14	Bridgewater	Home
18	New Market	Home
19	Montezuma	Home
22	Shenandoah	Home
28	Elkton	Away

June

1	Shenandoah	Away
2	Fishersville	Home
6	Elkton	Home
8	Bridgewater	Away
11	Broadway	Home
12	Shenandoah	Away
13	New Market	Home
17	Fishersville	Away
18	Montezuma	Away
23	New Market	Away
26	Broadway	Away
27	Elkton	Away
29	Shenandoah	Home

July

1	Bridgewater	Home
7	Montezuma	Away
9	Broadway	Away
11	Montezuma	Home
16	Fishersville	Home
18	Fishersville	Away
20	New Market	Away
22	Broadway	Home
31	Elkton	Home

August

1	Bridgewater	Away
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2000'S

Bucks Rip Reds

CLOVER HILL — Jason Airey went 3-for-4 with four RBIs to help Clover Hill beat Bridgewater 12-2 Sunday in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

The Bucks improved to 2-0; the Reds fell to 0-1.

Andy Morris was 2-for-4 with two RBIs for Clover Hill, while Jason Griffin gave up two hits and struck out seven in six innings.

Bridgewater 000 001 010 — 2 3 3
Clover Hill 350 040 020 — 12 11 1
 Shunk, Mennick (7), Tysinger (8) and Shuff, Griffin, Hensley (7) and A. Lough, Michael (8) W-Griffin (1-0) L-Shunk (0-1)

■ **Clover Hill 4, Bridgewater 2:** Chris Cofer's fielder's choice in the top of the 11th inning scored Aaron Martin with the go-ahead run as Clover Hill beat Bridgewater in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Saturday.

The visiting Bucks improved to 16-4; the Reds fell to 11-4.

This was the third extra-innings game between the RCBL's top two teams this season. First-place Clover Hill hosts second-place Bridgewater again on Tuesday night.

Brian Bocock hit a two-run home run for Bridgewater.

■ **Clover Hill 6, Broadway 0:** Chad Hensley threw a complete-game shutout with nine strikeouts and scattered five hits as Clover Hill beat Broadway 6-0 Saturday in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

Shortstop Christian Simmers went 2-for-3, with three stolen bases and two runs, and left-fielder Jason Airey went 3-

for-4 with an RBI for Clover Hill.
Clover Hill 300 001 000 — 6 12 0
Broadway 000 000 000 — 0 0 0
 Hensley and Simmers, Mennick (7), Lough, Lardner (8) and Fawcett, Hensinger (2) W-Hensley (14-1) L-Lardner (0-4)

■ **Clover Hill 10, Briery Branch 4:** First baseman Aaron Lough was 3-for-6 with four RBIs as Clover Hill beat Briery Branch 10-4 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Saturday.

The Bucks improved to 17-5; the Braves fell to 13-10.

Chris Cofer was 2-for-5 for Clover Hill. Scot Mclear and Rathbun were both 2-for-4 for the Braves.

Clover Hill 024 440 4 — 18 18 0
Briery Branch 200 020 0 — 4 8 2
 Hensley, Moses (5) and Bowman, Eaton, Bucher (4), Black and Submitter, W-Hensley

Clover Hill Beats Grottoes, 7-5

CLOVER HILL — Andy Morris was 2-for-3 with two RBIs to lead Clover Hill to a 7-5 victory over Grottoes in a Rockingham County Baseball League game on Friday.

The Bucks improved to 4-0, while the Cardinals dropped to 2-3.

Grottoes 000 000 500 — 5 5 4
Clover Hill 002 103 10x — 7 7 0
 Stevens, Fitzgerald (8), Stoehr (8) and Scouler, Schindler, Hensley (7) and Michael, W-Schindler (1-0) L-Stevens (NA) HR-G. Ridley

■ **Clover Hill 20, Briery Branch 4:** Third baseman Jason Griffin went 2-for-4 with a grand slam in the sixth inning to lead Clover Hill to a 20-4 win over Briery Branch in the Rockingham County Baseball League season opener Friday.

