

Topeka Aces, Braves and 7Uppers baseball teams, 1976-1981

Section 10, Pages 271 - 300

This bound volume, entitled Aces: 1976-1981, is one of two written by Topekan Lee Dodson documenting the activities of youth and semi-pro baseball teams that he managed from the late 1960s through 1981. Each of the teams included one or more of his three sons (Jim, Dick and Steve) as participants, whether as player, field manager, coach, or batboy. In this volume are Dodson's annual reports about the Topeka Aces (1976-79), the Topeka Pepsi-Cola Braves (1980), and the Topeka 7Uppers (1981). The 1976 and 1977 Topeka Aces teams competed in the Eastern Kansas Mickey Mantle League, and were composed of players aged 15 and 16. The 1978 and 1979 Aces played in the senior Babe Ruth division for players 16-18. Both the Topeka Pepsi-Cola Braves and the Topeka 7Uppers were semi-pro teams that were members of the Kaw Valley Semi-Pro Baseball League. Reports on the six teams include not only individual player statistics, but detailed narrative accounts of every game played by each team. The companion volume covers the period 1966-1973 (see Kansas Memory ID 309526). Throughout his adult life, Lee Dodson was a leader in Topeka's baseball community who became known as Topeka's "Mr. Baseball." A former minor league pitcher, Dodson founded and managed several leagues in Topeka, and managed and/or coached countless teams. Digital reproduction of the volume was accomplished through a joint project sponsored by the Kansas Historical Society and the Shawnee County Baseball Hall of Fame.

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nothing off Siegel other than a harmless walk to Charlie Lord over the first two innings. Meanwhile they were combing Mike Keenan badly in his two innings for five runs although a big homerun was the main force for their garnering their runs after Mike gave up some walks. In our third we plated our first run when Steve Dodson walked, went to second on a wild pitch and came around to score on Tom Escobar's RBI single. In their third they unloaded on Mike Keenan, and he was relieved by Rick Stanley, who mopped up until the fourth inning when he was replaced by Todd Rogers. Before it was all over they had scored eleven runs and we went down 11-1 as we did nothing the rest of the game.

We garnered but one hit total over the five innings off Siegel that being by Tom Escobar in the third inning. Thus we had lost a costly doubleheader and made our record 5-9 overall. Mike Keenan took the loss giving him a 0-1 record. Hit statistics were very simple - we had one hit by Tom Escobar.

GAME 15

Two days later we journeyed back to Silver Lake where we resumed the tournament that had been stopped because of a heavy rainstorm a week earlier. We drew the Silver Lake Jayhawks as our first opponents. We were 2-0 in the tournament having beaten SBL Blues by Steve Dodson's pitching and Steve Hennessey in relief against the Leavenworth Braves. This game we sent Greg Escobar to the hill to face their pitcher Coughlin. We ran into problems but overall had a good ball game. We had tough scoring in this game having but one run and getting but six hits in total off Coughlin. Meanwhile Greg was giving up eleven hits and eight runs. We lost 8-1. Silver Lake scored three in the second, three in the third and two in the seventh off Greg while we scored our only run in the first inning when Greg Murray got on via an error, was sacrificed to second by Greg Escobar and scored on John Roberts' RBI single. In the sixth we threatened when Greg Murray singled, Greg Escobar singled, John Roberts doubled but Greg was thrown out trying to score and that was our only

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real offense. The other hits were strand jobs. We had two hits by Greg Escobar, two by John Roberts, one a double, one by Ron McDonough and one by Greg Murray. That was it. It was our tenth loss against five wins and our first loss in the tournament. Greg Escobar took the loss and it made Greg 0-2.

GAME 16

Our next action was the same day in the tournament when this time we met SBL again. We sent Dan Hypse, normally an outfielder, to the hill, a right-hander to face their Randy English. Again our offenses were extremely weak. We had but seven hits in all and scored three runs, while the SBL Blues were garnering eight runs and five hits. Dan pitched reasonably good ball, but was guilty of some walks plus a number of costly errors got him into trouble. We did not score until the sixth inning when Greg Murray singled, John Roberts singled, and Jim Dodson slashed a single to right to score Greg. We scored two in the seventh on singles by Dan Dickson and Ray Glaze sandwiched around a SBL error. Thus this eliminated us from the tournament and made our record 5-11. Our seven hits were two by Dan Dickson and one each by Ray Glaze, Greg Murray, John Roberts, Jim Dodson and Steve Dodson. Dan Hypse took the loss, his first and first of any record 0-1.

GAME 17

On June 8 we resumed league play, this time at McDonald when we met the SBL Blues and we fired up Duane Dickson against their Brian Scheve, a left-hander. Duane pitched good ball and paced out six hits over the route of seven innings, striking out seven and walking three. He gave up but one run, that in the sixth inning, on three singles and a walk. Meanwhile we wasted a single by Greg Murray in our first; in our second we drew blood when Charlie Lord walked, stole second and scored on Jim Dodson's RBI single to right. In our third we scored three more when Greg Escobar singled, Ron McDonough got on via an error and John Roberts then unloaded a blast over the left field wall for three big RBI's

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to give us a 4-0 lead. Whereas Charlie Lord singled and Dan Hypse drew life on an error but we scored no more. In the fourth we scored another run when Greg Escobar got his second straight hit, a double, and Greg Murray then blasted him home with a line single to left; it was now 5-0. In our fifth we added still another when Charlie Lord singled and scored later on a RBI single by Steve Dodson to left and it was now 6-0. In their sixth they scored one and we did nothing in our sixth other than leave the bases loaded after Ron McDonough got on via an error; John Roberts singled and Charlie Lord walked and that was it. Totally we had six runs on ten hits - two each by Greg Escobar, one a double, Charlie Lord, John Roberts, one his long homerun, and Greg Murray. We had one each by Jim Dodson and Steve Dodson giving us a total of ten. It was our sixth victory against 11 losses and Duane Dickson's second victory against no losses.

Game 13

In the second game of the doubleheader on June 8 against SBL we pitched Kevin Carr, our veteran right-hander, against their John Mahler. In this game one of which we should have won but didn't we were inconsistent. Our hitting attacks suddenly stopped and when we scored, we scored in strange manners in that it took errors for us to plate the runs. Over the first two innings Kevin Carr gave up no runs while we were scoring one when Jim Dodson singled, moved to third on Steve Dodson's single and scored on Greg Escobar's one baser. But in their third they plated three big runs off Kevin when he gave up a triple, a double and a single and a walk and we were down 3-1. We did nothing in our third and fourth. In their fourth they plated four more big tallies on three costly errors and a passed ball, a wild pitch and no hits. We were suddenly down 7-1. They did nothing the rest of the game off Kevin but meanwhile we were trying to play catch-up and we got two in our sixth on an error on ground ball of Steve Dodson and Greg Escobar's four base smash over the left field wall, which made it now 7-3 and then in our seventh we went down gasping

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trying, filling the bases on walks to Jim Dodson, Dan Hypse and a two baser by Greg Murray but we couldn't score and we went down 7-3. We split the doubleheader making us 6-12 overall. Kevin Carr took the loss, making him 0-3. Our six hits, two by Greg Escobar - one his homerun, one each by Steve Dodson, Jim Dodson, Charlie Lord and Greg Murray.

