

Bangor girls stage comeback to beat Oxford Hills

BANGOR — Megan Conner reached on a dropped third strike and scored on Quin Wood's two-out single past the third-base bag in the bottom of the eighth inning as Bangor rallied to edge Oxford Hills 13-12 in their mutual season opener.

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

The Rams had overcome a 12-3 deficit by scoring nine times in the bottom of the seventh. The rally included two-run home runs by Emily Gilmore Sarah Bragg and Page Cadorette's two-run single.

Conner also posted a triple among three hits and drove in three runs, while Emma Payne collected three hits. Cadorette stroked a double, also in the seventh. Kathryn Sund earned the win in relief of Bragg.

For Oxford Hills of South Paris, Kaisa Heikkinen doubled twice and relief loser Erika Whitman doubled and singled.

Oxford Hills 024 003 30 — 12 13 3
Bangor 100 002 91 — 13 14 2
Cody Akers, Whitman (7) and Starbird; Bragg, Sund (4) and Wood

Stearns 12, Katahdin 0

At Millinocket, Jessica Girsra pitched a complete game, giving up one hit and striking out three batters, to shut out Katahdin of Stacyville.

The Minutemen offense was led by Girsra, Lauren Jamo, Cassidy McLeod and Audrey Dunstan, who each recorded two hits. Cassidy McLeod and Grace Farrington each knocked in three runs.

Katahdin was led by Courtney Stevens, who had a double.

Katahdin 000 000 — 0 1 5
Stearns 440 40x — 12 13 2

Edward Little 6, Brewer 4

At Auburn, Brewer rallied from a 6-0 deficit in the 7th inning but came up short as Edward Little held on to win. Emmy Lashua went 2-for-3 with a walk and scored



ASHLEY L. CONTI | BDN

Bangor's Kyle Stevenson throws to first for the double play Wednesday after getting Oxford Hills' Matty Smith at second during their game at Mansfield Stadium in Bangor. Bangor won 8-1. Story on Page B5.

three times to lead the Red Eddies. Jordyn Reynolds added two hits.

For Brewer, Emily Lord led off the 7th with a triple and scored on a Libby Hewes single. Freshman Jordan Goodrich, in her first at bat, dropped in a single before she and Hewes scored on an RBI double by Anna Chute, who also had an RBI single. Meg Davis plated Chute and advanced to third before EL recorded the final out.

Brewer 000 000 4 — 4 8 2
Edward Little 113 100 x — 6 7 1

Hampden II, Brunswick I

At Brunswick, Julia Sicard hit a double and three singles to support the four-hit pitching of Mikayla Leland and Sydney Hatch as the Broncos won their opener.

Abby Lord singled three times while Emily Dysart and Courtney Dunton added doubles for Hampden Academy.

Allie Eck, Shelby Plourde, Shea Sullivan and Alyssa Dunton sin-

gled for Brunswick.

Old Town 13, Orono 1

At Old Town, McKenna Smith rapped a triple, double and single with two RBIs to propel the Coyotes to the win.

Winning pitcher Olivia Albert pitched a three-hitter with 11 strikeouts and helped her own cause with a triple and two singles for Old Town.

Mikayla Brown, Emily Leclair and Katelyn Richards each had a single for Orono.

Orono 010 00 — 1
Old Town 017 05 — 13
Milton, Cyr (5) and Brown; Albert and St. Louis

Belfast 6, Mount View 5

At Belfast, Mariah Sturgis drove in the tying and winning runs with a single in the bottom of the 6th with two outs to lead the Lions past Mount View in the season opener for both teams. Sturgis finished with three hits and three RBIs.

Kelci Faulkingham added two hits and scored two runs. Pitcher Macey Gale gave up three hits and five runs while striking out 12 in a complete game.

For the Mustangs, Reanna Boulay went 1 for 3 with a double and scored two runs. Sierra Fonger added a two-run double in the top of the 6th to give Mount View a 5-3 lead. Krista Porter pitched a complete game, giving up eight hits on six runs while striking out two batters.

Mount View 300 002 0 — 5 3 1
Belfast 002 103 x — 6 8 2
Porter and Reynolds; Gale and Sturgis

Winslow 25, Waterville 0

At Winslow, Sarah Guimond stroked a home run, a triple and two singles with two RBIs and two runs scored as the Black Raiders cruised.

