



Sioux Falls Post 15 West Legion Baseball

Week 1 Newsletter

June 4 – June 12, 2016

Week 1 Recap

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Result</u>
6/3	Brandon Valley	Susp.
6/4	@ Pierre	L 6-7
6/4	@ Pierre	L 0-7
6/7	@ SF East	W 5-1
6/8	Harrisburg	W 16-1
6/9	@ Brookings	L 4-10

Lewis and Clark Wood Bat Tournament:

6/10	@ Darksston	W 15-1
6/10	Hartford	W 6-2
6/11	Blair, NE	W 5-0
6/11	@ Crofton	W 11-3
6/12	@ Yankton	L 3-4

Record to Date: 6-4

TOP PITCHING PERFORMANCES



Connor Hurley pitched like an ace against East on Tuesday night by throwing seven

shutout innings, striking out eleven, and allowing only four hits. Hurley did walk a few batters, but he always made great pitches and worked out of jams when necessary. He set the tone for what ended up being a very good week of baseball for Sioux Falls Post 15 West.

Louis Peterson took a no-hitter into the sixth inning against Harrisburg. He effectively used his fastball and slider and lived primarily at the bottom of the zone to pick up the complete game victory. Peterson struck out ten and walked only two, while allowing one run on two hits.

In a game that would determine the pool winner, **Justin Aldrich** threw a gem against Blair, Nebraska, on another blazing hot day in Crofton. Here is the stat line on Aldrich's complete-game shutout: 6 IP, 1 hit, 1 BB, and 4 Ks. Well done, Justin!

Kyle Gulbrandson squared off against Mount Marty recruit Blake Svoboda and helped West come out on top on Friday afternoon. Gulbrandson pitched all seven innings, scattered six hits, allowed two runs, struck out eight, and walked only one.

Alex Fiegen made the most of his first start of the season by going the distance against Crofton on Saturday night. He allowed three runs (only one earned) on four hits, and he struck out eight while walking only two.

Jalen Boyd picked up his first win of the season by throwing three shutout innings of

relief against Parkston. Boyd struck out four and did not walk a batter.

Facing host Yankton in the semifinal game of the Lewis and Clark Tournament, **Austin Wise** gave West an excellent opportunity to advance to the championship. Our tall righty was clocked as high as 87 on the day, and he went six innings for us while allowing four runs on seven hits. He walked four and struck out two.

We had three good relief performances on Thursday against Brookings. **Hunter Thompson** pitched three innings and allowed one run. **Austin Ryan** pitched two innings and allowed one run, and **Jack Simonsen** allowed zero runs in his inning of work.

WEB GEMS

Jalen Boyd made a brilliant play at second base to keep Louis Peterson's no-hitter going. After a Harrisburg batter poked a soft liner that looked destined to drop into centerfield for the first hit of the game, Jalen sprinted to his right, timed his jump perfectly, and snared the ball out of the air at the right moment.

Isaac Nelsen showed everyone how to end a ball game by making a nifty play for the last out of our win against Hartford. With a 6-2 lead and runners at 1B and 3B, the batter hammered a pitch to deep in the hole at short. Nelsen fielded the ball cleanly on one hop, stopped his feet, and fired a bullet across the diamond to beat the runner by half a step.



TOP OFFENSIVE PERFORMANCES

Pierre: 6 runs on 11 hits

Isaac Nelsen had a great day at the plate as he smashed a two-run homer to left, giving West a 4-1 lead in the top of the sixth. Nelsen then came up big again in the top of the seventh by delivering a two-run single to give West a 6-4 lead. Austin Wise chipped in with three hits, and Jack Simonsen added a pair of singles.

Pierre: 0 runs on 2 hits

Game two was a tough one at the dish for West as they were stymied by hard-throwing righty Payton Zable. Justin Aldrich doubled and Connor Hurley singled for Post 15.

Sioux Falls East: 5 runs on 11 hits

Hunter Thompson gave West a big spark in the top of the third when he blasted a three-run homer over the right field wall. Austin Wise continued his hot hitting with another three-hit performance, and Chandler Austin and Jack Simonsen both added a pair of singles.

Harrisburg: 16 runs on 16 hits

West started the game with a four-run first inning and added a pair of five-run innings to roll to their second region win of the season. Isaac Nelsen led the way with a 4 for 5 performance that included 3 doubles and 3 RBI. Connor Hurley went 3 for 3 with 3 RBI and finished a home run short of the cycle. Jack Simonsen added two hits and three RBI.