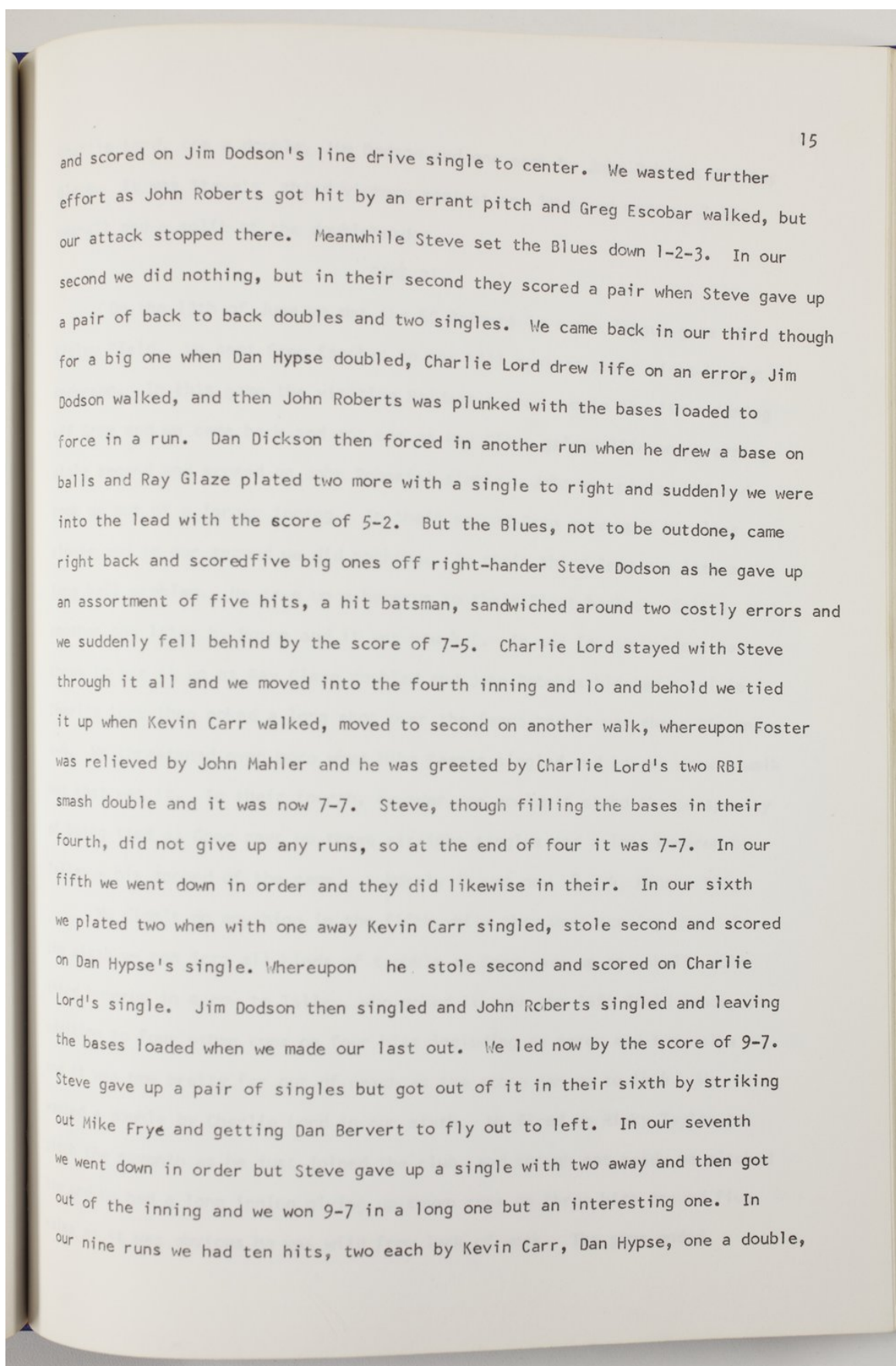
GAME 19

On June 10 we again hosted the SBL team at McDonald and pitched Jim Dodson our big left-hander, and another game we should have won but our offensive attack was virtually nonexistent. In the first inning they scored two on a single, a walk and a fielder's choice sandwiched around an error, and we got one when Ray Glaze singled, Greg Murray walked and then Ray Glaze scored on an error of Charlie Lord's ground ball. In our second we wasted a double by Greg Escobar, meanwhile they scored another run off Jim Dodson with a pair of walks and a costly error. We did nothing in our third, or fourth or fifth. Meanwhile Jim was experiencing good ball except he did give up a homerun to Larry Green, their DH, and the total at the end of five innings was 4-1, SBL. In our sixth we threatened when Ray Glaze singled but was picked off first then Greg Murray walked, John Roberts singled. That was our attack. Jim ran into no troubles in the sixth. In our seventh a walk to Greg Escobar was our only effort and we went down in a tough one 4-1. Jim pitched good ball, allowing but six scattered hits, walking four and striking out four. It was his second loss against one victory and our 13th loss against 6 victories. We had four hits in all - two by Ray Glaze and one each by John Roberts and Greg Escobar. We are losing because of a weak attack.

GAME 20

In this game, the second in a doubleheader against the SBL Blues, we sent Steve Dodson to the hill to be opposed by short left-hander Brad Foster. In the visiting half we plated one run when Kevin Carr singled, stole second

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Charlie Lord, one a double, Jim Dodson and one each by John Roberts and Ray Glaze. It was Steve's third victory against one loss and made us 7-13 overall and a split of the doubleheader.

GAME 21

On the 13th of June we met the KC Raiders in a non league game at Ripley Field. We sent Greg Escobar to the hill against their right-hander Anderson. In this game the visiting Raiders scored two in the first inning off Greg and we came back and got one as Ray Glaze gained life on an error, stole second and scored on John Roberts' single. John was picked off and took us out of a larger inning. In their second Greg gave up a harmless single and in our second we did nothing. In their third Greg ran into a long ball problem. He gave up a homerun to their first baseman, Talley, and another one later by Horne and it was now 4-1. In our fourth we came back three to tie it up as Ray Glaze doubled and John Roberts blasted a triple; Charlie Lord then poked a long shot over the fence and it was three big ones, 4-4. We threatened even more when Mike Keenan singled and Langer drew a walk but that was it. In their fourth, however, we couldn't stand the prosperity of being tied as Greg gave up three straight singles and a long homerun by Talley - his second of the game. Suddenly it was now 8 - 4, Kansas City.

We didn't do anything in the fifth while they were scoring one. In the sixth we ran into all kinds of trouble as Greg gave up an unbelievable third homerun in a row to Talley, who poked it over the left field fence, in addition to four other runs on four hits including an error and two walks and it was now pretty far out of reach as the score ran up to 14-4. We wasted a double by Charlie Lord in our sixth. We fired up Ricky Taylor to pitch the seventh as he just joined the club, and though not ready we pitched him and he had a long inning giving up seven runs on three hits around five walks as it was obvious he was wild from lack of work. The game ended

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mercifully 21-4, Kansas City, the victory an easy one for the Raiders and Greg Escobar took the loss, his fourth against no victories. It was our 14th loss against 7 wins overall.

GAME 22

In the second game of the doubleheader we pitched left-hander Todd Rogers against their right-hander, Morris, and in this game Morris along with Ezell completely shut down any attack we had as we had no hits over five innings. The game was called at the end of five due to the ten run rule. We had no hits and although we did score a run in our second inning when Ray Glaze got on via an error, went to second on a passed ball and scored later on an error of Greg Escobar's ground ball. Meanwhile Todd Rogers over 3 1/3 innings followed by Dan Hypse and Charlie Lord gave up a total of fourteen hits including another homerun by Talley who had hit three in the first game off Greg Escobar. Thus he had a productive evening. The final score was 20-1 in five innings. Totally, it made our record 7 and 15 overall and Todd Rogers took the loss making his record 0-2.