Jenna Petrovic hit a solo homer, a double and a single and Paige Veilleux posted two doubles and two RBIs for Winslow in support of winning pitcher Hillary Libby (eight strikeouts), who combined with Boghan Gagnon (three strikeouts) on the no-hitter.

Starter Madison Clowes took the loss for Waterville.

Waterville 0 0 0 0 0 — 0 0 6
Winslow 5(10)0 (10)x — 25 21 0
Clowes, Wasilewski (2), Place (2), Barre (3), Clowes (4) and Dangler; Libby, Gagnon (4) and Richards, Veilleux (5)

Baseball

Stearns 14, Katahdin 0

At Millinocket, Zachary Bouchard pitched one-hit ball over five innings while striking out 11 batters and went 2-for-4 with a double and three RBIs at the plate to propel Stearns of Millinocket to a season-opening victory over Katahdin.

Mark DiBona singled three times with two RBIs and Andrew Daigle added three hits.

Tyson Porter had the lone hit for Katahdin of Stacyville.

UM pitchers shut out Saint Joseph's

ORONO — Annie Kennedy and Nikki Misner combined on a five-hit shutout on Wednesday afternoon as the University of Maine softball team blanked Division Saint Joseph's College of Standish 8-0 at Kessock Field.

COLLEGE ROUNDUP

Kennedy (5-3), allowed four hits and struck out three over five innings, then Nikki Misner worked a scoreless sixth, giving up a hit. Sarah Coyne (double) and Chloe Douglass each provided two hits and two RBIs for the University of Maine (17-15). Rachel Carlson (RBI) singled twice, while Janelle Bouchard (double) and Maddie Decker each had a hit and an RBI.

The Black Bears scored four times in the fourth inning off Saint Joseph's pitcher Eric Boulanger (3-4),

who surrendered 14 hits and eight earned runs. Megan Pollini singled twice for the visitors.

Colby sweeps Husson

At Waterville, Katie McLaughlin had her second walk-off home run of the season to help the Colby College softball team to a 3-2 opening game win over Husson University.

The Mules (11-13) had four players with two hits or more in a 9-0 victory in the nightcap, which was called after five innings because of the eight-run rule.

In the opener, McLaughlin's blast provided the winning margin. Julia Saul pitched a two-hitter with eight strikeouts and no walks. Skylar Labbe (RBI) and Robin Spofford each had two hits.

Nicole Andrade and Olivia Smith singled for Husson of Bangor (8-20).

In Game 2, Wiley Holton fired a one-hitter with two strikeouts and a walk.

McLaughlin had two hits and three RBIs, while Labbe and Grace Farnkoff each had two singles and an RBI. Emily Schatz also had two hits.

Kristen Chipman had the lone hit for Husson to back losing pitcher Smith.

Baseball

UMF, Thomas split

At Farmington, Mark Leahy pitched a four-hitter in the second game, leading the Beavers to a 5-0 victory and a split of their North Atlantic Conference double-header against the Terriers.

Thomas won the opener 4-2.

In Game 2, Leahy (2-1) struck out one and walked one to shut down Thomas (15-3, 9-7 NAC). The University of Maine-Farmington (13-12, 6-8 NAC) scored all

five of its runs in the fifth inning against reliever Dominic Esposito. Tom Grady posted a two-run single while Grayson Beressi plated a run with a single, Jordan Croteau hit an RBI double and Nick Attaliades-Ryan added a sacrifice fly.

Ben Keene, Beressi, Croteau and Attaliades-Ryan all had two hits.

Zach Mathieu singled twice for the Terriers.

In the opener, Derek Kane's solo homer off Riley Chickering provided the eventual winning run. Mathieu added an RBI single to back winning pitcher Nik Beeson, who spaced six hits.

Anree Benitez, Beeson (double), Michael De Los Santos and Joe Quinlan (double) each provided two hits for the winners.

Grady hit a two-run single for UMF and Sean Cabaniss singled twice.

NFL

Continued from Page B5

The Browns could still land one of the second-tier quarterbacks in the draft, such as Memphis' Paxton Lynch or Michigan State's Connor Cook.

NFL may eliminate kickoffs

After making adjustments to kickoffs in the name of player safety the past two off-seasons, the NFL could be close to eliminating kickoffs entirely, according to New York Giants co-owner John Mara.

Last month at the league meetings, the NFL adopted on a one-year trial basis to move the touchback after kickoffs to the 25-yard line in an attempt to limit the number of returns after injuries rose on the play in 2015.

