

Lowe Homer in The First Seals The Deal

Joshua Lowe drove a fastball a long way in the 1st inning Tuesday.....Long enough to give Pope a 3-0 lead and a series clinching win against Collins Hill, sending Pope the final 4 in the GA GHSA playoffs.

In the first inning, after a Brady John single, and Braden Zarbnisky RBI single, Lowe delivered a bomb to right center field to give Pope a 3-0 lead.

Pope added another in the 2nd on a squeeze play as Brady John brought home Kyle Hinton to make the score 4-0, and another in the 4th on a wild pitch.

Pope Starter Cameron Allison went 5 innings, striking out 4 and only allowing 2 hits. Matt Rowland closed the last 2 innings earning a 6 out save striking out 3 in his 2 innings of work.

Even though Collins Hill pulled within a run at 5-4, Pope appeared in control until the final out.

Pope was led by Brady John (2 singles), Kyle Hinton (single, double), Joshua Lowe (2B, HR), and Braden Zarbnisky (2 singles).

RBI: John, Lowe (2), Zarbnisky

Stolen Bases: Zarbnisky (2)

SAC: Tanner Huyck

Pope (23-7) (13-3) will play Parkview Monday in a double header at Parkview ..Time TBA

Zarbnisky and Orr Get it done in Game One Victory

Braden Zarbnisky pitched 6 innings striking out 7 Collins Hill Eagles and allowing only 5 hits en route to a 6-1 victory in the best of 3 series against Collins Hill. Zarbnisky walked 0 on his way to the win for Pope. Matt Rowland closed the game in the 7th with 2 Ks and a groundout.

Parker Orr led Pope in hitting with a single and double, with 4 RBI effectively shutting down any Collins Hill chance.

Defensive Plays of the Game: Zarbnisky fought off a line drive up the middle off of his leg and hustled to make the putout allowing him to strand the runner at 2nd and end the inning.

In the next inning, Joshua Lowe made a diving stab and put out just prior to a HR. Had Lowe, not made the play, POPE would have been down 2-0 instead of 1-0.

Pope Had 12 hits in the game: Jake Pralgo (2 doubles), Ryan Webb (2B), Joshua Lowe (2B), Parker Orr (1B, 2B), Ethan Lawson (2 singles), Jared Miller (1B), Braden Zarbnisky (3 singles)

RBI: Orr (4), Lawson , Zarbnisky

SAC: Pralgo, Brady John

BB: Lowe (INT)

Pope (23-7) (13-3) played game 2 immediately after.

Webb Strikes Out 11 as Pope Advances to Elite 8

Pope sophomore lefty Ryan Webb fired a complete game 6 hitter while striking out 11 as Pope advanced to the Elite 8 with a 5-1 series clinching win over the Marietta Blue Devils Wednesday night.

Webb was in control all night, despite several long breaks in the action due to controversy in the game based on Marietta contesting calls, and long offensive innings from Pope. Webb used effective off speed and breaking pitches to keep Marietta off balance throughout the game.

Kyle Hinton (1B, 2B, and 2 RBI) and Braden Zarbnisky (2 2B and 2 RBI) led a Pope attack that saw timely hitting to lead to the 5-1 victory.

Behind Webb, Pope's defense was stellar, with Joshua Lowe making another diving stab and put out in the bottom of the 1st. Four of the six hits by Marietta were infield singles, as Webb kept the ball down in the strike zone all night producing high choppers and slow rollers.

Other hits in the game :

Jake Pralgo (1B), Parker Orr (1B), Ethan Lawson (1B),

RBI: Joshua Lowe, Braden Zarbnisky (2), Kyle Hinton (2)

SAC: Webb, Lowe, Orr, Jared Miller

Stolen Bases: Patrick Burke, Brady John. Game time TBA

BB: Webb (HBP, BB), Brady John (2), Lowe (INT)

Pope (22-7) (13-3) plays Collins Hill at Collins Hill in a best of 3 beginning Tuesday. Game time TBA

Pralgo, Zarbnisky Propel Pope to Series Opening Win

Jake Pralgo led a 9 hit Pope attack on Wednesday with 2 singles, a double, a SAC, and 2 RBIs to compliment another strong outing by senior starter Braden Zarbnisky en route to a 5 inning, run rule 11-1 win for Pope in the opening game of a best of 3 with the Marietta Blue Devils. Pralgo had a SAC in the 2nd, and RBI single in the 3rd (that turned into an inside the park home run with 3 runs scoring, 2 on errors by Marietta), a double in the 5th, and a game ending RBI single in the same inning as Pope batted around to evoke the GHSA 10 run lead after 5 innings run rule.

Zarbnisky came out firing from the start, striking out the side in the 1st, and finishing with 8 Ks over the 5 inning game while allowing only 3 hits. Zarbnisky had his typical control, walking 0 Raiders on the night.

Zarbnisky was helped out by 3 outstanding defensive plays:

** In the top of the 2nd, Joshua Lowe dove to his left to snare a hard hit ground ball, knocked it down off off his cap bill, and fired a strike to first for the out.

** In the top of the 3rd, CF Patrick Burke made a diving catch in Center that had triple all over it had he missed, and Marietta was already up 1-0 and that catch was followed by a single. Thus, Burke and Pope saved a 2-0 deficit.

** In the 5th, Brady John made a diving catch in RF saving a double with the game still in doubt at 5-1.

Pope poured it on in the 5th, scoring 6 runs to evoke the run rule.

Other hits in the game:

Kyle Hinton (1B, 2B), Brady John (1B), Parker Orr (1B), Ethan Lawson (1B), Braden Zarbnisky (1B)

RBI: Hinton (2), Pralgo (2), Lowe, Orr

BB: Jacob Ramos, Brady John (HBP), Joshua Lowe (HBP, HBP), Orr, Ethan Lawson (BB, HBP), Jared Miller

Stolen Bases: Brady John, Jared Miller

SAC Jake Pralgo, Brady John, Parker Orr

Pope (21-7) (13-3) played game 2 30 minutes following game 1.

Allison Strikes out 10, Ramos Strikes Gold in Series Clinching Victory

Jacob Ramos broke a 7 inning 0-0 stalemate in game 2 against North Forsyth Friday night, coming through with a 2 RBI triple in the top of the 7th (POPE was the visitor in game 2). Pope would add 1 more in the frame when Brady John squeezed home Ramos from 3rd to give Pope a 3-0 lead with 3 outs to get to clinch the series.