GAME 23

On June 14 we met the Topeka 7UP Reds and sent to the hill Duane Dickson to face their Larry Spreasler, a right-hander. This was one of the outstanding games of the year; a real pitching duel. At the end of seven innings it was scoreless, 0-0. Duane pitched beautiful ball, spacing out nine hits as in route over the seven while Spreasler was doing the same. In our top of the 8th things got good when Mike Keenan, leading off the inning, drew a walk. Ray Glaze ran for him and Greg Murray in laying down a bunt, gained life on an error by the pitcher and we had two men on. Greg Escobar laid down a perfect sacrifice and moved both runners over to second and third. John Roberts drew a walk and then Charlie Lord hit a ground ball that they were able to retire John Roberts at second but did not get the double play and we

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scored a run. It was 1-0 and it looked great. But in the second half of the inning, the last half of the eighth, the inning began when their lead-off hitter Bartow doubled, but then it did not look bad when Duane Dickson got the next hitter out on a popup to short and struck out the next hitter. With two away then it looked good, but their next hitter, Reynolds, singled and scored Bartow with the tying run, and then Don Yahnke unloaded a double to right center to score Reynolds and we went down suddenly 2-1 in a hard fought battle and a game in which it was a shame we could not win as Duane had pitched such excellent ball. It was our 16th loss against 7 wins and made Duane's record 2-1. We had but three hits in route over the game off two 7UP pitchers, Spreasler and Wilson Kilmer. Kilmer picked up the victory. The three hits were one each by Tommy Escobar, Charlie Lord and John Roberts.

GAME 24

In the second half of the doubleheader that same day the 14th of June we pitched Kevin Carr against their Bob Pickett and we went down this time 6-1 as Kevin pitched good enough ball to win but the hitting attack of the Pepsi team remained extremely weak. We had but three hits in this game - one by Ray Glaze, one by John Roberts and one by Greg Murray. While they garnered six runs off Kevin all in the same inning, the third inning on four hits. They had nine hits in all. Steve Hennessey pitched the last inning and gave up no runs or hits. It was a tough doubleheader and games we could have very well won if we had any kind of a hitting attack as our pitching was certainly good enough to win. This gave us a record of 7 wins and 17 losses overall and Kevin Carr's record went to no wins and four losses.

GAME 25

The season moves along and we move into game number 25 and this is at McDonald Field on June 16 where we hosted the 7UP Reds again and sent Steve Dodson to the hill again facing their right-hander Mark Taylor. This

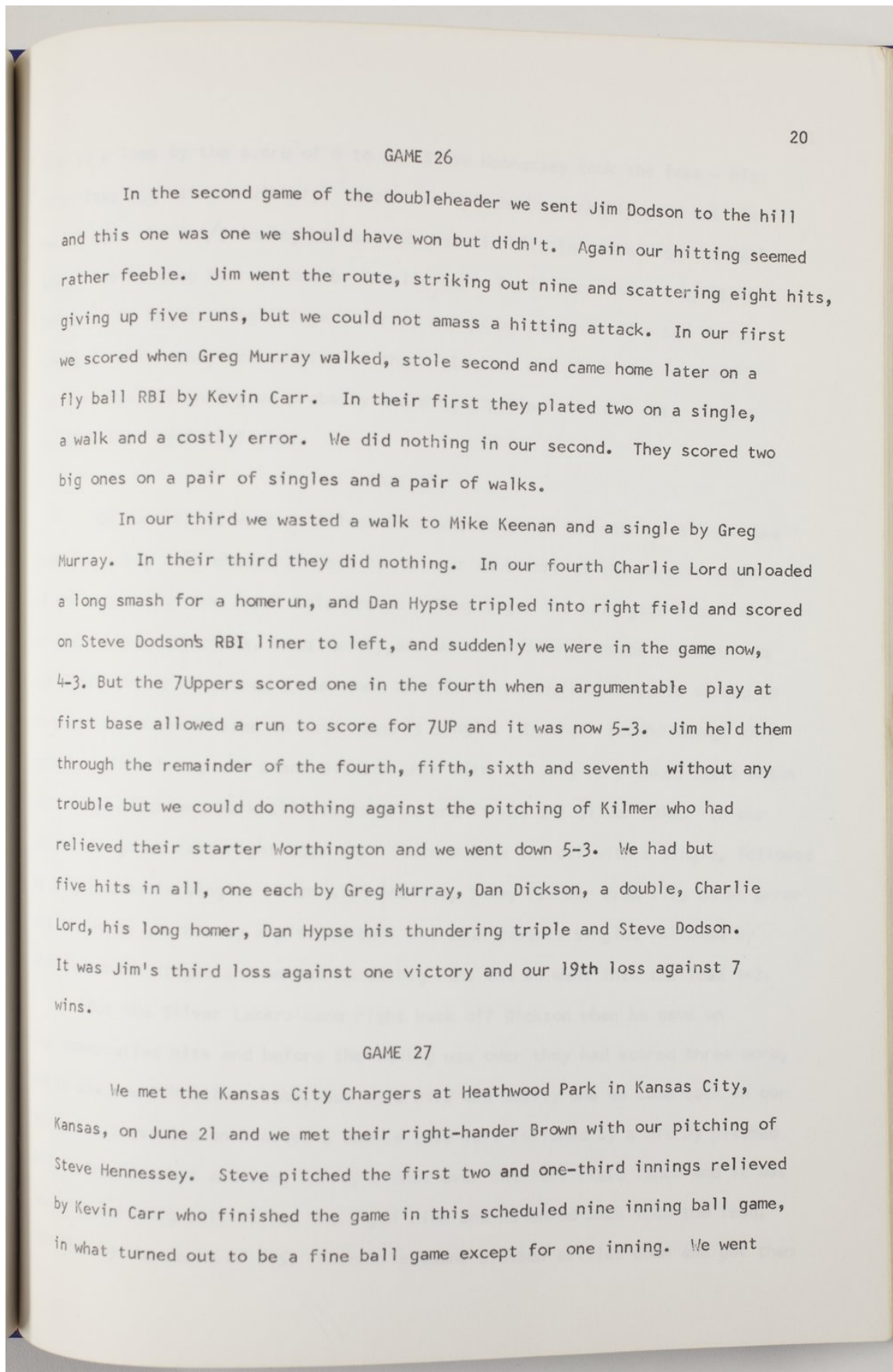
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was a long game for Steve and for our Pepsi Cola Braves as Steve ran into trouble immediately in their first giving up three runs on one hit sandwiched around a couple of big errors. In our second we wasted a double by Kevin Carr and a single by John Roberts and scored no one. Kevin really unloaded his double into deep left center. In their second they scored still another run on a double and a single and it was now 4-0. We did nothing in our second. In their third they scored three more and Steve left the game giving up three hits sandwiched around an error and a walk and it was now 7-0. Steve was relieved by Greg Escobar.

Kevin came up in the third and gave ~~us~~ a highlight when he blasted a homerun over the deep left center wall and it was now 7-1. In their fourth they made the game more ridiculous scoring three more. In our fourth we did nothing. In their fifth Greg settled down and got them out. In our fifth we scored one on an error given up to Tommy Escobar and a single by Tim Grillot and Kevin Carr having a hot night blasted a long double into right center and it was now 10-2. But in their sixth they scored another one. In our sixth we came back to score two on a single by Charlie Lord, a long triple by Greg Murray into right center and a double by Greg Escobar. In their seventh they made the game even more ridiculous when they scored four more runs, the 7Uppers, and they had 15 in all on 17 base hits. We celebrated somewhat when Kevin Carr, unbelievable at the bat, unloaded still another long prodigious smash for his fourth hit in a row all extra bases giving him a total of two homeruns and two doubles for the night, three RBI's and total bases of 12, 4-4 quite a evening. Charlie Lord also celebrated by unloading a long triple giving him two hits for the evening. We had eleven hits in all in this loss, four by Kevin Carr, two by Charlie Lord and one each by Tim Grillot, Tommy Escobar, Greg Murray, John Roberts and Ray Glaze. It was our 18th loss against 7 victories and it was Steve's second loss against three wins in the pitching column.