Mara, the Giants' president and chief executive officer, has been a competi-

tion committee member for 16 years. He said that the decision to spot the ball on the 25-yard line after touchbacks was made with player safety in mind.

"The theory there was that the kickoff return remains the most dangerous play that we have in the game, has the highest rate of concussions," Mara said.

Panthers' Norman to be free agent

The Carolina Panthers removed the franchise tag on cornerback Josh Norman, clearing the way for him to become an unrestricted free agent.

"After a number of conversations with Josh's agent, we realized that a long-term deal was not attainable," Panthers general manager Dave Gettleman said.

The 28-year-old Norman, entering his fifth season in the NFL, finished 2015 with a career-best four interceptions and was named to the

Pro Bowl and first-team All-Pro. He also had 56 tackles, 16 passes defended, three forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries while gaining acclaim as one of the league's best cornerbacks.

Manziel seeks to address 'issues'

Johnny Manziel lost his job, two agents and an endorsement deal with Nike and by the end of next week, a Dallas grand jury reviewing family violence charges against the former Browns quarterback should be finalized.

"I'm hoping to take care of the issues in front of me right now, so I can focus on what I have to do if I want to play in 2016," Manziel said in a statement Tuesday night. "I also continue to be thankful to those who really know me and support me."

Manziel, 23, was released in March by the Browns after two seasons. He's currently an unsigned free

agent but has been a regular in off-field headlines. Most recently, he was accused of trashing a rental house in West Hollywood around the same time his latest agent, Drew Rosenhaus, presented an ultimatum to either enter rehab or find a new agent. Rosenhaus confirmed Tuesday he officially terminated his agreement with Manziel.

Hoyer close to decision

Former Houston Texans quarterback Brian Hoyer is expected to make his decision soon after visiting with the New York Jets.

According to ESPN, the 30-year-old Hoyer met with the Jets on Tuesday night and was meeting with coaches on Wednesday.

Four or five other teams reportedly are interested in talking to Hoyer.

Hoyer was released by Houston on Monday, becoming expendable when the Texans signed Brock Osweiler and Brandon Weeden this off-season.

Soccer

Continued from Page B5

clubs. She plans to attend Bowdoin College and play basketball.

Lastra earned a GPA of 4.19 and starred in cross-country and track at Fryeburg. The daughter of Susan and Bruce Lastra attended Dirigo Girls State and is a member of the CAKE (Caring Acts of Kindness Everywhere) Club. She plans to

attend Carnegie Mellon, Stonehill or the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Robinson is fourth in his class with a GPA of 96.85 and excelled at football and basketball for Dirigo. The son of Marcy and James Robinson volunteers at blood drives and at senior citizen dinners. He is considering UMaine-Farmington, UMaine and the University of Southern Maine and plans to play basketball and major in business.

The MSHoF also invites

the public to meet the 2016 Hall of Fame class. The social hour starts at 11 a.m. and the luncheon begins at noon. Tickets are \$55 each or \$500 for a reserved table for 10, and may be purchased online at www.mshof.com and by mailing a check to MSHOF, P.O. Box 222, Oakland, ME 04963.

This year's inductees include: Runners Kristin Barry of South Portland and Sheri Piers of Westbrook, downhill skier Kirsten Clark-Rickenbach of Raymond, the Cross family of

Bangor, which has advanced sport through its naming rights at the Cross Insurance Center and Cross Insurance Arena;

Golfer Pennie Page Cummings of Lewiston, hockey player Doug Friedlander of Cape Elizabeth, powerlifter Dan Hamblett of Portland, hockey coach John "Jack" Kelley, football player Ralph Payne of Brewer, pitcher Ed Phillips of Portland, hockey player Travis Roy of Yarmouth and basketball player Amy Vachon of Augusta.

Katahdin 000 00 — 0
Stearns 371 3 — 14

Bangor Christian 15, Schenck 1

At Bangor, Jack York, Tyler Welch and Dacian Robert each had two hits to power a Bangor Christian offense that benefitted from 16 walks in its opener.

Garrett Neal and Ben Turcotte each had a hit for Schenck of East Millinocket (0-2).

Nokomis 15, MCI 5

At Pittsfield, Nokomis had 13 hits en route to the win over Maine Central Institute in the season opener for both teams. Joshua Perry pitched 5 1/3 innings, striking out seven and giving up only two runs on two hits.