Pope starter Cameron Allison struck out 10 Raiders, going 6 2/3 innings and only allowing 1 hit. Allison also picked off 2 runners, one on 1st and the other at 2nd. Allison struck out the side in the 1st, and had a no hitter through 5 1/3. The Raiders only put 7 balls in play, none making it out of the infield.

Allison gave way to Joshua Lowe for the final out, and Lowe earned a quick save, striking out the lone batter he faced, sealing a 3-0 game and series victory for Pope.

With little or no margin of error in a 0-0 contest, Pope made several outstanding defensive plays.

**In the bottom of the 2nd, Allison picked off a runner on first to end the inning.

**In the bottom of the 4th, Parker Orr picked of a Raider who was lazy back to the bag, ending a threat.

**In the bottom of the 5th, Orr made a diving catch against the wall behind home plate on a Pop up.

** In the same inning, Allison picked off a Raider at 2nd

**In the bottom of the 6th, Joshua Lowe cut down a runner at home who was trying to score on a ground ball.

Jake Pralgo had the only multi-hit game for Pope, earning 2 singles. Other hits in the game:

Jacob Ramos (3B), Ryan Webb (1B), Brady John (1B), Ethan Lawson (1B), Jared Miller (1B)

RBI: Ramos (2), John (1)

BB: Webb (2), Lawson (HBP)

SAC: Ramos

Pope (20-7) (13-3) will host Marietta in the round of 16 beginning Wednesday. Time TBA

Lowe's Walk- Off Homer in the 10th Seals Playoff Win for Pope

Joshua Lowe broke a 2-2 10th inning tie with a dramatic walk-off home run to right center field to lift Pope to a 3-2 victory over North Forsyth Friday in game one of a best of three playoff series. It was Lowe's second walk-off homer of the year and gave Pope a 1-0 series lead.

Pope starter Braden Zarbnisky worked out of 1st inning trouble en route to striking out 13 Raiders and allowing only 4 hits over 8 innings. He struck out the side in the 3rd and 6th innings, and had at least 1K in 7 out of his 8 innings of work. Zarbnisky gave way to Matt Rowland in the 9th, who earned the win with 2 innings and 2 Ks while allowing only one hit.

Pope jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the 1st on a Parker Orr RBI single scoring PR Kyle Hinton. North Forsyth came back to take the lead 2-1 in the 2nd. In Pope's half of the inning, Zarbnisky singled home Jacob Ramos to tie the score at 2-2. It remained that way until the 10th when Lowe homered to win the game.

Pope had 9 hits in the game, led by Brady John (2 singles) and Parker Orr (2 singles), and Joshua Lowe (2B, HR). Other hits in the game: Jacob Ramos (1B), Jake Pralgo (1B), Braden Zarbnisky (1B).

RBI: Lowe, Orr, Zarbnisky

BB: Ramos

Stolen Bases: Kyle Hinton

Pope (19-7) (13-3) played game two immediately following game one.

Pope erases early deficit scoring eight unanswered runs to beat Lovett

After falling behind 3-0 on a Lovett home run and 4-0 on another Lovett run, the Pope pitchers buckled down and held Lovett scoreless for the rest of the game as the Pope offense began the steady climb back scoring eight unanswered runs to end their regular season with an 8-4 victory over Lovett on Monday.

Braden Zarbnisky was 4-for-4 to lead the Greyhounds in hitting. Ethan Lawson was 1-for-3 with a solo home run that brought Pope closer and Brady John (1-for-2) had a double that plated two RBIs in the bottom of the 6th to put Pope up 6-4. Braden Zarbnisky and Josh Lowe added one RBI apiece in the inning to pad the lead to 8-6.

Ryan Webb started the game pitching for Pope, followed by Tyler Thornton, PJ Gravalec, Cam Allison, and Braden Zarbnisky. Jacob Ramos and Matt Rowland finished the game out in the top of the 7th.

RBI's – John (2), Zarbnisky (1), Lowe (1), Lawson (1), Pralgo (1) and Webb (1).

Pope (18-7 overall), (13-3 region) faces North Forsyth in the playoffs in a double header on Friday at Pope.

Pope Wins in Extra Innings on Burrows 2 RBI Triple

Jack Burrows 2 RBI triple in the top of the 9th lifted Pope to an 8-6 win over Milton Thursday in a wild extra inning game. Pope gained the lead 1-0 in the 3rd on a Jacob Ramos BB, a Brady John SAC, and a Michael Wynne RBI single. Pope would add 2 more in the 4th on a Parker Orr 2 RBI single, and another in the 5th on a Burrows RBI SAC Fly. In the 6th, Ethan Lawson came through with an RBI double giving POPE a seemingly comfortable 5-0 lead.

Milton came back in the bottom of the 6th with 5 runs ultimately sending the game to extra innings. Joshua Lowe scored on a wild pitch in the 8th to give Pope a 6-5 edge, but Milton matched the run with one of their own sending the game to the deciding 9th.

After Teddy Chambers was hit by a pitch and Brady John singled, Jack Burrows stepped to the plate. Burrows hit a line drive over the first baseman's head into the right field corner for a 2 RBI triple giving Pope and an 8-6 lead. Lowe, in his 3rd inning of work on the mound, shut down Milton with 2 Ks and a lineout. Lowe earned the win for Pope.

Pope used "pitcher by committee" for the game, using 6 pitchers. Starter Cameron Allison (2 2/3, 2K), Tyler Thornton (1 1/3, 1K), PJ Gravalec (1 inning, 2K), Jacob Ramos (1/3), Matt Rowland (2/3, 2K) and Joshua Lowe (3 innings, 5K, and the Win)

Brady John (2 singles, SAC), Joshua Lowe (single, double), and Ethan Lawson (single, double) each had multi-hit games for Pope. Other hits in the game:

Michael Wynne (1B), Jack Burrows (3B), Tanner Huyck (1B), Parker Orr (2B), Braden Zarbnisky (1B)

RBI: Wynne, Burrows (3), Orr (2), Lawson (1)

BB: Ramos, Jake Pralgo (HBP), Ryan Webb, Lowe (2), Chambers (HBP)

SAC: Burrows, John, Lawson, Zarbnisky

Stolen Bases: Webb, Lowe

Pope (17-7) (13-3) will host a playoff series beginning Friday May 1 with a double header. Time and opponent TBA.