The host Bucks improved to 1-0; the Braves fell to 0-1.

Todd Campbell went 2-for-4 with four RBIs for Clover Hill.

Briery Branch 202 000 0 — 4 5 7
Clover Hill 170 210 x — 20 11 1
 Snyder, Matthews (6), Comwell (6) and Stuhlmiller, Morris, J. Hill (4) and Lough, W-Hill (1-0) L-Snyder HR-Clover Hill, Griffin (1)

■ **Clover Hill 12, Grottoes 4:** Left fielder Jason Airey had three hits and three RBIs as Clover Hill pounded Grottoes 12-4 in a Rockingham County Baseball League game Tuesday at Buck Bowman Park.

The Bucks improved to 11-4; the host Cardinals fell to 5-12.

First baseman Aaron Lough had a home run and a double and drove in two runs for Clover Hill.

Clover Hill 201 320 013 — 12 16 1
Grottoes 000 000 040 — 4 4 2
 Hill, Ostlund (8), Gaiser (9) and Michael, Thomson, Sauder (4), NA and Martz, W-Hill (3-0) L-Thomson (NA) HR-CH A. Lough (8)

L. Hensley (8) and Hensley (7) Lough (10) W-Hensley (14-1) L-Clavin (3)

■ **Clover Hill 6, Shenandoah 0:** John Gouzd ran his scoreless innings streak to 20, racking up 10 strikeouts in seven innings as Clover Hill beat Shenandoah 6-0.

The Bucks improved to 14-5, while Shenandoah fell to 6-16.

First baseman Aaron Lough went 2-for-5 with two RBIs. Catcher Dustin Bowman was 2-for-4 with two RBIs.

Beaver Dean was 2-for-4 for Shenandoah.
Shenandoah 000 000 000 — 0 5 1
Clover Hill 121 000 20x — 6 8 1
 Campbell, Sanders (4) and Moss, Gouzd, Gaiser (8) and Bowman, W-Gouzd (1) L-Campbell

At 30, Conley Still Hot

Clover Hill Pitcher Emerges From Family Life, Becomes All-Star

By TOM STEVENS
 Daily News-Record

Laura Conley watches her dad, Jason, pull on his Clover Hill Bucks jersey and knows exactly what's on the menu: popcorn and candy.

"She can run around and enjoy herself now," Jason Conley said of his 3-year-old daughter. "I think she enjoys the concession stands about as much as anything else."

While Laura enjoys the sweet treats, Jason relishes baffling batters.

» **RCBL All-Star Game**
 7:30 p.m. today
 Bridgewater

After taking a two-year sabbatical to spend time with his young family, Conley has returned to his role as one of the best pitchers in the Rockingham County Baseball League. After going 4-0 with a 0.65 ERA in his first four starts, the 30-year-old Conley will be the starting pitcher for the West squad in tonight's RCBL All-Star Game.

"He's just dominated this year," Clover Hill manager Steve Lough said.

Festivities at John Wayland Field in Bridgewater begin at 6 p.m. with the Home Run Derby. The All-Star Game is scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m.

Admission is \$3. Conley has shown little rust from his two-year layoff, striking out 28 batters in 27 2/3 innings. He said his

Jason Conley was one of Bridgewater College's most productive pitchers. Now, at age 30, he's returned to the Rockingham County Baseball League after a two-year hiatus and is once again winning.

See RCBL, Page 25

2000'S

Airey, Bucks Blast Broadway, 11-2

BROADWAY — Jason Airey went 2-for-3 with three RBIs Monday to lead Clover Hill to an 11-2 victory over Broadway in a Rockingham County Baseball League game.

The Bucks improved to 10-4; the Bruins fell to 5-9.

Mitchell Moses went 3-for-5 with three RBIs for the Bucks, while Aaron Lough hit a two-run double.

Three Clover Hill pitchers, including starter Jason Griffin, limited the Bruins to just three hits.

Clover Hill	200	000	231	-	11	11	2
Broadway	100	000	010	-	2	3	0

Griffin (1), Moses (1), Ostlund (1) and Bowman (1) for Clover Hill; Zich (1), Lander (1), Rohbaugh (1), Brinkley (1) and Hottinger (1) for Broadway.