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GAME 26

In the second game of the doubleheader we sent Jim Dodson to the hill and this one was one we should have won but didn't. Again our hitting seemed rather feeble. Jim went the route, striking out nine and scattering eight hits, giving up five runs, but we could not amass a hitting attack. In our first we scored when Greg Murray walked, stole second and came home later on a fly ball RBI by Kevin Carr. In their first they plated two on a single, a walk and a costly error. We did nothing in our second. They scored two big ones on a pair of singles and a pair of walks.

In our third we wasted a walk to Mike Keenan and a single by Greg Murray. In their third they did nothing. In our fourth Charlie Lord unloaded a long smash for a homerun, and Dan Hypse tripled into right field and scored on Steve Dodson's RBI liner to left, and suddenly we were in the game now, 4-3. But the 7Uppers scored one in the fourth when a argumentable play at first base allowed a run to score for 7UP and it was now 5-3. Jim held them through the remainder of the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh without any trouble but we could do nothing against the pitching of Kilmer who had relieved their starter Worthington and we went down 5-3. We had but five hits in all, one each by Greg Murray, Dan Dickson, a double, Charlie Lord, his long homer, Dan Hypse his thundering triple and Steve Dodson. It was Jim's third loss against one victory and our 19th loss against 7 wins.

GAME 27

We met the Kansas City Chargers at Heathwood Park in Kansas City, Kansas, on June 21 and we met their right-hander Brown with our pitching of Steve Hennessey. Steve pitched the first two and one-third innings relieved by Kevin Carr who finished the game in this scheduled nine inning ball game, in what turned out to be a fine ball game except for one inning. We went

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down to a loss by the score of 6 to 5. Steve Hennessey took the loss - his first loss against one victory. Kevin Carr pitched remarkably good ball in relief over the 5 2/3 inning chores. We had six hits in route over the ball game. Two by Greg Murray, one by Charlie Lord, Kevin Carr and two by Steve Dodson. No outstanding things occurred except we encountered a bad third inning in which they scored five of their six runs and if it had not been for that one bad inning we probably would have pulled this one out. It was our 20th loss against 7 wins.

GAME 28

On June 27 we went to Silver Lake where we met the vaunted Silver Lake team for a big doubleheader. This turned out to be one of the happier nights of the season for our Pepsi Cola Braves. They began the ball game with one of their leader pitchers, Greg Marney, and we answered with Duane Dickson. In our first inning we scored a run when John Roberts singled, moved to second on an error and scored later on Kevin Carr's single. In their second though they came back in a hurry off Duane Dickson when with two away he plunked Steve Anson with a bad pitch and Mark Elliott homered and it was 2-1 Silver Lake. In our second though we came right back when Steve Dodson led off with a single, followed by Greg Escobar's single. Then with one away Tommy Escobar drew life on an error and Dan Hypse got hit by a pitched ball and John Roberts singled followed by Charlie Lord's single and we had three big runs and we went into the lead 4-2.

But the Silver Lakers came right back off Dickson when he gave up four consecutive hits and before the inning was over they had scored three more, and it was now 5-4 Silver Lake, but in a wild and woolly one we came back in our third when Steve Dodson blasted a double into left followed by a hit by pitched ball to Greg Escobar and Greg Murray's shot over the left field fence and it was now three more big tallies for the Pepsi nine and we moved back into the lead, this time by the score of 7-5. Meanwhile Duane Dickson settled down and got them

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out 1-2-3. In our fourth we added to our lead by making it eight when with one away Charlie Lord unloaded a homerun into left field, a blast, and Dan Dickson singled but we couldn't score him. In their fourth they went down in order. In our fifth, enjoying the lead of 8-5, we added another run when Greg Escobar blasted a homerun over the fence in left field and we filled the bases on three singles but couldn't score. Marney was relieved by Siegel. So we now led by the score of 9-5. But in their fifth we ran into big problems as Duane lost it all and had to be relieved by Steve Hennessey, after Duane gave up a homerun, a single, a walk, a single and a single and before the inning ended they had tied up the old ball game 9-9. In our sixth with one away Dan Dickson singled, whereupon Steve Dodson unloaded his third straight hit, this time another double down the left field line and we moved into the lead 10-9. Steve then was plated by Greg Escobar's RBI single and it was 11-9. Steve Hennessey set down the Silver Lakers 1-2-3. In our seventh we had a walk given up to John Roberts but he could not score. In their seventh then with our lead over the league leading team 11-9 Steve Hennessey proceeded to set down the opponents 1-2-3. We won this big game 11-9 and it was a thriller, and such a victory for us against the Silver Lakers. It was our eighth win against twenty losses. We had 17 hits total in amassing our seven runs. Steve Hennessey took the victory; it was his second win against one loss. Our seventeen hits were divided among the following: one by Dan Hypse, three by John Roberts, two by Charlie Lord, one a homerun, one by Kevin Carr, two by Dan Dickson, three by Steve Dodson, two of them doubles, three by Greg Escobar, one of them a homerun, two by Greg Murray, one of them a homerun. Ahhh, sweet victory! It tastes delicious!

GAME 29

doubleheader against

We moved into the second half of the/Silver Lakers who by now were a slight bit peeved by it all. We sent our big fireballing left-hander Jim Dodson to the hill and he responded by throwing bullets. In our first inning we opened

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with a single by Charlie Lord, a walk to Dan Hypse and a double by John Roberts and we plated a run leaving two men on. Meanwhile Jim set down the opponents by striking out the side. In our second inning we scored three more big ones when with one away, Greg Murray walked, Tom Escobar drew life on an error and Dan Hypse proceeded to blast a homerun over the right field fence and three runs scored. John Roberts single went for naught as he was stranded, but it was 4-0. Meanwhile Jim Dodson was firing the ball past the Silver Lakers 1-2-3 and experienced no problems. In our third we added more problems to the already growing troubles of the Silver Lakers when Steve Dodson singled, moved to second on a stolen base and scored on an error of Greg Escobar's grounder and Tommy Escobar's single. We now led 5-0. Jim set them down again 1-2-3 in their third. In our fourth we wasted a single by John Roberts and a double by Charlie Lord. In their fourth Jim ran into the only trouble he experienced all evening when four big Silver Lake runs crossed the plate. Leading 5-0 the following happened. Jim ran into a wild spell. He walked the first two, struck out the next two, walked the next one to fill the bases whereupon Warner unloaded a homerun and it was now 5-4 but our boys were up too high to drop this one. Though going down in the fifth, Jim set them down in their fifth. In our sixth we got the padding we needed when Tommy Escobar drew life on an error, Dan Hypse walked and with two away Kevin Carr blasted a triple down the right field line and Steve Dodson plated Kevin with a liner, his second hit of the game and fifth for the night, and it was now 8-4. Just what we needed. Jim, though wild, in the sixth got them out. In our seventh we did nothing. Jim still becoming more progressively wild started the inning off by getting two and walking two. Steve Hennessey came in and got their Warner to groundout and we got this, the second game of the doubleheader, by the score of 8-5 and gave us a glorious doubleheader victory over the league leaders. Gave us 9 and 20 overall. Jim Dodson took the victory, his second against two losses. We

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had ten hits in all: three by John Roberts, giving him a total of six hits out of eight times at bat, one by Dan Hypse, his prodigious homerun, two by Charlie Lord, giving Charlie four hits for the night, Kevin Carr's important triple, Steve Dodson's two hits giving him five hits for the night, Tommy Escobar one hit. It was a wonderful doubleheader that will long be cherished by our Pepsi Braves.

