

Decatur's Major Leaguer? Harley Has The Chance

By JACK HELLER



It's a long way from the Decatur Little League to the world series, but that's the road Harley Wolfe wants to take. And the big, strong right-hander is over one of the big obstacles on that road. There are a lot of other blocks still in the way, but with a contract from the Cleveland Indians baseball club already signed, and a lot of determination, Harley plans to give it a "whale of a try."

Nine years ago, Harley started playing organized baseball in Decatur with the local Little League during its first year. It wasn't the first baseball for the soft-spoken Decatur high graduate, though. Brother Joe Wolfe, also a pitcher for the Yellow Jackets later, had already taken Harley under his wing and started his pitching education. Additional help along the way came from Rollie Ladd, Al and John Gillig, and Bill McColl.

From Little League, the path led through two years of Pony League, three years of American Legion ball, and four years of varsity high school baseball. At present, Harley is pitching for the W and W Gravel team in the Fort Wayne Junior Federation League. It was here that Nap Ross, scout supervisor for the Indians, saw the local pitcher.

The scout, tipped off by Bernie Coch, of New Haven, came to Fort Wayne to watch Harley. Getting to finish up the game, Wolfe struck out seven of the eight batters he

faced. He also blasted a 400-foot triple! The scout watched one more performance by Wolfe, and was at his home in Decatur the next day with a bonus and a contract.

Long Time Dream

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Wolfe, Harley has been planning on playing baseball all his life. For many years, he was a New York Yankee fan, but Harley states with a grin that he recently changed the team he was rooting for.

All of his baseball career has been spent on the mound and around the shortstop slot. The shortstopping came when Wolfe developed some different pitches. Right now, he has three different tosses

Pitching Coach

To help groom him for the potent major league bats, the Indians will send a pitching coach to Decatur this summer to help Wolfe develop some different pitches. Right

—fast, faster, and don't get in the way or it may kill you. While the fast ball will probably always be his best pitch, the Indians want him to develop the curves, sliders and screwballs that upset the batters rhythm and make a good pitcher great.

When asked what he would do with the bonus, Harley displayed his practical side. He has a car to pay off, and the rest goes in the bank.

His life's desire has been to make the big time. When asked what his goal is now, he says, "first of all, to be good enough to stick. Then can come a no-hitter, a 20-win season and a world series—in any order."

It is still a long way away. But Harley has his foot in the door, and a lot of friends around Decatur will be rooting for him. Rooting for a modest young man with a strong right arm to pitch his way to the top.

McMillen has a one-half game lead in the City Softball league over Klenk's, according to standings released today:

	W	L	Pct.
McMillen	6	1	.857
Klenk	5	1	.833
Tony's	4	1	.800
Preble	1	6	.143
Merchants	1	6	.143

This week's schedule finds Klenk's playing Preble at 8:15 tonight, with a doubleheader Friday pitting Tony's against Klenk's and McMillen against the Merchants. The first game Friday starts at 7 o'clock.

In league play last week, Tony's

Won two games and the Merchants won their first game of the season.

Tuesday, Tony's defeated the Merchants, 13-5. Lehman and Busse were the battery for Tony's and Worden and Werst hurled for the Merchants, with John McAhren catching.

Wednesday, McMillen defeated Preble Spouting by 8-3. Stevens did the pitching for McMillen, with Grafton catching and Mentor, Bulmer and Wefel were the battery for Preble.

Tony's won their second game of the week defeating the Merchants, 12-12. Lehman and Busse were the battery for Tony's and Worden did the catching. Andrews and McAhren did the honors for the Merchants.

In the Friday doubleheader, the Merchants defeated Preble 10-7, to win their first game of the season, and Klenk's edged McMillen, 7-6 in 10 innings. Worden pitched and McAhren caught for the Merchants and Bulmer and Mentor hurled for Preble with Wefel catching.

In the nightcap, Hoopengardner and Rowden were the Klenk battery. Stevens and Canales hurled for McMillen with Bluhm doing the backstopping.

MAJOR League Results

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
New York	43	26	.623	
Cleveland	42	28	.600	1 1/2
Baltimore	44	33	.571	3
Chicago	39	34	.534	6
Detroit	34	37	.479	10
Washington	31	38	.449	12
Kansas City	27	45	.375	17 1/2
Boston	26	45	.366	18
Totals	27	60		
Fairway				
FG	FT	TP		
Frey	2	0	4	
A. Conrad	0	0	0	
Foreman	3	0	6	
Witte	4	4	12	
Walls	2	1	5	
W. Conrad	0	0	0	
Jim Price	2	2	6	
Baxter	0	0	0	
Jerry Price	1	3	5	
Butler	0	0	0	
Shraluka	2	1	5	
Totals	16	11	43	

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Pittsburgh	44	28	.611	
Milwaukee	40	31	.563	3 1/2
San Francisco	39	33	.542	5
St. Louis	37	37	.500	8
Los Angeles	36	37	.494	8 1/2
Cincinnati	35	37	.486	9
Philadelphia	30	44	.405	15
Chicago	28	42	.400	15
Totals	16	11	43	

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

National League

Los Angeles	6	Pittsburgh	1
Philadelphia	3	San Francisco	2
(11 innings)			
Cincinnati	13	Chicago	8
St. Louis	7	Milwaukee	1
Kansas City	10	Boston	6
Cleveland	12	Washington	2
New York	7-6	Detroit	6
Chicago	8	Baltimore	7

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San Francisco	39	33	.542	5
St. Louis	37	37	.500	8
Los Angeles	36	37	.494	8 1/2
Cincinnati	35	37	.486	9
Philadelphia	30	44	.405	15
Chicago	28	42	.400	15
Totals	16	11	43	

NATIONAL LEAGUE

American League

	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Pittsburgh	44	28	.611	
Milwaukee	40	31	.563	3 1/2
San Francisco	39	33	.542	5
St. Louis	37	37	.500	8
Los Angeles	36	37	.494	8 1/2
Cincinnati	35	37	.486	9
Philadelphia	30	44	.405	15
Chicago	28	42	.400	15
Totals	16	11	43	

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

National League

	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Los Angeles	6	Pittsburgh	2	
Philadelphia	3	San Francisco	2	
(11 innings)				
Cincinnati	13	Chicago	8	
St. Louis	7	Milwaukee	1	
Kansas City	10	Boston	6	
Cleveland	12	Washington	2	
New York	7-6	Detroit	6	
Chicago	8	Baltimore	7	

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Pittsburgh	44	28	.611	
Milwaukee	40	31	.563	3 1/2
San Francisco	39	33	.542	5
St. Louis	37	37	.500	8
Los Angeles	36	37	.494	8 1/2
Cincinnati	35	37	.486	9
Philadelphia	30	44	.405	15
Chicago	28	42	.400	15
Totals	16	11	43	

MONDAY'S RESULTS

National League

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