► Baseball: RCBL

Bucks, Lough Locked In

By MIKE BARBER
Daily News-Record

The chainsaw seared through tendons and chipped at bone. But it hasn't stopped Aaron Lough from playing baseball.

"It really hasn't slowed me down," Lough said this week.

Certainly not this summer in the Rockingham County Baseball League, when the only evidence of the severed tendons on Lough's left hand are the scars.

Little more than a year after he suffered the in-

Lough

FROM PAGE 14

jury while cutting down an apple tree with a chainsaw, the 6-foot-4 right-handed Lough is hitting .373 with five home runs and 22 RBIs for second-place Clover Hill.

That kind of production provides ample support for Lough's claim that he's completely healthy for the first time in four years.

"This is the first year in a couple of years that he's been healthy and it's showing," Elkton manager Mike Burtner said.

The May 2002 chainsaw accident, just three games into the RCBL season, caused Lough to miss nearly the entire summer.

That was just the latest in a string of injuries for the former prospect in the Minnesota Twins organization.

In 1999, Lough underwent knee surgery. In 2000, he had an operation on his right shoulder — after which the Twins released him. In 2001, he had a second surgery on the same shoulder.

Now healthy, Lough leads a potent Bucks' lineup, an oddity in an RCBL season dominated by the pitchers.

Now healthy, Lough leads a potent Bucks' lineup, an oddity in an RCBL season dominated by the pitchers.

"One through nine [in the lineup] you really have to be careful," Burtner said. "Christian Simmers, Dustin Bowman and Aaron Lough — they're all capable of hitting one out. You can't pitch around anybody."

The Bucks lead the RCBL with a .273 team average, and have six regulars hitting over .300.

Mitchell Moses is second in the league with a .400 batting average, and Lough is third. Throw in Jason Griffin (.360), Simmers (.333), Andy Morris (.318) and Jason Airey (.303), and you have the makings of a lethal lineup.

"It seems like everyone's swinging the bat a lot better," Lough said. "We're aggressive early in the count and early in the game."

Lough said the best thing about this year's Bucks, especially catcher Dustin Bowman, is that they're at their best when facing a top-flight pitcher.

"He hits good pitching," Lough said. "I think a lot of guys on our team do. We don't stay focused when we're not challenged."

The Bucks are 9-4 and just a half-game back of first-place Elkton, the defending league

champion. Not surprisingly, the Blue Sox are the only other RCBL team — Fishersville and Bridgewater did not report team stats — hitting above .250. Elkton is at .263.

"We've had the middle part of our order hit the ball really well," said Burtner, who employs a predominantly left-handed lineup in a league where left-handed pitching is rare. "We haven't hit a lot of home runs, but guys have been doing a good job putting the ball in play."

Fishersville manager Lynn Wease said his team's sluggers — including such RCBL stars as Shane Banks and Jason Beale — started off slowly but have heated up with the weather. The Rangers have scored 32 runs in their last three games, all victories.

"Our team is just starting to really come around," Wease said.

The rest of the league has a ways to go.

Grottoes is hitting .228, Shenandoah .223, Broadway .211 and Briery Branch a dismal .182.

The Braves, who also haven't hit a home run yet, are still a surprising 8-6.

STATISTICS

HITTING

	G	H	AB	Avg.
Armentrout (B)	8	16	34	471
Eye (B)	7	10	22	455
Campbell (S)	12	17	41	415
Tra Knight (E)	12	15	37	405
Moses (CH)	11	8	20	400
K Tysinger (B)	9	14	35	400
Umberger (S)	8	11	28	393
Shull (B)	10	12	32	375
Lough (CH)	11	19	51	373
R Stevens (G)	13	15	41	366
Hottinger (BW)	9	11	31	355
LeBeau (G)	13	21	58	362
Griffin (CH)	11	18	50	360
Lozo (B)	9	14	40	350
Hall (E)	12	10	29	345
Simmers (CH)	11	17	51	333
Lucas (S)	7	7	21	333
Morris (CH)	11	7	22	318
Cantor (E)	12	12	38	316
Harley (E)	12	12	39	308
Airey (CH)	11	10	33	303