GAME 30

We then moved on June 26 to Olathe where we met the Kansas City Raiders in a doubleheader and we sent Kevin Carr to the hill against their Fosburgh. We ran into trouble in this one although Kevin pitched reasonably good ball until the fourth inning. In our first inning we wasted a single by Dan Hypse as we could not score him. Kevin set them down in their first. In our second we did nothing nor did they. In our third we did score a run when Mike Keenan got a double and scored later on Greg Murray's single. But in their third they scored three big ones on three hits. In our fourth we did nothing and in their fourth they unloaded and scored six runs on five hits and Kevin was relieved by Steve Hennessey who mopped up. We did very little though in the remainder although in the fifth we did get a single by Mike Keenan and a RBI single by Dan Hypse. The game finally ended with the score of 9 to 2. Kevin took his fifth loss against no victories and we took our 21st loss against 9 victories. Our hits were garnered as follows: two by Dan Hypse and two by Mike Keenan, one a double, and each by Steve Dodson, Charlie Lord and Greg Murray.

GAME 31

In the second game of the doubleheader we sent Duane Dickson to the hill and in another game of superb pitching efforts on the part of Anderson, this time the K.C. Raiders, we got absolutely no hits as Anderson pitched the full seven inning round shutting us down completely. Meanwhile they

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were raking over our pitching of Duane Dickson and Kevin Carr to the point of ten hits and a total of nine runs. We lost 9-0. Duane Dickson took the loss, his second, for a total of 2-2. Obviously with no hits we had no hitters and made our overall record 9 wins and 22 losses.

GAME 32

We left there only to return on the 28th of June to play the Olathe pirates in another doubleheader. We fired up Charlie Lord, our right-hander, normally our manager-outfielder, to face their Wessel. Charlie pitched acceptable ball in this game as he spaced out ten hits in going the route, walking none and striking out five. Meanwhile we were gaining twelve hits but only four runs while they were amassing a total of six runs and we lost 6-4 in a good ball game.

In our first we scored one on a pair of back to back doubles to John Roberts and Charlie Lord while Charlie was experiencing no problems over the first four innings. We added another run in the second on a double by Rick Taylor and a single by Dan Dickson. In our third we added still another on a single by John Roberts who moved to second on a passed ball and was plated by Charlie Lord's RBI single, his second hit of the game. Winning 3-0 now, after we scored one in each of the first three innings. In their fifth they broke the ice and scored two on a single and a triple and another single. We wasted a single by John Roberts, his third straight hit in the fifth. In our sixth we did nothing. In their sixth they did nothing and so at the end of six we were leading 3-2.

In our seventh we did nothing, but in their seventh they came up with four big runs when Charlie gave up three hits, an error and another hit and we now trailed by the score of 6-3. In the scheduled nine inning game we went into the eighth and scored one run when Kevin Carr gained life on an error and scored after Greg Murray had singled on Rick Taylor's grounder

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which was misplayed. It was now 6-4. Charlie settled down and set them down in order in their eighth. But in our ninth we went down in order and we lost this relatively good game 6-4. We had twelve hits in all: three each by John Roberts and Charlie Lord, and Greg Murray; two by Rick Taylor and one by Duane Dickson giving us the honors of outhitting them 12-10 but taking the loss. It was Charlie's first loss against no victories, and it gave us an overall record now of 9 to 23.

GAME 33

We moved to game number 33 at McDonald Field where we played the SBL Blues and fired up our big left-hander Jim Dodson. Again another time in which we should have won but didn't as Jim was guilty of wildness, walking ten over the route, but giving up but nine scattered hits through the nine innings; even then a pair of costly errors lost the ball game for us in crucial stages. Jim gave up no runs in the first though he gave up a walk and a single. In our first we did nothing though we wasted a single by John Roberts. They did nothing in their second though Jim walked three. In our second we wasted two singles by Kevin Carr and Dan Dickson. In their third no problems experienced by Jim against the Blues. In our third we did nothing. In their fourth they broke ice when they scored after Jim gave up a single and a walk and a pair of errors. We had alarmingly enough six big errors in this game. Two more Blues runs came across in the fifth on two hits and an error. Meanwhile we were doing nothing off English over the first eight innings. In the ninth, however, we unloaded on him as we scored three runs on four hits and had the bases loaded; he was relieved. We finally went down by the score of six to three. It was our 24th loss against 9 victories and it was Jim's fourth loss against two wins. We had nine hits in all: two by John Roberts, three by Kevin Carr, who enjoyed a big evening, two by Dan Dickson and one each by Greg Murray and Rick Taylor.

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GAME 34

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We move into the next game at McDonald against Silver Lake and we sent Duane Dickson to the hill. They countered with Alan Edwards, a right-hander. As the visitors they did nothing in their first, but we came back and scored in our first two runs on three hits as Dan Hypse doubled, John Roberts drew life on an error of their third baseman; Kevin Carr walked. Larry Greene, who had just joined our team, singled and Dan Dickson drew life on a fielder's choice and we led 2-0. But they came back quickly, scoring two in their second and it was on a pair of hits. In our second inning we scored two more and took the lead when Greg Escobar singled, Dan Hypse singled and Charlie Lord unloaded a two-baser. In their third, however, they scored two more on three hits only to be reacted to by us with three more runs on three hits. This time a single by Dan Dickson, a single by Steve Dodson, and Greg Escobar's four base smash over the left field fence. But the Silver Lakers came back and scored another in their fourth, whereupon we relieved Dickson with Steve Hennessey. In our fourth we added another when Charlie Lord enjoyed his second consecutive double and Kevin Carr unloaded still another double. At the end of four innings the score was now 9-5 in favor of the Pepsi Cola Braves, but we could not hold them as in the fifth they got a run which made it 9-6. We suddenly shut down and did nothing on the relief of Alan Edwards by Dave Ireland. Meanwhile in their seventh in a scheduled nine inning game they scored four big runs in the following fashion: an error, a single, a hit batsman, still another hit batsman, a walk, a single and a double. Before it was over Silver Lake had forged into the lead by the score of 10-9. They added three more in their eighth inning off Kevin Carr and we went down to a high score defeat, 13-9. Steve Hennessey took the loss, his second against two victories; it was our 25th loss against 9 victories. We had twelve hits in all, two each by Greg Escobar, one his homerun, Charlie Lord, two doubles, and Dan Hypse, one a double; and one each by John Roberts, Kevin Carr, Larry Greene, Tommy Escobar, Dan Dickson, and Steve Dodson.