Zarbnisky Determination, Pope Offense Lead to Senior Night Victory

Pope senior Braden Zarbnisky could have easily folded his tent after a rough 1st inning Tuesday night. The inning saw almost every scenario-Walks, errors, hits, strikeouts, ground outs and a fly out. When the inning finally ended, Pope was down 5-0 in a game the Pope needed to win to clinch 2nd place in region 5AAAAAA and secure a first round Home playoff series. Instead of moping in the dugout after a rough start, Zarbnisky showed grit and poise, going six innings and only allowing 4 hits while striking out 5 in an eventual 6-5 Pope victory. Zarbnisky gave way to Matt Rowland in the 7th, who over powered Milton hitters with 0 hits and a K to earn the save, while giving Zarbnisky the win on Senior Night.

Pope simply did not panic, chipping away at the 5-0 deficit with 2 runs in the 2nd, 1 in the 4th, another in the 5th, and 2 in the 6th allowing Rowland to shut the Eagles down in the top of the 7th and give Pope the victory.

Pope totaled 14 hits: Jacob Ramos (2 singles), Michael Wynne (2 doubles), Ryan Webb (2 singles), Jacob Pralgo (single), Brady Jon (single), Joshua Lowe (2 doubles), Parker Orr (2 singles), Braden Zarbnisky (2 singles)

RBI: Ramos (1), B. John (2), Lowe (2), Orr (1)

SAC: Wynne

BB: Webb, Lowe, Orr, Zarbnisky

Pope (16-7) (12-3) will end region play Thursday night at Milton.

Pope Wins a Wild One in 9 Innings

Pope could only muster 3 hits through the first 6 innings against Woodstock Wednesday night, but as soon as the Hounds were able to get to the Wolverines bullpen the game changed entirely. Pope ended up with 11 hits and defeated Woodstock 6-5 in 9 innings as Pope moved to 15-7 overall and 11-3 in region play.

Pope starter Cameron Allison went 6 innings, scattering four hits and striking out 5 Woodstock hitters. Allison had excellent command of all of his pitches, walking only one Wolverine. Matt Rowland relieved Allison in the 7th, getting a pop out, ground out and a strikeout. Rowland was outstanding for the 2nd straight game. Joshua Lowe came in to pitch the 8th and 9th, striking out the side in the 8th and getting 3 ground outs in the decisive 9th and earning the win for Pope.

In the top of the 7th, down 3-0, Brady John walked and Jared Miller was hit by a pitch putting runners at 1st and second. After a Braden Zarbnisky single, Joshua Lowe stepped to the plate with the bases loaded. He delivered a 2 RBI single followed by a Parker Orr RBI single knotting the score at 3 and sending the game to extra innings.

Pope took control in the 8th on a Woodstock error and an RBI single by Jared Miller to lead 5-3. Woodstock was able to tie the game at 5 on a Pope error, leading to the decisive 9th. After a leadoff double by Lowe, Jake Pralgo singled him home to give Pope the 6-5 lead, and Lowe shut the door on Woodstock in the bottom half of the inning.

Pitching: Allison (6 innings, 4 Hits, 1 walk, 5 Ks), Rowland (1 inning, 0 hits, 1 K), Lowe (2 innings, 1 walk, 3 Ks)

Hitting: Kyle Hinton (1B), Jake Pralgo (2 singles), Joshua Lowe (2 singles and a double), Parker Orr (3 singles), Jared Miller (1B), Braden Zarbnisky

RBI: Pralgo, Lowe (2), Orr, Miller

Walks: Pralgo (HBP), Brady John, Orr (HBP), Teddy Chambers (INT), Ethan Lawson, Miller (HBP)

Pope (15-7) (11-3) will play at Milton on Friday at 5:55

Zarbnisky Tosses Complete Game Shutout in Region Win Over Woodstock

Pope starting pitcher Braden Zarbnisky scattered 4 hits Monday, and tossed a complete game shutout lifting Pope to a 3-0 win over Woodstock. Zarbnisky allowed had outstanding command, allowing no walks, and struck out 6 Woodstock hitters earning his 5th win.

Parker Orr led the Pope attack with a single, double, and 2 RBI. Kyle Hinton had a double that produced the other RBI for the Hounds. Other hits in the game:

Jake Pralgo (1B), Michael Wynne (1B), Ethan Lawson (2B), Jared Miller (1B), Braden Zarbnisky (1B)

RBI: Hinton, Orr (2)

BB: Hinton, Joshua Lowe

Pope (14-6) (10-3) will play Wednesday at Woodstock at 5:55 p.m.

Wild 7th inning leads to Walk-off Win for Pope

Pope earned its 9th region win on Saturday in a walk-off 7-6 win over Etowah. The game looked to be in Etowah's hands as it built a 6-1 lead in the 3rd inning, but Pope scratched and clawed their way back to 6-4 going into the wild and decisive 7th.

In the 5th, down 6-1, Pope showed fight to move to 6-4. Michael Wynne led off with a single, followed by a Jacob Ramos SAC and a Brady John single. Braden Zarbnisky then singled home John to make the score 6-2. With Joshua Lowe at the plate, a wild pitch brought home Jared Miller from 3rd. The ball got away from the catcher during the play at the plate, and a hustling Zarbnisky scored all the way from 2nd on the same wild pitch to make the score 6-4.

In the 7th, down 6-4, the Hounds led off with back to back singles by Kyle Hinton and Brady John, followed by a Jared Miller SAC. A walk to Zarbnisky loaded the bases with 1 out. Another wild pitch scored Hinton to bring Pope to within 1 at 6-5. The bases were loaded again on a Joshua Lowe intentional walk. Ethan Lawson then walked bringing home John to even the score at 6 with the bases loaded and 2 outs. Jake Pralgo stepped to the plate and took one for the team....Literally... Pralgo was hit in the right shoulder by a pitch, bringing home Zarbnisky for the winning score.