	G	R	B	Avg.
B Morris (S)	0-2	20	17	20
Fory (G)	2-3	42	15	42
Moses (CH)	1-2	21	10	20
Wean (BW)	0-3	19	8	20
Cave (E)	1-1	18	7	20
Saucer (G)	0-0	11	12	17
Riner (S)	0-2	24	18	20
K Tysinger (B)	1-1	18	15	19

TEAM LEADERS

BIDGEWATER — HR: Armentrout 4, RB: 10, RBI: 15, SB: Armentrout 8
BRIERY BRANCH — HR: Cory 1, RBI: 1
Clover Hill 1 RB: Cory 7, RBI: 7, SB: 10
2. Cornwall 2
BROADWAY — HR: Dave 2, RB: 1, RBI: 2
McQueen 13
CLOVER HILL — HR: Lough 3, RB: 10, RBI: 12
SB: Simmers 7
ELKTON — HR: Tra Knight 1, RBI: 1
15 SB: Harley 3, Robertson 3
GROTTOES — HR: Robertson 1, RBI: 1
LeBeau 1, Moritz 1, Thompson 1, RBI: 1
SB: LeBeau 1
SHENANDOAH — HR: Jenkins 3, RBI: 4, SB: 6, SB: Weston 6

COMMENTS?

If you have any comments about the News-Record sports pages, feel free to e-mail the sports editor at this address:

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PITCHING

VALLEY DISTRICT

	W-L	IP	BB	K	ERA
Conley (SD)	4-0	27.2	8	28	0.65
Gasser (CH)	0-0	14	2	18	0.65
Hamilton (B)	0-0	13.2	6	24	0.66
Hill (CH)	2-0	23.2	12	19	0.78
Zich (BW)	1-0	18.1	7	19	0.98
Griffin (CH)	1-0	22	21	4	1.23
Cochran (E)	4-0	28	15	34	1.61
Hensley (CH)	0-2	11	4	9	1.65
Arrington (E)	2-0	18	10	26	2.00
Minnick (B)	0-0	16.1	1	15	2.20

TEAM STATS

BIDGEWATER — BA: .293, ERA: 2.18, E: 11
BRIERY BRANCH — BA: .207, ERA: 4.83, E: 14
CLOVER HILL — BA: .211, ERA: 2.02, E: 20
ELKTON — BA: .273, ERA: 1.48, E: 14
GROTTOES — BA: .203, ERA: 2.88, E: 27
SHENANDOAH — BA: .228, ERA: 3.90, E: 14

"If you look at their record, they're an odd team," Burtner said. "They just compete. It seems like it's always a tight ballgame. They scrap and they compete."

Briery Branch ace Preston Miller has had a direct hand in at least four of those wins, having compiled a 2-0 record with two saves.

The combination of an arm like Miller's and timely hitting can make a team a winner in the RCBL, regardless of whether that team's hitting below .200.

"You can only have a couple of hits but if you make them count that can make a difference," Burtner said. "And they have Preston Miller, and he can dominate."

So can Lough, who has played in 11 of Clover Hill's 13 games. He is entrenched at first base, and said he probably won't do any pitching, as he did last summer while rehabilitating.

"My first outing I did well," Lough said. "After that, I couldn't throw strikes. I'd say I'm our last resort."

As a pitcher, that is.

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000'S

RCBL

Bucks Close In On Title

Clover Hill Beats Bridgewater, 2-0

By ANDY MENDLOWITZ
Daily News-Record

BRIDGEWATER - Justin Hill felt pain in his right throwing arm after his first pitch Tuesday.

"I thought, boy it's going to be a long night," the Clover Hill pitcher said. "But I finally got warmed up and felt a little better."

Hill hurled a one-hitter and the Bucks beat Bridgewater 2-0 to take a 3-1 lead in the Rockingham County Baseball League finals Tuesday night at John Wayland Field. The best-of-seven series resumes today at Clover Hill at 7:30 p.m. A win would give the Bucks the championship.

