

Sports



•Greeners continue to roll...page 23

•Legion's Chamberland is back...page 24

•BC's Scholar-Athletes...page 24

Our Athletes

A little rusty, Bristol busts through the rainclouds

By MICHAEL LETENDRE
STAFF WRITER

The recent rain finally stopped dropping on the Bristol Twilight League baseball team.

Twilight League

And after near a week-and-a-half off, the Bristol squad was antsy to take care of business.

Bristol jumped on Avon's Legion team in the first game of a double-header, posting an early advantage and eventually holding on to a 5-3 victory last Tuesday night from Muzzy Field.

Bristol maintained its lead on first place with an overall record of 7-1 while Avon dropped to 1-5 on the season.

The weather has been playing havoc with just about all of the locals as a number of squads have had a couple games washed out.

"We haven't played in nine days," said player/manager Bunty Ray. "Obviously, our bats are a little shaky, our pitches weren't as sharp. (Avon) hung in there and battled to the end but we took care of business when we needed to."

Adam Peters was the biggest producer for Bristol at the plate on the night, collecting two hits and three RBI to net all the early runs in the contest.

"Year in and year out, Adam does his job picking up runners," said Ray. "That's why we put him in the (clean-up) position. He's done it for so long now and

when you get base-runners ahead of him, he's going to produce."

And while Bristol cruised out to that 3-0 cushion, pitcher Eric Butkiewicz simply over-whelmed the Avon batters at the plate as he struck out five of the first eight he faced.

"Eric's a solid pitcher," said Ray. "I think he just got a little tired there (in the middle innings) and I think of that comes from the long layoff and he hasn't pitched in a while. (But) he gave us what he could. Luckily, we were able to go to the bullpen and Ryan Pacyna and Rick Hewey did a nice job pitching in the end."

In the top of the first inning, Ray reached base safely off a fielder's choice and stole second to get into scoring position.

A bloop single to left field by Peters scored Ray and gave Bristol a 1-0 edge early.

Bristol added two more runs in the third as Ray and Nick Macellaro started the frame with back-to-back singles. After a double steal, both runners were driven home off a liner to left-center field by Peters that scored Ray and Macellaro to pad the advantage to 3-0.

Avon tallied runs in the third and fifth innings to cut the lead to 3-2 but off solid relief pitching from Pacyna and Hewey, only one additional run was scored.

"Our pitching has been pretty solid," said Ray. "We always throw someone out there. We have four or five guys who can pitch."

Bristol put the game away in sixth frame.

Off back-to-back walks to DH Rick Barrett and Jay Maule, Ray hit a bloop to



SCOTT DERY

Bristol's pitcher Eric Butkiewicz throws off the mound at Muzzy in Twilight League action against Avon last Wednesday. Bristol won, 5-3

Avon					Bristol				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Durdan c	4	1	2	0	Maule cf	2	1	1	0
Peer 3b	4	0	3	0	Ray rf	4	2	2	1
Langer ss	4	0	0	1	Ferguson rf 0	0	0	0	
Dew, M. cf	3	0	1	1	Macellaro ss	3	1	1	1
Dew, T. 2b	4	0	0	0	Peters 2b 4	0	2	3	
Decker lf	4	0	1	0	Parlante lf,3b	4	0	1	0
Kelly 1b	3	0	0	0	Hackney 1b	4	0	2	0
Lowerre rf	3	1	1	0	Fortier c	4	0	0	0
Schackner p	0	1	0	0	Barrett dh	2	1	0	0
Chaves p	2	0	0	0	Hewey 3b/p	3	0	1	0
TOTALS:	31	3	8	2	TOTALS:	30	5	10	5
Bristol (7-1)	102	002	0	5					
Avon (1-5)	001	010	1	3					

E—Butkiewicz, Macellaro, Kelly. LOB—Bristol 9, Avon 8. SB—Ray (2), Macellaro, Parlante, Hackney (2). S—Macellaro. HBP—Schackner (by Butkiewicz). W/P—Chaves.

BRISTOL	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Butkiewicz (W)	6	5	2	1	1	7
Pacyna (H)	1	1	0	0	0	1
Hewey (S)	1	2	1	0	0	0
AVON	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Schackner (L)	4	8	3	2	1	1
Chaves	3	2	2	3	2	

left field that scored Barrett while a sacrifice fly by Macellaro scored Maule as Bristol snatched a 5-2 tally.

Hewey allowed a RBI single to Mike Dew in the final inning in the seventh to cut the deficit to 5-3.

However, the Avon offense came up empty the rest of the way as Hewey picked up the save.

"This is a tough time of year" to keep a consistent

See TWILIGHT, page 22



SCOTT DERY

Bristol's Adam Peters takes his swings against Avon last Wednesday.

Peters is a fixture in Twilight League

By MICHAEL LETENDRE
STAFF WRITER

They certainly don't make baseball players like Adam Peters anymore.

The Bristol Twilight League's second baseman has been a member of the club since the 1991 campaign and doesn't show any signs of letting up.

Peters was an invaluable member of the Bristol Eastern baseball program under coach Mike Giovinazzo from 1988-1990 and never batted less than .400 in any of his three seasons as a Lancer.

As a senior at Eastern,

Twilight League

Peters batted .444 to go along with 28 hits, 18 walks, 15 RBI while tallying 18 walks, 23 runs and only struck out four times.

After Eastern, he went on to play at Central Connecticut State University and had a very solid career.

Now as the elder statesmen of Bristol's club, Peters might have lost a step or two since those early days but the slugger

remains a potent force in the Twilight League line-up.

The Observer recently caught up with Peters and asked him about some of his times playing baseball in Bristol:

Q: You've been in the Twilight League since 1991. What keeps you come back after all those years in the league?

A: I want to prove to myself that I can still play. I like the guys though. The guys are my biggest reason (for coming back). I hang out with these guys all year

See PETERS, page 24