Pope starter Ryan Webb pitched 4 1/3 innings striking out 6 while only issuing 2 walks. Webb's off speed and breaking pitches accounted for all 6 Ks. Matt Rowland relieved Webb in the 5th, striking out 6 of the 8 batters he faced. Rowland had excellent command of all of his pitches, allowing no walks.

Hits: Kyle Hinton (1B), Michael Wynne (1B), Brady John (2 singles), Parker Orr (1B), Ethan Lawson (1B), Braden Zarbnisky (1B)

RBI: Jake Pralgo, Ethan Lawson, Braden Zarbnisky

SAC: Jacob Ramos, Michael Wynne, Jared Miller

Walks: Joshua Lowe (INT), Parker Orr, Ethan Lawson, Jared Miller, Braden Zarbnisky (2)

Stolen Bases: Brady John, Braden Zarbnisky

Pope (13-6) (9-3) next plays Monday at home vs Woodstock at 5:55 pm.

Pope Goes Down to Etowah in Region Loss

Pope lost 13-5 to Etowah Thursday in a frustrating loss that now leaves the Hounds in 2nd place in the region at 8-3, and 12-6 overall. The lone bright spot in the game came in the Pope half of the 5th, with the Hounds down 6-0. After Ethan Lawson was hit by a pitch, Jake Pralgo singled and Brady John reached on an Etowah error scoring Lawson to make the score 6-1. After another walk to Michael Wynne, Joshua Lowe came to the plate with the bases loaded. Lowe took a fastball deep over the right center field wall for a grand slam, making the score 6-5. Pope got no closer in the next 2 innings, and fell 13-5.

Pope Starter Cameron Allison pitched 2 1/3 innings with 3 Ks and gave up 3 hits. PJ Gravalec relieved Allison and pitched 2 1/3 with 1K and gave up 2 hits. Jacob Ramos relieved Gravalec and went 1/3 and gave up no hits. Joshua Lowe came on to start the 6th inning and recorded the first out, and Tyler Thornton finished the game for Pope, recording the final 2 outs inducing a double play.

Hits: Kyle Hinton (1B), Jake Pralgo (1B), Joshua Lowe (1B, Grand Slam HR), Ethan Lawson (1B), and Braden Zarbnisky (1B)

RBI: Lowe (4)

Stolen Bases: Jacob Ramos

Walks: Lawson (HBP), Ramos, Wynne

Pope (12-6) (8-3) will host Etowah Saturday at Pope. Game time is 3 pm.

Errors Cost Pope in Region Loss to Walton

Pope and Walton squared off for the second time in 4 days Wednesday night, and the Raiders took game two and the season sweep 7-6. Four Pope errors led to 3 Walton runs in a game that felt like Pope was in control despite those errors.

Pope starter Braden Zarbnisky scattered 6 hits over 4 innings, while striking out 4, and issuing no walks. Matt Rowland relieved Zarbnisky in the 5th, striking out one and inducing an inning ending double play in his 2 innings.

Offensively, Pope was led by Parker Orr (2 singles, double, RBI), and Ethan Lawson (single, HR, 3 RBI). Joshua Lowe also had a multi-hit game with a single and a double.

Defensively, an inning ending Rowland to Ryan Webb to Orr double play gave Pope hope going to the final frame, but the hounds could only get to 7-6, falling just short.

Other hits in the game included: Jacob Ramos (1B), Michael Wynn (1B), Jared Miller (1B)

RBI: Ramos, Orr, Lawson (3), Zarbnisky

SAC: Zarbnisky

Stolen Bases: Lowe

BB: Jake Pralgo, Wynne, Lowe, Miller

Pope (12-6) (8-2) will play at Etowah Thursday at 5:55

Pope Loses 5-1 Despite a Good Outing From Ryan Webb

Starting pitcher Ryan Webb pitched five solid innings striking out five and allowing six hits. Matt Rowland came in relief in the 6th inning striking out three but it was not enough as Pope went down for the first time in the region to Walton 5-1. On offense, Pope was led by Braden Zarbnisky who had 2 doubles. Also getting hits were Ethan Lawson (1B) and Jake Pralgo (2B). Pope scored its lone run on an errant throw that went into the visiting team's dugout.

Pitching: Webb (5 innings, 6 hits, 5 strikeouts), and Rowland (2 innings, 1 hit, 3 strikeouts).

Hitting: Zarbnisky (2 2B), Lawson (1B), and Pralgo (2B).

Pope (12-5 overall), (8-1 region) faces Walton again on Wednesday at Walton High School.

Pope Uses 5 Run Inning to Remain Undefeated in Region Play

Pope scored 5 runs in the 3rd inning Friday to complete the sweep of the Cherokee Warriors and remain at the top of the region 5AAAAAA standings. After walks in the 3rd to Michael Wynne and Joshua Lowe, Braden Zarbnisky reached on a Warrior error to score Pope's first run in the inning. After Parker Orr scored Lowe on a SAC fly, Jared Miller scored Zarbnisky an RBI single. Ethan Lawson then stepped to the plate, and for the second game in a row put the game out of reach. Lawson took a fastball deep in to the left field corner for a home run scoring Jared Miller and Zarbnisky giving Pope a 5-0 lead.

Pope starter Cameron Allison was effective all night, going 6 1/3 and allowing 5 scattered hits while striking out 7 Cherokee hitters. Allison moves to 4-0 with a save on the season with the win on Friday.

Allison was helped out defensively by 2 double plays, eliminating trouble and further damage in the 1st and 2nd innings. Matt Rowland relieved Allison in the 7th with 1 out, and after a single got 2 Ks to end the game, with Poe winning 5-3.

Hits: Joshua Lowe (1B) Jared Miller (1B), Braden Zarbnisky (1B), Ethan Lawson (HR)

SAC: Parker Orr

RBI: Orr, Lawson (2), Miller

Stolen Bases: Patrick Burke, Wynne, Zarbnisky (3)

Walks: Jake Pralgo, Wynne, Lowe, Orr, Zarbnisky

Pope (12-4) (8-0) will play Walton Saturday at 1 pm

Pope uses 18 Hits to Dismantle Cherokee in Region Win

The Pope Greyhounds travelled to Cherokee Wednesday night in hopes of going 7-0 in region play, and left no doubt who the better team was after 7 innings.