Bridgewater's Tim Kennedy was almost as effective as Hill on Tuesday, throwing a two-hitter. The two pitchers, in fact, had dueling no-hitters for six innings.

In the top of the seventh, though, Clover Hill's Chris Cofer led off with a single to left field. After one out, Aaron Lough and Dustin Bowman walked to load the bases.

Eric Yoder hit a hard shot to shortstop. Bridgewater's Kevin Tysinger fielded it to his left, tagged second and threw wide to first base as two Clover Hill runs scored. Bowman slid hard into Tysinger to draw him off second base.

"I guess," Tysinger said when asked if the slide caused the errant throw.

Both managers agreed it was a clean play.

"Dustin asked me, 'Do you think I did anything wrong?'" Bucks manager Steve Lough said. "I was, like, no."

Clover Hill 000 000 200 - 2 2 2
Bridgewater 000 000 000 - 0 1 1
Hill and Bowman Kennedy and Saunders W.
Hill L - Kennedy

Bucks' Park Sizzles

Clover Hill Leads RCBL In Attendance

By MIKE BARBER
Daily News-Record

Tasty Buck Bowman Park in Clover Hill is the RCBL's most popular destination, with Bridgewater and Broadway not too far behind.

CLOVER HILL - On game nights, there's a party beyond the right-field fence at Clover Hill's picturesque Buck Bowman Park.

Hot dogs, sausages, crabs, ducks and steaks are on the grill, the beer and wine is flowing. It's no wonder the Bucks enjoy the best attendance in the Rockingham County Baseball League.

"People are coming in early and cooking out," manager Steve Lough said. "It's becoming a social thing at Clover Hill." Not that this is Yankee Stadium - or even the Harrisonburg Turks' Memorial Stadium, for that matter.

Lough estimated Clover Hill averages about 250 fans per

game, although the number reaches as high as 500 on promotional nights. The support, he said, helps.

"It just turns everything up a notch," said Lough, whose team is 16-4 and atop the RCBL standings. "The adrenaline flows when you're in front of a big crowd. It's a definite plus for our team."

The Bucks own their own ballpark, meaning fans don't face many of the limitations they might find at games held at high school or community-owned fields, which most County League teams use.

In the past, Clover Hill fans partied on flatbed trucks over the outfield fence. This year, they've gone a step further. Beyond that right-field fence, fans have constructed five semi-permanent decks to facilitate the barbecuing.

"It's a good time," said Steve Lee, a member of the Bucks' board of directors.

Not surprisingly, the other team in the Turner Ashby High School region - a baseball hotbed - is second in attendance.

The Bridgewater Reds draw 150-200 fans per game at John Wayland Field, the same ballpark TA uses. Broadway pulls between 100-150.

Even though the Reds are much-improved this summer, their attendance figures are basically the same as last season, said team president Don Huffman. Huffman, who played in the County League in the early 1950s, remembers a much different ballpark scene. Huffman recalls packed houses in every RCBL park.

"It used to be back years ago, we drew bigger crowds, but nowadays there are so many things going on," Huffman, the team's president for the last six years, said. "It's definitely made a big difference. Back when I played ball, on Saturday and Sunday, that's all there was to do - go see a ballgame."

While the Turks - who average 740 fans at Memorial Stadium - are comprised of college standouts from across the nation, the 79-year-old RCBL counts on hometown talent to compete with the Valley League club for fans.

"Having local ballplayers definitely helps," Huffman said. "No question about it. And we have a lot of local ballplayers."

The Reds' lineup includes former Turner Ashby shortstop Brian Bocock, headed for Division I Stetson University this fall. For Bridgewater fans who have watched the local baseball icon playing on that same field for the Knights for the last four years, Bocock is a major attraction.

But Bocock is an exceptionally talented player for the RCBL. More typical is the high school hotshot or Division III star looking for a summer outlet. A few former minor-leaguers also sign up each year.

Owners and managers agree, however, that the biggest draw is still the bottom line - wins and losses.

