

# IronBirds drop three of five



Field umpire calls first baseman T.J. Baxter safe at third after he rounds the bases to stretch his hit into a triple during Sunday night's Aberdeen victory over the Hudson Valley Renegades.

NICOLE MUNCHEL | AEGIS STAFF

## As season's midpoint nears, Aberdeen slips below .500

BY DEWEY FOX  
dfox@theaegis.com

In their last week's worth of games, the Aberdeen IronBirds dropped three of five games, knocking their record to 15-18 on the season and placing them tied for last in the New York-Penn League's McNamara Division.

Aberdeen's Monday-night home game with the Hudson Valley Renegades saw the host team battle to within two runs of its guests in the final frame, but ultimately fall short, losing 7-5.

Aberdeen's Nick Haughian, making his first professional start, got through the first inning without incident, but in the top second frame, with two men on, was tagged for a home run. Haughian left the game before he could get out of the second inning and was charged with the loss.

In the third inning, Hudson Valley extended its lead to 4-0, scoring a run on IronBirds' reliever Nathan Moreau.

Robbie Widlansky helped get Aberdeen moving in the home half of the third by smacking a leadoff triple. Later in the inning, Calvin Lester lofted a fly ball that allowed Widlansky to tag and score.

The Renegades answered Aberdeen's tally with one of their own, getting to Moreau for another run in the top of the fourth.

In the bottom part of the frame, Tyler Kolodny reached base on a walk, then was driven home when Jedidiah Stephen doubled. Stephen, after moving to third, made it across the plate on Widlansky's groundout, bringing Aberdeen within two.

The Renegades put their sixth run across in the fifth inning with a triple and a sacrifice fly on reliever Hank Williamson.

Williamson buckled down in the following two innings, holding the Renegades to one hit, striking out four and not allowing a walk.

Aberdeen's Stephen Procner came on to relieve in the eighth frame and allowed just one hit — a home run to put the Renegades up 7-3.

In their final turn at bat with no outs, the IronBirds put up a pair of runs when Widlansky doubled home Stephen and T.J. Baxter, who had walked and singled, respectively, to reach base.

Hudson Valley held on to take the game by retiring the next three IronBirds batters in order.

Widlansky finished the game with two hits, three RBIs and a run scored.

**Birds split double-header**

Helped by a nine-run blitz in the first two innings and a season-best pitching performance from Cole McCurry, the

Please see **IRONBIRDS, A12**

## Play it Again wins in men's lacrosse

BY DEWEY FOX  
dfox@theaegis.com

Members of the Harford County Men's Summer Lacrosse League braved Sunday's high-90s temperatures to play their fifth round of games.

Sunday's closest matchup was between the squads from Bill Bateman's and Play it Again Sports. The latter came through with a one-goal, 7-6, victory.

Play it Again Sports led, 4-2, at the half-time whistle.

Leading the winning side was Paul Dorsey, who tucked away a pair of goals. Brian Kemper, Tim Skeen, Danny Gerber, Colin Glavin and Zach Howard scored one goal apiece

for the winners. Kemper and Steve Zaicko were credited with assists.

For Bill Bateman's, Adam Pietrocario had the finest offensive performance scoring four goals. Kris Dougherty and Kevin Tataro rounded out the losing sides scoring with one goal each.

Matt Holthaus put up six saves in goal for the winners, while Burke Reynolds and Chris Fielder had seven and three saves, respectively, for Bill Bateman's.

**Green Wave wins**

The Green Wave squad squared off with the Fallston Seafood men on Sunday and came away winners, 11-6.

Please see **LACROSSE, A12**

## Joppatowne athlete shines in Jr. Olympics

### Wilhelmina Austin wins two for track club

Wilhelmina Austin won two events and was one of four members of the Joppatowne Track Club to qualify for the AAU National Junior Olympics in the Region 2B meet July 10 through 13 in Upper Marlboro.

Competing in the age 14 division, Austin won the triple jump at 31-7 and the 100-meter hurdles in 15.5 seconds. She placed third in the long jump at 15-5, one place behind teammate Jimmia McCluskey, who jumped 16-0. McCluskey also placed third in the 200 in 26.0, and fourth in the 100 in 13.0. Joppatowne's relay team of Crysten Wells, Marietta Corbin, Austin, and McCluskey

qualified in the 4x100 relay, winning the event in 50.9.

Others from the Joppatowne club qualified for the national meet two weeks earlier in the Region 2A meet in Philadelphia. The national meet will be held in Detroit July 23 through Aug. 2.

A Joppatowne club member also qualified the Hershey North America track and field finals. Devinn Fisher was selected for the trip to Hershey, Pa., after winning the 200-meter dash in the 11-12 age group in the Hershey state meet July 5 in Potomac.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DON WILEY

Don Wiley of Jarrettsville competed in the World Horseshoe Tournament in York, Pa., July 7 through 19, taking first place in his class; 1,320 pitchers entered the contest, representing 46 states and five Canadian provinces, as well as Japan and Norway.

## When your talking golf, the hole story is the best story



**RANDY McROBERTS**  
rmcroberts@theaegis.com

It was about five years ago, or is it six, that I jogged off a softball field at Thomas Run Park never to return to the field and game that gave me so much fun and success, both locally and nationally.

Though that was a sad time, it did nothing more than push me into the game of golf, the game I used laugh and crack jokes about.

A friend, Steve Kinsey, used to call it weed hockey and we always got a little chuckle from that.

I'm not sure I can even remember hitting golf balls at the local driving range in my younger years, as the batting cages were always the reason we were there.

Well, I did play my share of miniature golf or Putt-Putt, the real game. I actually was pretty good at that, so what should be so hard about golf?

Anyway, my first true attempt came in a best ball tournament,

which I really believe is the best way for any brand new golfer to get in a round.

Honestly though, now that I've played for a few years, I much prefer to chase my own ball around for 18 holes, no matter where it lands or what the final score is.

I paid to see, I mean play, the course, I might as well see it all.

I don't get the chance to play every week, but when I do, friend Joel Gartside is usually in the cart next to me or in another cart because we actually have a third and even a fourth player.

On Friday, it was just us, Joel and I, and we were over at what I call his home course and what he calls my home course, Furnace Bay Golf Course in Perryville.

It was just another hot, humid Friday for golf and we played the first two holes about the way we always do, uh OK.

Then came hole three, a par three that's marked 115 yards or so on the card.

I, after winning the previous hole, had honors and I reached the green, but was well below the hole's back placement.

As I made my way over to the cart, I watched as Joel sent his ball toward the flag. I saw it hit and bounce and then I lost it. With my vision, that's not unusual.

Joel immediately reacted, saying he thought he blasted the ball past the hole, and off the back of the green.

Somewhat jokingly I asked, "are you sure that didn't go in the hole?"

He still thought and believed that he had hit the ball well past the hole.

So we made our way over to the parking area for the hole, where the ball would have been if he had

driven past the green.

We both were scanning the ground as we walked toward the green and there was no ball, which had me asking again, "are you sure it's not in the hole?"

Joel still insisted that he thought he had blown the ball past the hole. Well, in a matter of seconds, we had reached the green and leaned over to see the ball perfectly nestled in the right side of the cup as we were looking at it.

I looked at Joel, who was smiling and we exchanged high fives and a brief congratulatory hug.

Never before had Joel or I made a hole-in-one and never had I witnessed one.

I can no longer say that, thanks to Joel's shining moment. It was awesome and unforgettable.