Brookings: 4 runs on 6 hits

Righty Jared Tschetter kept the West offense in check at Bob Shelden Field on Thursday. Hunter Thompson led the way with a pair of singles. Austin Wise chipped in with a hit and a pair of sacrifice flies.

Parkston: 15 runs on 7 hits

The West offense did a little bit of everything to put up 11 runs in the first inning. Overall, they took advantage of eight walks, three hit batsmen, and three errors. Garret Powell finished the day with a double and a single, and Isaac Nelsen added a couple singles and three RBI.

Hartford: 6 runs on 10 hits

Blake Svoboda, a Mount Marty recruit who was clocked at 85, presented a great challenge for West. Trailing 1-0 in the bottom of the third, Connor Hurley recorded the big hit by blasting a two-run double that gave Post 15 a lead they would not give away. Chandlar Austin went 3 for 4 while Isaac Nelsen and Austin Wise each added a pair of hits.

Blair: 5 runs on 11 hits

Playing a team that includes six future college baseball players, West did what they needed to do to punch their ticket to Sunday. Chandlar Austin stayed red hot by finishing 3 for 3 on the day. Jack Simonsen hammered a two-run double to left center, and Isaac Nelsen and Alex Fiegen both had two hits apiece.

Crofton: 11 runs on 11 hits

Isaac Nelsen led a balanced attack with a home run, a double, and two RBI. Hunter Thompson added a triple and a double. Here's a note ESPN baseball reporter Tim Kurkjian would appreciate: West hit for the cycle in the top of the sixth inning when Austin Ryan singled, Hunter Thompson tripled, Isaac Nelsen homered, and Garrett Powell doubled. Fun inning.

Yankton: 3 runs on 6 hits

The West offense sputtered on Championship Sunday. Hunter Thompson had a big day as he doubled and singled and drove in a pair of runs. Alex Denevan

added an RBI double early in the game, and he nearly had another one in the top of the sixth if not for a terrific backhand play by Yankton third baseman Mason Townsend.

PLAYER PROFILES**# 1 Justin Aldrich**

Tell us about your future plans.
Graduate high school.

What is your all-time greatest baseball memory? Winning State 14U and our comeback win against Brookings down 8-0 to win and go to the Championship.

What are you looking forward to the most this season? Winning State and going to Bismarck, and then winning the Legion World Series in Shelby, NC.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Hit off the tee.

Tell us something about yourself that most people might not know. I was the man behind the red pants.

Who is your favorite professional baseball team and why? Cincinnati Reds, they beat the Yankees in the 1976 World Series. And my dad influenced me.

What are your parents' names? Anything else you want to say about them for the newsletter? Randy and Judy Aldrich. They both grew up on farms.

Is there anything else you would like to include for your profile in the newsletter? Andy Dalton is a better QB than Teddy Bridgewater.

2 Jalen Boyd



Tell us about your future plans. I'm studying secondary education at Dakota State University, as well as continuing my baseball career there.

What is your all-time greatest baseball memory? Sam Lang's three-run shot to propel us to victory against East last year.

What are you looking forward to the most this season? The Post 22 series as well as the State Tournament.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Spend time with family and watch movies.

Tell us something about yourself that most people might not know. I was a Royals fan prior to the World Series win. (Also, I can pull the baseball.)

Who is your favorite professional baseball team and why? Kansas City Royals

What are your parents' names? Anything else you want to say about them for the newsletter? Keith and Idalesta Boyd

Is there anything else you would like to include for your profile in the newsletter? Chuck took Sam Lang's sandwich.



As you can see, Alex Fiegen was a fan favorite at Crofton on Friday at the Lewis and Clark Tournament. Was he telling stories? Asking them to grab him a freezie? You'll have to ask him the next time you see him.



Jalen's little brother Kylar shows off the spray bottle he used to stay cool this weekend as temperatures climbed into – or at least really close to -- triple digits all three days.



West players pick each other up after Austin Ryan scored a run against Crofton.



Coach Dan Huges towers over most umpires, including this one in Crofton on Saturday.



Almost forgot the web gem that this picture captures perfectly. Hunter Thompson made an excellent sliding catch to take away a potential bloop single in the game against Crofton.



Chandler Austin ended up safe on this bang-bang play at home against Blair on Saturday. The throw was on target, but the catcher tried to make a quick tag and failed to secure the baseball. What another great action shot!