"Everybody likes to come out and see a win-



Holly Marcus / DN-R

Clover Hill is the RCBL's attendance king this summer.

ner," Fishersville manager Lynn Wease said. "There seems to be more interest when we win, when we're on top."

This year, the Rangers are just 7-7 and averaging between 70-80 fans per game at Wilson Memorial High School's field.

The Shenandoah Indians have struggled to win games in their first two seasons. After going 7-21 in their inaugural season in the RCBL, the Indians are just 1-16 this year. They opened the season with 12 straight losses.

Still, team president Kirk Comer said the squad draws between 75 and 100 fans per game.

Briery Branch is the attendance aberration in the league. Despite a vastly improved team - the Braves were 10-9 and in fourth place heading into Sunday's game with Shenandoah - team president Donnie McNett said attendance is slumping this year.

"The Branch is just starting to win some games, and it seems like attendance is down," said McNett.

Branch draws 80-100 an outing.

Grottoes, which struggled through a dismal season last year, has seen a rise in both wins and attendance this season. But Cardinals manager John Sauder attributes most of that increase to the fact that Grottoes is playing its home games at Buck Bowman Park in Clover Hill because its own home field is in disrepair.

"It's way up from what it's been at Grottoes," Sauder said. "We're playing better ball, and that seems to entice fans. But the major factor is playing at Clover Hill. That's a nice facility."

The Cardinals are drawing between 70-100 fans per night and Sauder said, only half-jokingly, that some of those fans probably come out to see the Bucks, but stay when they realize it's a Cardinals game.

Elkton could not provide attendance figures.

2000'S

Bucks Capture RCBL

Conley Throws One-Hitter In Win Over Bridgewater

By TOM STEVENS
Daily News-Record

CLOVER HILL - Another championship-series lead wasn't going to slip away from Clover Hill. Not with Jason Conley on the mound.

Conley threw his second shutout of the finals, tossing Clover Hill's second straight one-hitter as the Bucks won the Rockingham County Baseball League title Wednesday night with a 3-0 victory over Bridgewater

in front of about 500 fans on a chilly night at Buck Bowman Park.

"Two hits in two games," shortstop Christian Simmers said. "That should make you 2-0 every time."

Clover Hill's pitchers handcuffed the Reds throughout the five-game series, shutting out Bridgewater three times and allowing five runs overall as the Bucks won the championship round 4-1. Conley's gem came a day after Justin Hill allowed one hit in a 2-0 victory.

In the process, the Bucks erased the memories of last year's championship-series meltdown in which Elkton rallied from a 3-0 deficit to win the league title.

"I think we had last year on our mind since Game 1 of the regular season," Clover Hill manager Steve Lough said. "I told the guys before the game that we got this far last year and we know what happened."

RCBL Finals

- Game 1 Sept. 4
Clover Hill 2, Bridgewater 1
- Game 2 Sept. 6
Clover Hill 3, Bridgewater 0
- Game 3 Sept. 7
Bridgewater 4, Clover Hill 3
- Game 4 Sept. 9
Clover Hill 2, Bridgewater 0
- Game 5 Sept. 10
Clover Hill 3, Bridgewater 0
(Bucks win series 4-1)

See RCBL, Page 17

Clover Hill Rides Clutch Pitching To Title

RCBL

FROM PAGE 15

It wasn't going to happen again, mainly because Conley didn't allow a runner past first base. Playing his first season after a two-year hiatus, Conley struck out 12 and walked two to earn co-MVP honors with second baseman and defensive wizard Chris Cofer.

Bridgewater's only hit was Curtis Steele's flare to right field in the fourth inning. Conley then got stronger in the late innings, fanning seven batters in the final three innings.

"I think our bats just finally went out," Bridgewater manager Richard Tysinger said.

Tysinger made a surprise move by starting Gary Minnick on the mound instead of flame-throwing left-hander Jimmy Hamilton. One reason is that Minnick has thrown well recently after battling arm problems throughout the season. Those arm problems, though, may force Minnick to retire, another reason Tysinger wanted to start his popular left-hander.