Pope starting pitcher Braden Zarbnisky came out sharp as usual, striking out 8 and only allowing 4 hits over 5 innings and helped his cause with 3 hits and 2 RBIs.

Aside from a dicey 2nd inning, Zarbnisky was in control and finished the night with 5 innings, 4 hits and 8 Ks.

Zarbnisky also led Pope with 3 singles and 2 RBIs, in an 18 hit attack from the Hounds that led to the victory along with Lowe's offensive outburst. Multi-hit games were had by Zarbnisky (3 singles), Jacob Ramos (2 singles), Brady John (2 singles), and Ethan Lawson (2 singles and a HR). Joshua Lowe had 2 singles, a double and a triple, falling just short of the cycle ...

Defensively, Pope made all the routine plays as well as the spectacular....In the bottom of the 5th Brady John made a diving catch in right field to take away a sure double allowing Zarbnisky to continue in the windup vs the stretch with a man on second.

Other hits in the game: Jake Pralgo (1B) Tanner Huyck (2B), Parker Orr (2b), Teddy Chambers (2b), Jared Miller (1B)

RBIs: Ramos, John, Lowe (2), Huyck, Parker Orr, Ethan Lawson (2), Miller, Zarbnisky (2)

Walks: Michael Wynne

SAC: Orr, Ramos, Jake Pralgo

Zarbnisky gave way in the 6th after a solid outing to Matt Rowland, who struck out one and induced a groundball double play. Joshua Lowe closed the game in the 7th with 2 Ks, pushing Pope to 7-0 in region play.

Pope (11-4) (7-0) will take on Cherokee again on Friday at 5:55 at Pope.

Pope Uses 9-Run Second Inning to Finish Roswell

Pope stands alone atop Region 5AAAAAA after beating Roswell Friday night 13-1 to move to 6-0 in region play.

The Hounds sent 15 men to the plate in the 2nd inning and scored 9 runs, after plating 3 in the first inning. The Pope attack was led by Jared Miller (2 singles, double, 2 RBI), Parker Orr (single, double, RBI), Ethan Lawson (2 singles, SAC, 2 RBI).). **Other hits in the game were:** Michael Wynne (double, SAC, RBI), Joshua Lowe (triple, RBI), Braden Zarbnisky (single, RBI)

Sophomore lefty Ryan Webb started on the mound for Pope, and left no doubt that it would be a long night for Roswell striking out the side in the 1st. Webb used effective breaking balls to keep the Hornet hitters off balance. For the night, Webb finished with 6Ks while only giving up 1 hit in four innings of work. In the 5th, Webb gave way to Pope relief pitcher PJ Gravalec to close out the game. Gravalec quickly got a ground out, strike out, and fly out to seal the 13-1 win for Pope in the run-rule shortened game.

Pitching: Webb (4 innings, 6K, 1 hit), Gravalec (1 inning, 1K, 0 hits)

Walks: Jacob Ramos (2), Brady John, Lowe (2), Lawson, Zarbnisky

RBI: Wynne, Brady John, Lowe, Orr, Lawson (2), Milller (2), Zarbnisky

Stolen Bases: Zarbnisky

SAC: Wynne, Lawson

Pope (10-4) (6-0) will be in action next Wednesday at Cherokee at 5:55 pm.

Allison Throws Pope to 5-0 in Region Play

Pope starter Cameron Allison took the mound Wednesday night for Pope in hopes of bringing the Hounds a victory, and moving Pope to 5-0 in region play. Allison tossed a complete game, 3 hit shutout while striking out 10 Hornets to do just that. Pope now sits at 5-0 in Region 5AAAAAA, and will play Roswell again Friday at Roswell.

Allison was in command from the start, striking out the side in the 1st inning, and had 7 Ks after 3 innings. He scattered 3 hits over 7 innings and only allowed 1 walk. Allison's final line: 7 innings, 3 hits, 1 BB and 10 Ks.

Pope was helped by three timely defensive plays by Joshua Lowe, Jared Miller, and Braden Zarbnisky. Early in the contest Lowe fielded a fair ball down the 3rd base line and fired a strike from 3 steps behind the bag in foul territory for a bang-bang out allowing Allison to continue to operate with no one on base. In the next inning, with a Hornet on 2nd, Jared Miller fielded a ground ball at shortstop. Inexplicably the runner on 2nd broke for 3rd and Miller fired a strike to Lowe at 3rd for the out. Finally in the 6th with a man on first, a soft line drive was hit to center to a waiting Zarbnisky. He intentionally let the ball hit the ground confusing the runner on 1st and fired a strike to 2nd for the force out.

Jared Miller led the 5 hit Pope attack with a single and RBI scoring Lowe in the 3rd to make it 3-0. Lowe had 2 hits with a double and single. Popes other runs were unearned, scoring on a wild pitch (Miller), a Jacob Ramos ROE (Lawson), and Michael Wynne (wild pitch).

Pitching: Allison (7innings, 3 hits, 1 BB, 10K)

Hitting: Joshua Lowe (2B, 1 B), Lawson (1B), Miller (1B RBI), Zarbbnisky (1B)

Walks: None

SB: None

Pope (9-4)-(5-0) next plays at Roswell at 5:55 Friday

Pope scores 7 in first inning to beat Lassiter and take the season series

Pope sent 10 players to the plate in the first inning and scored seven runs to defeat Lassiter 10-4 taking the season series and extending their region win streak to four in a row.

Starting pitcher Braden Zarbnisky got out of a first inning bases loaded jam to hold Lassiter to just one run and pitched five innings holding Lassiter to a total of three runs and striking out five. Matt Rowland came in relief in the 6th inning allowing no runs, and Jacob Ramos closed out the game in the 7th striking out two and securing the win for Pope. Pope got some balanced hitting from its starting line-up jumping out to a 7-1 lead after one inning. Pope was led by Josh Lowe who went 2-for-4 with a double and an RBI, Braden Zarbnisky who went 2-3, and Michael Wynne who added a hit and drove in two.

Pitching: Zarbnisky (5 innings, 7 hits, 5 strikeouts), Rowland (1 inning and 1 hit), and Ramos (1 inning, 2 hits, 2 strikeouts).

Hitting: Lowe (2B,1B), Zarbnisky (2 1B), Wynne (1B), Orr (1B), Lawson (1B), Pralgo (1B), and John (1B).