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GAME 35

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On July 4 we move to McDonald Field again to host the visiting Overland Park Lowell Lions. In a team known to be relatively weak we sent Todd Rogers, our left-hander, to the hill and he responded by spacing out three hits over a five inning route, allowing no runs. Meanwhile we were amassing twelve runs on ten hits to the obvious delight of our hitters. In the first we scored six runs off two hits sandwiched around a series of walks. One of the highlights was John Roberts' four base smash and Steve Dodson's line drive single with the bases loaded. We did nothing in our second though we did have a single wasted by Larry Greene. In our third we plated two more on two errors and a double by Tommy Escobar and finally in our fourth we plated four more when a walk was given up to Charlie Lord, an error on Larry Greene's grounder, Steve Dodson's single, Tom Langer's single, Tim Grillot's single and Tommy Escobar's single. The game ended with a score of 12-0. Todd Rogers took the victory, his first win against one loss. It gave us an overall record of 10-25. Our ten hits were divided among the following: Tommy Escobar had two, one a double, one by Dan Hypse, one by John Roberts, that being a homerun, one by Larry Greene, two by Steve Dodson, one by Tom Langer and two by Tim Grillot.

GAME 36

In the second game of the doubleheader we sent Rick Taylor, right-hander, against their Tomlinson. In another short game, five innings due to the ten run rule, this time we blasted out 11 hits scoring 15 runs while Ricky Taylor was earning his first victory of the year against no losses, spacing out four hits over five innings. We scored four runs in the first, six in second, five in the third and one in the fourth. We had eleven hits - one by Greg Murray, three by Steve Hennessey, three straight singles, one by John Roberts, one by Charlie Lord, a two baser, one by Steve Dodson, one by Mike Keenan, one by Tom Langer, one by Tim Grillot and one by Tommy Escobar. It was our 11th victory against 25 losses.



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GAME 37

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We then visited 7UP on July 5 at McDonald Field, and we sent big Jim Dodson to the hill and in a long tough game lost by the score of 9-8. We opened in our first with four runs off their Bob Barnard, left-hander, when Dan Hypse walked, John Roberts doubled, Charlie Lord singled, Kevin Carr walked, Larry Greene drew life on a walk, Dan Dickson singled, Ricky Taylor walked, and we were suddenly into a quick commanding lead. Meanwhile, Jim was experiencing very little difficulty over the first five innings giving up but two spaced out hits. We added two more runs in the fourth inning on an error on Greg Murray's grounder, walks to Dan Hypse and John Roberts, and a single by Charlie Lord, but then at the end of five innings the score was 7UP 0 and Pepsi Braves 6. In their sixth they came back and got their first runs off two costly errors at third base, back to back, plus a single. It was now at the end of six, 6-2. In the seventh we wasted singles by Dan Dickson and Steve Dodson. In their seventh the bottom dropped out. Three straight hits and then with two away a pair of costly errors, one at first and one at right field allowed two more runs to cross, and Steve Hennessey entered in relief. Two more runs were plated and before it was over six big 7UP runs had crossed the plate in the seventh and it was now 8-6. We did nothing in our eighth, and they added an insurance run making it 9-6. We came up in the ninth and scared them when Kevin Carr walked, Larry Greene singled and then with two away Rick Taylor doubled, driving in both runs making it 9-8, but we stranded them there and lost 9-8. Jim Dodson took the loss making him two and five, and it was our 26th loss against 11 victories. We had eleven hits in total: three by John Roberts, two of them doubles, two by Charlie Lord, three by Dan Dickson, one by Larry Greene, one by Steve Dodson and Tommy Escobar stroked one.

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GAME 38

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Then on July 6 we fired up Kevin Carr against SBL Blues in a beautifully pitched game by Kevin, a two-hitter, allowing no earned runs, yet we went down ingloriously by the score of 3-2. As the visitors, in the first we did nothing, nor did they. In the second we did nothing but they got one in theirs. In our third we tied it on a single by Greg Murray who scored later on John Roberts' RBI single. In their third though, they scored two in the following fashion: with one away they got on with a single, then an error on our first baseman followed by a costly error on the shortstop and before it was over two runs had scored giving them a total of three, and we trailed 3-1. In our second we came back and got one when Greg Escobar doubled and scored on Steve Dodson's single, but we left him stranded, now 3-2. Steve Dodson was thrown out of the game by the umpire at this point after a play at second base in which he was in dispute with the SBL second baseman. We could do no further damage and went down 3-2 in a tough one for Kevin to lose as he pitched beautiful ball. It was his sixth loss against no victories; our 27th loss against 11 victories. We had five hits in all - two by Greg Murray, and one each by Steve Dodson, Greg Escobar, that being a double, and John Roberts, a single.

GAME 39

In the second game of the doubleheader against SBL we pitched Ricky Stanley against their Mahler and this time there was little doubt that our hitting attack was woefully short as we scored but one run on two hits over the route. We scored that one run in our fifth inning on a walk to Greg Escobar; he moved to second on an error, and scored later on still another error. Meanwhile Ricky Stanley pitched reasonably well up through until the sixth inning, at which time he gave up three straight hits and a hit batsman and he was relieved by Duane Dickson. We had but two hits, one by Charlie Lord and one by Dan Dickson and it was a tough night for us all the way. Greg Escobar was thrown

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out of the game for an argument that ensued as a result of an interference play and we seemingly had difficulties with umpires all evening. Umpires were Drolett and Harmon. It was Rick Stanley's second loss against no victories. Our 28th loss against 11 victories.

GAME 40

We move to Ripley Field, a doubleheader, with the Olathe Pirates. We pitched Todd Rogers and he went the first four innings, giving up no runs on two hits and pitching well. He was relieved at the end of four by Ricky Taylor who then proceeded to pitch the fifth and sixth and experiencing no difficulties while our Braves were amassing but one run ourselves, but on five hits and as we moved into the seventh inning we led by the score of 1-0. Whereupon Rick ran into trouble where he gave up three straight walks, an error, still another walk and an error and then a two base smash with three RBI's and the bottom dropped out as six Olathe Pirate runs crossed the plate and we now trailed by the score of 6-1 having led all the way. We threatened in our seventh when Dan Hypse walked and Tim Grillot doubled followed by Greg Murray's double. It was now 6-3 and we could do no more damage and we lost 6-3. Rick Taylor took the loss, his first loss against one victory. We had seven hits in all - one each by Greg Murray, a double, Charlie Lord, a double, John Roberts, Larry Greene, Rick Taylor and two by Tim Grillot. It was our 29th loss against 11 victories. This game was played on July 11.

GAME 41

In the second game of the doubleheader we sent Dan Dickson to the hill who responded by striking out nine, giving up but two hits over the five innings and we won going away as we scored eight runs on twelve hits as Dan was sparing out his but two hits to the Olathe nine. In amassing our runs, we scored one in first, one in the second, four in the third, three in the fourth and three in the fifth. The game was called at the end of five because of the ten

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run rule. We had two hits by Greg Murray, one a triple, three by Greg Escobar, two of them doubles, two by Charlie Lord, one a double, one by John Roberts, one by Kevin Carr, one by Tommy Escobar, two by Steve Dodson, one a double, in what was a good hitting evening for our Pepsi Braves. It gave us our 12th victory against 29 wins and it was Dan Dickson's third victory against two losses.