"I haven't decided, but I'm 90 percent sure," Minnick, a veteran of the Reds' title-winning days in the 1990s, said. "It's been bothering me for about two or three years, and this season it just caught up to me."

Minnick pitched well, and sometimes in obvious discomfort. He allowed nine hits and three runs over six-plus innings before Hamilton came on



Clover Hill's Chris Cofer crosses third base in the first inning Wednesday.

RCBL D-Day Nears

If Title Series Isn't Over By Sept. 13, Reds' 61-Year-Old Skipper Might Play

By MICHAEL ROTHSTEIN
Daily News-Record

By now, the following phrase should come as no surprise: "Rockingham County Baseball League playoffs postponed due to rain."

Yep. Another RCBL game was washed out Thursday and - with league bylaws barring games on high school football Fridays - Game 2 of the championship series between Clover Hill and Bridgewater

is now scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Saturday at John Wayland Field.

"Everybody's frustrated," RCBL commissioner Karl Olashefska said. "It went through the whole league. We had nearly 45 regular-season games rained out. Some games that have been reset were rained out again. They kept resetting the dates."

See RCBL, Page 20

in the seventh.

Clover Hill's Aaron Lough did all the damage, going 2-for-4 with a two-run double and a solo home run to straightaway center. That was all the offense needed to give the Bucks their first RCBL ti-

tle since 1997.

Bridgewater 000 000 000 - 0 1 0
Clover Hill 200 010 000 - 3 0 1
Minnick, Hamilton (7) and Phil Conley (6)
Lough, Bowman (8) W - Conley, L. - Minnick (1)
Ch. Lough.

Contact Tom Stevens at 574-6258 or
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A Tribute to Gordon Shiflet and Burnelle Hill

As we begin another year of baseball here at Buck Bowman Park, we would like to pause and take a look back at last winter. It seems like every month we heard of another community member and friend passing away. Included in those friends who are no longer with us are two of the founding fathers of this Clover Hill organization.

In January we lost Gordon Shiflet. Gordon's love for baseball began before there was baseball at Clover Hill when he played for Ottobine in the early county league. He was one of the community members with a dream for Clover Hill and he was involved from the beginning in the early planning and the work that brought a new baseball field with lights to the Clover Hill community. Gordon was not only involved with the building of the park but also served as a player and a manager of Clover Hill baseball teams and was active until he hung up his cleats. When his playing days were over he continued to be active on the Board of Directors and worked hard to keep the park going in its early days.

Only a few of the older fans can remember his playing days but more of us can remember the nights he worked in the concession stand or got the field ready for games. He tried to make it to every game unless he was spending a summer evening in the hay field. You could also see his truck pulling into the park late on Saturday nights after a long day at the stock sale because he just wanted to see how the team was doing. We can all remember how in the last few years Gordon would take a seat on the bleachers behind home plate where he would delightfully share his opinions on management of the team and on base running with the coaches and share his opinions on balls, strikes, and outs with the umpires.

As we got closer to opening day, in April we lost Burnelle Hill. The early 50's were busy years for the Clover Hill Community. The Ruritan club was founded and ground was broken for the new baseball park with lights and a level field. Burnelle was a leader in each of these projects. He served as the first president of the new Clover Hill Ruritan Club and through his hard work and also his financial support he was instrumental in developing the ball park. He served as president and was a member of the board of directors for the ball park and team for most of the last 40 years. He spent many long hours here at Buck Bowman park working on building projects, field maintenance, concession sales, and providing management for the organization.

As Burnelle grew older and turned over his duties at the park to the younger generation, he never lost his love for the game and the park. He continued to support the team through his attendance and his financial support. He could always be seen coming to the game with his lovely wife Dorothy, we will never forget him giving that mild mannered smile, and saying hello just like he was very glad to see you here.

We the entire Clover Hill Bucks organization, the team, the board of directors, and the Bucks' family of friends would like to express our deepest sympathy to the Shiflet and Hill families and sincerely thank them for the dedication of their husbands and fathers to Clover Hill baseball. It was the perseverance, dedication and hard work of these two men that made Buck Bowman park what it is today.



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