Walks: Wynne (2), Zarbnisky (1), Miller (1), and Ramos (1).

RBI's: Wynne (2), Chambers (1), Lawson (1), Pralgo (1), Ramos (1), and John (1).

Stolen Bases: John (2), Wynne.

Pope (8-4), (4-0) takes on Roswell on Wednesday at Pope.

Pope Topples Lassiter, Moves to 3-0 in Region Play

Pope used 11 hits, including multi hit nights from Jacob Ramos, Jake Pralgo, and Parker Orr to win its 3rd region game in a row on Friday night at Lassiter.

The Greyhounds jumped on the Trojans from the start, on the strength of a Michael Wynne leadoff double, a Joshua Lowe RBI triple, and a Parker Orr groundout RBI to jump on top 2-0. Lassiter came back to even it up at 2-2 before Pope again surged ahead 4-2 in the 3rd inning on a single by Parker Orr, an RBI single by Ethan Lawson (scoring PR Patrick Burke), and an RBI single by Jake Pralgo.

In the 4th, after a leadoff single by Brady John and walks to Lowe and Zarbnisky, Parker Orr drove John home with a single to push the lead to 5-2. Pope added one more in the 5th when Jake Pralgo scored on a passed ball to make the score 6-2. The Trojans added one more run in the 5th, and one in the 7th to make the final 6-4 in favor of Pope.

Pope starting pitcher Ryan Webb pitched 4 strong innings earning the win. Webb allowed only 3 hits while striking out 7 Trojans, each on breaking balls. Webb gave way to Matt Rowland in the 5th with bases loaded, and Rowland induced a double play on his second pitch, and a strikeout to limit the damage to 1 run. Rowland pitched 2 strong innings, striking out 2. Rowland gave way in the 7th to Joshua Lowe, who got a ground ball out and 2 Ks to finish off the Trojans.

Pitching: Webb (4 innings, 3 hits, 7K), Rowland (2 innings, 2 hits, 2 K), Lowe (1 inning, 0 hits, 2K)

Hitting: Ramos (2 1B), Pralgo (2 1B), Wynne (2B), B John (1B), Joshua Lowe (3B), Orr (2 1B), Lawson (1B), Zarbnisky (1B)

Walks: Pralgo, Wynne, John, Lowe (2), Lawson, Zarbnisky (2)

RBIs: Pralgo, Lowe, Orr (2), Lawson

Stolen Bases: Brady John (2), Lowe

Pope (7-4) (3-0) will take on Lassiter again on Monday at 5:55 at Pope

Pope Moves to 2-0 in Region Play in 9-2 Win

Pope used 11 hits and strong pitching to move to 2-0 in region play on Wednesday night in a 9-2 win over Wheeler in a game that was never in doubt, as Pope Pitchers Cameron Allison, Tyler Thornton, and PJ Gravalec combined for a 6 hit effort that put Pope at the top of the region.....

Pope starting pitcher Cameron Allison threw 5 strong innings, striking out six wildcats and scattering 4 hits gaining his second straight win. Allison showed a great breaking ball for all 6 Ks, and made two nice hustle plays defensively in his 5 innings. Tyler Thornton relieved Allison in the 6th, and quickly got 2 groundouts and a fly out, leaving Pope 3 outs away from its 2nd consecutive region win. PJ Gravalec came on for the 7th, striking out 2 hitters in the frame to secure the win for Pope.

The Greyhounds big inning came in the 3rd- with 6 consecutive singles from Brady John, Michael Wynne, Joshua Lowe, Braden Zarbnisky, Parker Orr, and Jared Miller. After Ethan Lawson was hit by a pitch, and a Tanner Huyck groundout RBI, Pope had a 5-0 lead after 3 innings. They pushed it to 7-0 in the 4th on a Joshua Lowe walk and 3 stolen bases, along with a Zarbnisky walk and 2 runs scoring after Parker Orr reached on an error.

Pope added 2 more in the 7th on a Jared Miller single, Lawson's 2nd double of the game, and RBIs by Jacob Ramos and Tanner Huyck.

Pitching: Allison (5 innings, 6Ks, 4 hits), Thornton (1 inning, 0 hits), Gravalec (1 inning, 2 Ks)

Hits: Patrick Burke (1B), Brady John (1B), Joshua Lowe (2 singles), Parker Orr, (1B), Ethan Lawson (2 doubles), Jared Miller (2 singles), Braden Zarbnisky (2 singles).

Walks: Lowe, Lawson (HBP), Zarbnisky

Stolen Bases: Lowe (3), Wynne, Zarbnisky (2)

RBIs: Lowe, Huyck (2), Orr

Pope (6-4) (2-0) will be in action Friday at Lassiter in region play at 5:55.

Zarbnisky Simply Perfect in Region Opener

Pope starter Braden Zarbnisky was perfect on Monday night as Pope won their region opener 4-0 over the Wheeler Wildcats on Monday night, collecting 8 hits in the victory.

The story was Zarbnisky.....Twenty one Wildcats came to the plate, and 21 returned to the dugout disappointed. Zarbnisky needed only 57 pitches over 7 innings to completely dismantle Wheeler as he struck out 5 only had one 3 ball count. In the end, a complete game, no hitter, and perfect game was celebrated in the infield by the Pope players and coaches. Zarbnisky, a West Virginia commit, was never in trouble as the Pope defense made all the routine plays committing no errors and allowing Zarbnisky to work from the wind up the entire game.

Pope jumped on top in the 1st inning 3-0 on a Joshua Lowe double (scoring Michael Wynne), a Parker Orr Sac Fly (scoring Lowe), and a Jared Miller single (scoring PR Jack Burrows), and added another in the 5th on another Orr Sac Fly scoring Lowe to make the score 4-0.

Zarbnisky not only threw a perfect game, as he also led the Pope attack with 3 singles and an RBI in the contest, showing his speed on 2 bunt singles and an infield hit.