GAME 42

On July 12 we moved back to McDonald Field where we hosted the 7UP Reds, and we sent Jim Dodson to the hill again. This was a beaut of a game - one nine inning game. The 7UPpers sent right-hander Spressler to the hill. In our first inning we went down in order. In their first Jim gave up a single, but that was it. In our second we plated two runs when John Roberts blasted another homerun over the left field wall, Steve Dodson singled and later scored after Dan Hypse had walked on Tommy Escobar's single and Rick Taylor drove in Steve Dodson. It was 2-0. Jim Dodson had no trouble in the second or third, setting them down in order. We did nothing in our third. In our fourth we wasted a single by Steve Dodson. In their fourth they went down in order without any trouble though Jim gave up a pair of walks. Leading 2-0 then in the fifth we scored two more on four hits. Greg Murray singled, Greg Escobar singled, Charlie Lord singled and John Roberts singled, two RBI singles and it was now 4-0. Jim gave up a hit, a single, but no runs though walked two in their fifth and it was now 4-0. In our sixth we had a walk issued to Tommy Escobar and also Rick Taylor, but could not score. In their sixth they scored two runs when with one away Speake got on via an error followed by still another error on Colbert's grounder to short and suddenly we were in trouble. A flyball plated one run and a single another run and it was now 4-2, at the end of six. In our seventh we had a walk issued to Greg Escobar and a double by Charlie Lord but could not score even with but one out. In their seventh Jim Dodson gave up a walk but set them

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down in order after that. In our eighth we wasted a single by Tommy Escobar, leaving him stranded. In their eighth Jim struck out all three and as we moved into the ninth it was touch and go, 4-2. In our ninth we did nothing. In their half, Jim proceeded to give up a walk and then an error scared us but he set the next two hitters down and we won going away 4-2 over the powerful 7Uppers, and Jim won his third victory against five losses and it was our 13th victory against 29 losses. It was a big victory as we had not experienced much success against 7UP. For Jim he struck out six in route over the nine innings while walking three and issuing but three hits. We had eleven hits in all off the combined pitching of Spressler and Mark Taylor. The hits were as follows: one by Greg Murray, one by Greg Escobar, two by Charlie Lord, one of them a double, two by John Roberts, one of them a big homerun, two by Steve Dodson, two by Tommy Escobar and one by Rick Taylor.

GAME 43

On July 13th we met the Silver Lake Jayhawks at Silver Lake in a single game and we pitched Rick Stanley. Rick ran into trouble in a hurry in the first inning. This was to be his last outing of the year, and he gave up four runs on five hits and was relieved quickly by left-hander Steve Hennessey, and Steve then struggled through the next two innings into the fourth inning whereupon he was relieved by Mike Keenan. Mike gave up a double and a homerun and he was relieved by Todd Rogers who worked his way through until the sixth when he was relieved by Rick Taylor. All total-pitchers Stanley, Hennessey, Keenan, Rogers and Taylor, who was finally relieved by Charles Lord, gave up a total of 17 runs over six innings on 17 base hits. It was a long night for us, needless to say. We had but one hit off Alan Edwards, the right-hander for Silver Lake, that being Greg Murray's single in the third inning. It was Ricky Stanley's third loss against no victories, and we suffered our 30th loss against 13 victories against the Silver Lakers.

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GAME 44

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On July 14 we met the SBL Blues at McDonald and we sent Kevin Carr to the hill to face their right-hander Perez. This was a long one for us, but a victorious one, as we won in a long hard fought game by the score of 11 to 8. In the first inning we scored no runs though we had a hit by Rick Taylor. Meanwhile they scored three in their first. In our second we did nothing nor did they. In their third they scored three more and we scored nothing. At the end of three we were trailing 6 to 0 in what looked like a long, dismal evening.

In our fourth we came to life a little as we scored one on Steve Dodson's double followed by a single by Tommy Escobar; it was now 6-1. Meanwhile Kevin settled down and set them down in their fourth. In our fifth we plated four big tallies in the following manner. Jim Dodson drew life on an error; Greg Murray walked and Rick Taylor singled whereupon Greg Escobar walked. Then Steve Dodson unloaded his second double to deep left, scoring two more; Tommy Escobar walked and before it was over we had four runs and were back in the ball game trailing 6-5. In their fifth they did nothing off Kevin. In our sixth we really unloaded and went into a lead that counted as with one away Greg Murray drew life on an error, Rick Taylor walked, Greg Escobar walked, Larry Greene walked, Steve Dodson walked, Tommy Escobar walked followed by a walk given to Dan Hypse. Six straight walks and three different SBL pitchers. Before it was over we had the five runs and a commanding 10-6 lead. In their sixth they scored one but didn't hurt us much. In our seventh we wasted three singles by Greg Murray, Greg Escobar and Larry Greene. In their seventh nothing happened. In the eighth we scored an insurance run when Tommy Escobar singled and he scored later on a single by Jim Dodson. Now 11-7. In the eighth they scored one making it 11-8. In our ninth we did nothing, but in their ninth Kevin set them down and happily to say Kevin won his first victory of the year, making him 1 and 6 as we won this one 11-8, our 14th victory against

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30 losses. We had 11 hits in all, two each by Greg Murray, Rick Taylor, Steve Dodson, a pair of doubles, Tommy Escobar; one each by Jim Dodson, Larry Greene and Greg Escobar.

GAME 45

On the 18th of July we hosted the Kansas City Raiders in one nine inning game in a wild melee that turned out to be a laugh as their Anderson pitcher who had no hits against us the last time faced us though we greeted him with hits this time; three runs the first inning on a walk to Greg Murray, a single by Charlie Lord and a homerun by John Roberts. We continued to peck away on an assortment of greater pitchers, but in the final went down to defeat as Ricky Stanley, who had the honor of pitching against them, went down to his fourth consecutive loss against no wins for the season. The final score ended up being 19-3 in favor of the Raiders. We had nine hits in all in amassing our three runs; two by John Roberts, one his homerun, two by Steve Dodson and one each by Dan Hypse, Larry Greene, Tommy Escobar, Charlie Lord and Tom Langer. It was our 31st loss against 14 wins.

GAME 46

We went to Hutchinson on the 19th of July to begin the state tournament. In perhaps one of the most unbelievable and interesting ball games that I have had the honor of witnessing, facing the Wichita Pilots. The weather was unbelievable; it was about 108 to 109 degrees throughout the afternoon, windy and the middle of a Saturday afternoon. We started as our pitcher, right-hander Kevin Carr against their right-hander by the name of Curless. As the visitors Kevin set them down in order. In our first inning we started quickly when Greg Escobar drew a walk, Charlie Lord singled and John Roberts walked; Steve Dodson popped a double into right to score two runs and we were 2 to 0. In their second they came back and got one on three hits; we did nothing in our second. But in our third we scored four big ones when Greg Murray singled, Greg Escobar singled, Charlie Lord drew life on a fielder's choice and John Roberts was hit by a pitched

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ball. Steve Dodson then hit a flyball, scoring a run on a sacrificed fly and Tommy Escobar drew life on an error, whereupon Dan Dickson doubled and we were now leading 6-1. In their third they did nothing. In our fourth we scored still another run when Dan Hypse homered over the right field scoreboard, we wasted a double by Greg Escobar and a walk to Charlie Lord and John Roberts. In their fourth they scored one on a walk followed by a single and still another walk and a groundout. In their fifth they scored two on three hits and Kevin Carr was relieved by Duane Dickson. In our fifth we did nothing though we had a single by Tommy Escobar. In their sixth they plated four more big runs when our pitchers gave up four hits sandwiched ^{around} a couple of walks so now going into the bottom of the sixth the score was 8-7 in favor of the Pilots. In the bottom of the sixth though we scored four big tallies as Greg Murray walked, Greg Escobar drew life on an error, Charlie Lord singled, John Roberts blasted a long homerun and that made it four tallies and gave us a lead of 11-8. In their seventh with Steve Hennessey on the mound they scored five more tallies on a bunch of hits and errors and now it was 12-11 their favor. We came back in the seventh and scored five ourselves as Dan Hypse drew a walk, Greg Murray singled, Greg Escobar got life on a fielder's choice, Charlie Lord blasted a double, John Roberts singled, Steve Dodson singled and Tommy Escobar singled followed by Dan Dickson's double and when the smoke had cleared at the end of seven, we had scored five runs and we had a lead again of 16 to 13. In their eighth they scored three more to tie up the ball game on a pair of singles and a homerun and it was 16-16, unbelievably. But we came back in the bottom of the eighth and scored three more in the following fashion: Dan Hypse singled, Greg Murray walked, a sacrifice to Greg Escobar, a single by Charlie Lord, a single by John Roberts, and another single by Steve Dodson followed by still another single by Tommy Escobar. We scored three runs, and we now led 19 to 16. In the ninth we sent Charlie back who had relieved in the eighth. Charlie experienced some pain