Zachary Hartsgrove and Cody Rice led the offense for the Warriors with two singles each.

Greg Vigue led the Huskies offense with an RBI single. Clark Morrison reached base three times, including a single and scored two runs. Starter Pedro Matos took the loss.

Old Town 4, Orono 3

At Old Town, the Coyotes prevailed with a walk-off win in the seventh inning, scoring two runs on an error to beat rival Orono.

Dana Ouellette recorded 11 strikeouts while Ethan Stoddard picked up the win in relief.

Orono pitcher Dennis Farnham pitched a strong seven innings, giving up no earned runs in the loss.

Oceanside 7, Medomak 3

At Waldoboro, Logan Sheridan tossed a complete game, allowing 3 runs on 6 hits while striking out 8, to lead Oceanside of Rockland/Thomaston to the season-opening win.

Jake Bartlett led the Mariners offense with 3 singles, 2 RBIs and 3 stolen bases, while Titus Kaewthong added 2 hits, an RBI and 2 steals.

Coaches

Continued from Page B5

"I would like to thank both President Hunter and our athletic director, Karlton Creech, for providing me the opportunity to be a part of a wonderful university, community and state," Trimmer said in a press release.

"To me, there is no greater place in college baseball to work with student-athletes and give them a great college experience," he added. "The greater Bangor community means an awful lot to both my wife, Lisa, daughters, Ally and Morgan, and me, and I look forward to representing the community and university to the best of my ability."

Atherley is completing his 17th season as a UMaine's head coach. His teams have posted an overall record of 136-123-32 and last season reached the America East semifinals.

Atherley's Black Bears, who have made four straight league tourney appearances, reached the America East finals from 2003 to

2006 and again in 2010.

"As our current longest tenured head coach here at UMaine, we are extremely pleased with the commitment coach Atherley has had with our university," Creech said. "I couldn't be more excited for the future of our women's soccer program and am eager to see the next step in their process."

Atherley, a 1988 UMaine graduate who was a four-year letterwinner for the Black Bears, also coached the men's soccer program for seven seasons before its being eliminated.

"I want to express my sincerest thanks to president Susan Hunter and Karlton Creech for affording me opportunity to continue to do what I love to do, among the people I care deeply about, at a place I consider home," said Atherley, whose extension will pay him \$69,999 per year.

"There are so many positive things happening on our campus and within the athletic department," he added. "To be able to continue to share in the excitement with my colleagues and team is truly a privilege."

Brewer

Continued from Page B5

"I put myself in those situations with a bunch of walks (and two hit batsmen), but I got out of it," Plourde said. "I started off with curveballs the first few innings, then blew it by them after that."

He issued his only mistake after retiring Pushard and Brooks with ease to open the sixth.

Corey drew a four-pitch walk to set up a two-run blast by Alex Maxsimic over the wall in left-center.

"We were hoping to get to that spot in the order, and (Plourde) got one up. They're a good hitting team all through

the order," Jordan said.

Edward Little battled back in the bottom of the inning, ignited when Austin Cox reached second on a throwing error with one out.

Blanchard singled to put runners at the corners. Plourde lofted a fly ball to Tyler Williams in left field that missed leaving the park by only a few feet. Cox trotted home to make it 2-1.

Then came Lashua's near homer.

"That's my life, right there," he quipped. "I think (Brooks) hung it up a little bit, and I just saw it and swung out of my shoes. We were adjusting to his cutter. His cutter was really good early on, but once we adjusted, we were able to time him up."

Rams

Continued from Page B5

Crichton and Stevenson singled to ignite a two-run Bangor rally in the second. Crichton scored on Fournier's sacrifice fly to right and Cowperthwaite followed with the hardest-hit ball of the game, a triple to deep center field.

Fournier drew a bases-loaded walk to make it 7-1 in the fourth, and Crichton's two-out single in the fifth drove home Brookings with the game's final run.

"The key is just seeing the

pitches and getting your pitch and hitting to the appropriate spot and finding a way to get on. That's all that matters," said Crichton, who also led off last summer for Bangor's state championship American Legion team.

"You definitely feel the responsibility so you want to get on base and start the inning off the right way because we feel if our first two guys get on the rest of our lineup is going to do the job, too," he said.

Peruse our blogs.
bangordailynews.com/maine-blogs