Pitching: Zarbnisky (7 innings, 0 hits, 0 walks, 0 hits, 5 K, PERFECT GAME)

Hits: Jacob Ramos (1B), Brady John (1B), Joshua Lowe (2B), Jared Miller (2 singles), Braden Zarbnisky (3 singles)

Walks: Lowe, Michael Wynne (HBP), Ethan Lawson (HBP)

RBI: Parker Orr (2), Jared Miller, Zarbnisky

Sac: Orr (2)

Stolen base: Burrows, Jared Miller (2)

Pope (5-4) (1-0) is in action against Wheeler at 5:55 on Wednesday at Wheeler

Pope Uses Solid Pitching and 9 Hit Attack to Topple North Cobb

Pope used solid pitching and timely hitting to beat the North Cobb Warriors on Tuesday 7-2. Three Pope Pitcher's combined in the effort, giving up only 4 hits, and 9 different Greyhounds reached base via a hit.

Pope starter Cameron Allison pitched 5 solid innings, allowing 3 hits and using an effective breaking ball to strike out 6. Matt Rowland relieved Allison in the 6th, notching 2 Ks and not allowing a hit. Ryan Webb came on for the 7th and induced a ground ball double play and a groundout to seal the victory.

Pope jumped on top in the 2nd on an RBI single by Jake Pralgo, scoring Jared Miller from 2nd base. After a Brady John walk and 2 stolen bases, John scored on a passed ball to give Pope a 2-0 lead. North Cobb answered in the bottom of the 3rd on a 2 run homer to pull even at 2-2.

Pope scored 2 more in the 4th on a Michael Wynne RBI single scoring Jacob Ramos, and after a single by Brady John, and an alert base running play, John scored on a passed ball.

The Hounds extended their lead again in the 5th. After a walk to Jared Miller, a Ryan Webb bunt single, and a Jake Pralgo fielder's choice Jacob Ramos stepped to the plate. Ramos took one to the wall scoring Miller and Pralgo for a 2 RBI double extending the lead to 6-2.

Pope got 1 more run in the 7th. After Ethan Lawson doubled to lead off the inning, Tyler Thornton drove him home with an RBI single putting the score at 7-2, and North Cobb got no closer in their half of the 7th.

Pitching: Allison (5 innings, 6K, 3 Hits), Rowland (1 inning, 2K, no hits), Webb (1 inning, 1 hit)

Hits: Jacob Ramos (2B), Jake Pralgo (1B), Tyler Thornton (1B), Ryan Webb (1B), Brady John (1B), Joshua Lowe (1B), Ethan Lawson (2B), Jared Miller (1B), Braden Zarbnisky ((1B).

RBI's: Ramos (2), Pralgo (1), Wynne (1), Thornton (1)

Stolen Bases: Brady John (2), Joshua Lowe

Walks: Ramos, Wynne, Webb, Lowe, Miller (2 BB and 1 HBP), Zarbnisky

SAC: Zarbnisky

POPE (4-4) (0-0) next plays at Dunwoody on Saturday at 3pm before starting Region play next week.

Hounds Late Inning Lead Doesn't Hold Up in 5-4 Loss

Pope built a 4-0 lead against Blessed Trinity on Saturday, only to see it slip away in the bottom of the 6th when the Titans plated 5 runs, and walked away with a 5-4 victory over the Greyhounds.

Pope built a 1-0 lead in the first when Parker Orr drove in Joshua Lowe. The Hounds made it 3-0 in the 2nd on the strength of 3 consecutive walks, and a towering 2 RBI ground rule double by Joshua Lowe, driving in Jacob Ramos and Brady John (Lowe was given the green light on a 3-0 pitch). Pope extended the lead to 4-0 when pinch runner Kyle Hinton scored from third on a passed ball.

Blessed Trinity's only threat before the 6th inning was in the 4th after a double and single. On the single to left, Brady John fired a perfect strike to catcher Tanner Huyck to gun down the Titan at the plate.

Pope starter Braden Zarbnisky was strong through 5 innings of work, striking out 4 and allowing no walks. Reliever Joshua Lowe came in in the 6th and struck out 1 Titan hitter.

Down 5-4 with one last at bat, Pope could not capitalize on a lead-off walk to Lowe, and Blessed Trinity walked away with the win.

Hits: Joshua Lowe (2B), Tanner Huyck (1B), Parker Orr (1B), Jared Miller (2 Singles)

RBI's: Lowe (2), Orr

Walks: Jacob Ramos, Michael Wynne, Brady John, Joshua Lowe (2), Braden Zarbnisky.

Pope (3-4) (0-0) will next play on Wednesday at North Cobb High School.

Comeback Bid Falls Short as Pope Goes Down 9-8

Pope fell to Northside-Columbus 9-8 Friday night in a game that saw Pope down 5-0 and 9-3 before fighting back in a 5 run 4th inning to make the contest 9-8. Pope could not push a run across in the final three innings and the comeback bid fell short.

Three Pope pitcher's combined in the effort, striking out nine Northside-Columbus hitters. Starter Ryan Webb used a sharp breaking ball to strike out 4 in his 2 2/3 innings of work. Matt Rowland relieved Webb, and totaled 3 K's in 3 1/3 innings. PJ Gravalec came on in the seventh and was sharp for the second straight outing. Gravalec struck out 2 and gunned a runner down at the plate on a double steal attempt.

Popes offense was led by Brady John (2 2B and 2 RBI) and Michael Wynne (1B, SAC, 2 RBI). Other hits in the game included Jake Pralgo (1B), Parker Orr (1B), Jacob Ramos (1B), Jared Miller (1B), and Braden Zarbnisky (1B).

Walks: Pralgo, Joshua Lowe (2), Orr (HBP), Miller, and Zarbnisky.

RBI: Wynne (2), B. John (2), Orr, and Zarbnisky.

SAC: Wynne and Zarbnisky

Pope (3-3) (0-0) plays at Blessed Trinity on Saturday at 1pm.

Lowe's Homer in Extras Lifts Hounds to Victory

Joshua Lowe's dramatic walk-off homer in the bottom of the 8th inning gave Pope a dramatic 3-1 victory over the Harrison Hoyas on a miserable, misty and foggy night on Tuesday in a game that was marked by great pitching and defense by the Greyhounds.

Pope starter Cameron Allison was sharp in 4 innings of work, striking out the side in the first, and ending his 4 innings with 4Ks, 1 hit, and gave up one run.

Reliever PJ Gravalec spelled Allison in the 5th with Pope down 1-0. Gravalec was sharp, striking out 2 and inducing ground balls and weak pop-ups in 3 innings of solid work.