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in that one run scored as a result of an error and along with a walk and a hit. We finally won the thing 19-17 and a game that lasted a little over four hours in length. Charlie Lord got the win - his first against one loss and it was our first victory in the tournament and 15th victory overall against 31 losses. We amassed 21 hits in all divided as follows: four by Charlie Lord; three each by John Roberts, Steve Dodson, Tommy Escobar; two each by Dan Hypse, Greg Murray, Greg Escobar; one each by Dan Dickson and Rick Taylor. It was an unbelievable ball game and a group of very tired but happy ball players at the end of the game.

GAME 47

Our next ball game was against the home hosting team of the tournament, the Hutchinson Broncs, on the evening of July 21 at which time we had driven many miles having failed to play them at the originally designated time on Sunday due a rainstorm, we had to journey back on Tuesday the 21 to meet them. We had a group of tired players facing their fresh team who had not played any in the tournament at that point, and did no traveling. Jim Dodson, our big fireballing left-hander, was given the chores of pitching and they tallied with a right-hander by the name of Kamper. Over the first four innings we had an outstanding pitching duel of Jim setting them down in unbelievable fashion, giving up but one hit. In our fifth we went down again in order but in their fifth they scored three runs in the following fashion: a walk, an out followed by a walk and then with two away a ball that was struck in an unusual fashion after having been struck out but an umpire at homeplate that was giving us nothing refused to call a strike, whereupon the hitter hit a ball - he was a right-hand hitter - that landed on the right field foul line for a base hit giving them a commanding 3-0 lead. We had wasted three singles by John Roberts, Tommy Escobar and Dan Hypse in our fifth as didn't score them. In our sixth Jim ran into more problems, still trailing 3-0, as ball after ball was called

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that seemed to be in the strike zone to everyone in the ball park except the umpire. Jim, confronted with such umpiring, was worn by the umpire and he proceeded to throw the ball out of the ball park over the grandstand and he was removed from the ball game, and Steve Hennessey relieved. We ended up losing the ball game by the score of 7-1 as we scored our one run in the ninth inning on a single by Steve Dodson, a single by Dan Hypse and a single by Rick Taylor. We had ten hits in all and they had four off the combined efforts of Jim Dodson and Steve Hennessey. It was Jim's sixth loss against three victories. In our ten hits we had three by Dan Hypse, one a double, and two by Rick Taylor and one each by Greg Escobar, Charlie Lord, John Roberts, Steve Dodson and Tommy Escobar. It was our 32nd loss against 15 victories and made our tournament record 1-1.

GAME 48

We journeyed back to Hutchinson on the 22nd of July where we met our old Topeka enemy the Security Benefit Life Blues and in an excellent ball game. We sent Duane Dickson to the hill to face their Dave Lord, a right-hander. In our visiting half of the first inning we wasted a single by Greg Murray and they did nothing in their first. In our second we did nothing nor did they. In our third Rick Taylor walked, Greg Murray singled, Greg Escobar singled and Charlie Lord scored two of them by singling and it was 2-0 Pepsi. In their third they did nothing. In our fourth we did likewise. In their fourth only an error marred a 1-2-3 inning. In our fifth we wasted a single by Dan Dickson. In their fifth they did nothing. In our sixth we went down in order. In their sixth they had a double followed by still another double but an outfield throw from centerfielder Charlie Lord to third cut down the run and no run ensued. We continued to lead by the score of 2 to 0 at the end of six. In our seventh we went down in order. In their seventh they did nothing.

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In our eighth we threatened by a single of Greg Murray and a single by John Roberts but we could not score. In their eighth, trailing 2-0, the following happened. Mike Frye hit a fly ball to right field that Charlie Lord, our veteran centerfielder, went in to get - it was a low liner. He fell, landing on his wrist area of his arm, breaking his arm, and he was removed from the ball game. More trouble then ensued as Dickson gave up a walk and we sent in Kevin Carr and Hannegan proceeded to slap a base hit to score Frye and then an error placed Hannehan in scoring position and he tagged up and scored later making the game 2 to 2 at the end of eight. In our ninth we wasted a single.

Kevin Carr had relieved back in the eighth inning, gave up a walk to lead off the inning in the ninth to Peavler. Then a fielder's choice moved him to second base, a costly error by our second baseman moved him to third, and then Mike Frey proceeded to unload a long blast flyball to centerfield which was long enough and deep enough to score the tagging up runner at third. Dan Hypse who had moved to centerfield for the injured Charlie Lord caught the ball and fired it home in what seemed to be an impossible situation to get the running Peavler. As the ball came in, first baseman Dodson elected to let the ball go through as it was low and when it hit the infield it skidded and stayed on the ground, level with the ground, into the hands of catcher Dickson simultaneously with the slidding Peavler, and the umpire called him out in a spectacular play and the moment was saved. The next hitter then grounded out and at the end of nine the score remained 2 - 2. Neither team did anything in the tenth. In the eleventh the following occurred. With two away Steve Dodson singled to right, Tommy Escobar then walked, and Dan Hypse was hit by a pitched ball filling the bases. Rick Taylor then came up and under pressure slapped a single through the middle to score two big runs - Steve Dodson and Tommy Escobar, and we moved into the lead on the base hit by the score of 4 - 2. Dan Dickson's ground ball was misplayed

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and we scored still another run making it 5-2; whereupon in the bottom of the 11th Kevin Carr set them down in order, and we won a thriller in eleven innings 5-2 eliminating the SBL Blues from the tournament. This gave us our second victory and Kevin Carr his second win over six losses overall. It was our 16th victory against 32 losses, totally. We had ten hits in all in the game: three by Greg Murray and one each by Greg Escobar, Charlie Lord, John Roberts, Steve Dodson, Tommy Escobar, Rick Taylor and Dan Dickson. It was a great victory, though saddened because of the loss of Charlie Lord for the rest of the year because of his broken arm. Dave Lord pitched very well against us in defeat.

GAME 49

Our next game was back in Hutchinson on July 23 giving us many, many hours of driving back and forth in intense heat. We met the Wellington Dukes and with a team patched by fill-in players as many of our players could not make it to the tournament, we went down in a lopsided game by a score of 21-3. Suffice it to say that the losing pitcher was Steve Hennessey, and we had four hits in all: one each by Tommy Escobar, Tom Langer, John Roberts and Greg Escobar. The game was not worthy of describing in detail other than to say the Wellington team had a field day against our pitching of Hennessey, Carr, Greg Escobar, Taylor, Rogers and Hypse. With the loss of Charlie and a weakened lineup, we had no chance from the onset. This gave us our 33rd loss against 16 victories. It was Steve Hennessey who took the loss making his record two wins/three losses.

GAME 50

Our next games were on July 27, a doubleheader, at Ripley Park, versus the Leavenworth Braves and we hosted them. This turned out to be our last activity for the year as our players were being faced with departing for college and football, injuries and some players not coming to the games.