During Gravalec's 3 innings Pope scored the tying run when PR Kyle Hinton and Joshua Lowe completed a double steal. A wild throw to 3rd allowed Lowe to score to even the score at 1-1.

Tyler Thornton came on for the 8th inning and quickly sat down the first two Hoyas, and then pitched out of a 2 on 2 out jam to induce a grounder for the third out, setting up the dramatic finish.

Catcher Parker Orr was solid behind the plate, showing a great ability to frame pitches and throwing out a Hoya that wandered too far off of second base.

Defensively, three plays in the game stood out, first because the plays could have produced runs for Harrison, and second because they were great athletic plays. In the top of the 3rd with Pope down 1-0 and a man on 3rd and 1 out, a Harrison batter hit a shin-high line drive up the middle that was snared by pitcher Cameron Allison, who then set his sights on the runner on third who had broken toward home. Allison tagged the runner out after a brief rundown to complete the double play and keep the score at 1-0.

The other two plays were made by right fielder Michael Wynne. In the 6th inning with the score tied at 1 apiece and a man on second, a Hoya batter hit a high fly ball down the right field line and a racing Wynne made a diving catch to save a run from scoring and ending the inning. In the 8th, with one out and nobody on Wynne made another diving catch on a line drive to his left that was going to be a sure double, setting Harrison up with a man on 2nd and 1 out in extra innings. Instead, Wynne's catch left Pope with nobody on and 1 out to get to take their hacks in the bottom of the 8th.

With the score tied at 1 each and Pope needing to push a run across for the win, the stage was set for Lowe's heroics. After a quick ground out, Brady John was hit by the first pitch he saw from the Harrison reliever, sending him to first

base. When Lowe stepped to the plate, he watched one pitch to size the pitcher up and gain his timing. When a fastball next came his way, he took a mighty cut and sent the ball deep into the foggy sky and over the center field wall to give Pope the walk off win 3-1.

Hits: Michael Wynne (1B), Ethan Lawson (1B), Braden Zarbnisky (1B), and Joshua Lowe (HR)

RBI's: Lowe (2)

Stolen bases: Kyle Hinton, Joshua Lowe, Ethan Lawson

Walks: Jake Pralgo, Brady John (HBP), Parker Orr (HBP), Joshua Lowe (HB)

Longhorns Top Greyhounds 4-2

Kell beat Pope 4-2 on Saturday on the strength of only 3 hits. Pope starting pitcher Matt Rowland (2 1/3 IP, 2K), reliever Ryan Webb (2 2/3 IP, 5K), and reliever Joshua Lowe (2 IP, 1K) each only gave up 1 hit but Kell found other ways to score to secure the victory.

Pope jumped on top in the 1st inning 1-0 after singles by Brady John and Braden Zarbnisky. Joshua Lowe brought Brady John home and Pope led 1-0.

Kell scored 2 in the 3rd and 2 more in the 4th to stretch the lead to 4-2, a lead that the Greyhounds were not able to overcome, even though Pope had 2 on in the 6th (Joshua Lowe 2B and Parker Orr HBP).

Pope totaled 4 hits in the game (Brady John 1B, Joshua Lowe 2B, Jared Miller 1B, and Braden Zarbnisky 1B).

Walks: Jacob Ramos, Parker Orr (HBP)

Stolen Bases: Brady John

Sacrifice: Brady John

RBI: Lowe, Zarbnisky

Pope (2-2) (0-0) is at home vs Harrison on Tuesday at 5:55.

Pope downs Peachtree Ridge in a Pitcher's duel

The 2015 edition of the Pope Greyhounds took the field locally for the first time Friday night, in a non- region game against the Peachtree Ridge Lions after a 1-1 road trip to Valdosta last weekend. With temps in the 30's at game time, pitching was going to be at a premium for both sides and that is exactly how it played out.

Three Lions hurlers struck out 13 greyhounds, allowing only 3 hits. Two Greyhound pitchers only allowed 1 hit, and struck out 11 Lions. The difference in the game was a timely 2 RBI single in the 6th by Jared Miller, and two outstanding plays in right field by Brady John, one of which was a diving catch robbing a sure double from the Lions hitter that would have been a game changer in a game that was 1-0 Pope at the time.

After Senior Braden Zarbnisky had retired the first two Lions in the bottom of the 3rd with Pope on top 1-0, a line shot was hit to right field and Brady John tracked it and dove for the catch, on what was to be a sure double and forcing Zarbnisky to operate from the stretch with a man on second. No need. John made the diving grab, and Pope headed to the 4th up 1-0.

Zarbnisky rolled on through the next two innings flirting with trouble in the 4th, but working out of it with a devastating series of breaking pitches.....His line for the night- 5 innings, 6Ks, 1BB, 1 H.

In the 6th, with Pope up 1-0 and facing the 3rd Lions pitcher, Pope broke through. Zarbnisky singled, Parker Orr was hit by a pitch, (Kyle Hinton pinch ran for Orr), and Ethan Lawson walked to load the bases. With the bases loaded, Jared Miller stepped to the plate needing to capitalize and add insurance. When he rifled a fastball to right center field, Zarbnisky and Hinton came around to score, giving Pope a 3-0 lead with 6 outs to get.

Zarbnisky gave way to Junior lefty Cameron Allison in the 6th, needing six outs to secure Zarbnisky's first win of the 2015 campaign and Allison's first save. Allison struck out the side in the 6th on 10 pitches, flashing devastating off speed pitches on each strike out. After Pope went down quietly in the 7th, Allison needed 3 more outs to secure the victory for Pope. After a ground out and 2 more strike outs, Pope was victorious.

Pitching: Zarbnisky- 5 innings, 6 Ks, 1BB, 1H

Allison-2 Innings, 5 Ks, 0 H, 0 BB

Hitting: Patrick Burke- (Single), Braden Zarbnisky (Single), Jared Miller (single, 2 RBI)

Walks: Brady John, Joshua Lowe (HBP), Parker Orr(HBP), Ethan Lawson (2)

Stolen Bases: Brady John

RBI: Jared Miller (2)

Sacrifice: Braden Zarbnisky

Pope moves to 2-1 overall and (0-0) in region play. The Hounds take the field Saturday at 2 pm against Kell.