

LOCAL BASEBALL

Post 83 sweeps foes

Sheboygan Press Media

Sheboygan's Post 83 Legion baseball team allowed just two runs in a doubleheader sweep of opponents on Sunday.

Sheboygan edged Marshfield 3-1 before run-ruling Kenosha 11-1 in five innings.

In the opener, Weston Nelson allowed just one unearned run on four hits over 6.2 innings for the win; Andy Seymour got the final out with the bases loaded for the save.

Cody Weis went 3-for-3 with a single, double and triple, and Robert Hoffman and John Raff each added two hits.

Against Kenosha, Post 83 pounded out 14 hits. Hoffman was 3-for-3 and Seymour was 3-for-4 with three RBI to lead the charge.

Alex Feudner, Nelson and Carter Amundsen each added two hits, Nelson and Fuedner had two RBI apiece.

Raff, in his first work on the mound since last July, got the win in four innings of work, Aaron Krueger threw a scoreless fifth.

"We beat two teams that will win a lot of games," said Post 83 coach Steve Goes. "We have hit the ball well in all of our games thus far."

Sheboygan (5-0) is at Appleton Post 38 for a doubleheader on Tuesday, then are in a tournament in Waupun over the weekend.

MLB

Gwynn, 'Mr. Padre,' dies at 54

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Tony Gwynn, the Hall of Famer with a sweet left-handed swing who spent his entire 20-year career with the Padres and was one of the game's greatest hitters, died of cancer Monday. He was 54.

Gwynn, a craftsman at the plate and winner of eight batting titles, was nicknamed "Mr. Padre" and was one of the most beloved athletes in San Diego.

He attributed his oral cancer to years of chewing tobacco. He had been on a medical leave since late March from his job as baseball coach at San Diego State, his alma mater.

In a rarity in pro sports, Gwynn played his whole career with the Padres, choosing to stay rather than leaving for bigger paychecks elsewhere. His terrific hand-eye coordination made him one of the game's greatest contact hitters. He had 3,141 hits, a career .338 average and won eight NL batting titles. Gwynn's wife, Alicia, and other family members were at his side when he died. Gwynn's son, Tony Jr., was in Philadelphia, where he plays for the Phillies.

"Today I lost my Dad, my best friend and my mentor," Gwynn Jr. tweeted. "I'm gonna miss u so much pops. I'm gonna do everything in my power to continue to ... Make u proud!"

Gwynn played in the Padres' only two World Series and was a 15-time All-Star.

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NBA FINALS

Spurs still the model pro franchise

By Brian Mahoney

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Tim Duncan and Tony Parker won titles in their second seasons. Manu Ginobili was a champion as an NBA rookie.

Success came so quickly and frequently for the Big Three, but San Antonio couldn't keep it up after winning its last title in 2007. And just when the Spurs were on the verge of being back on top again last year, the Miami Heat practically snatched the rings right off their fingers.

So when they finally celebrated again Sunday, players wrapping themselves in flags from around the world in a reminder that the Spurs look far beyond the border to build champions, Parker had no trouble deciding



Tim Duncan of the San Antonio Spurs celebrates after defeating the Miami Heat in Game 5 of the NBA Finals.

GETTY IMAGES

where to rank this title.

"That's why I say it's the sweetest one," Parker said, "because it's just unbelievable to win seven years ago, and to be so close last year, it was very cruel. But that's the beauty of sport. Sometimes it's tough. And sometimes it

can be beautiful like today."

The Spurs finished off a dominant run to their fifth NBA championship, ending the Heat's two-year title reign with a 104-87 victory that wrapped up the series in five games.

Painfully denied 12 months ago by the Heat, this victory party was worth the wait.

"We got to this spot and we didn't let it go," Ginobili said.

San Antonio erased an early 16-point deficit and routed Miami for the fourth time in the series, denying the Heat's quest for a third straight championship. A year after the Spurs suffered their only loss in six finals appearances — a heartbreaking seven-game defeat — they turned the rematch into no match at all.

"We had a great first quarter, but from that point on they were the better team, and that's why they're the champions in 2014," said LeBron James, who led the Heat with 31 points and 10 rebounds.

Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard had 22 points and

10 rebounds for the Spurs, who added this title to the ones they won in 1999, 2003, '05 and '07 by shooting a finals-record 52.8 percent in the series.

"They played exquisite basketball this series and in particular these last three games and they are the better team. There's no other way to say it," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

A decade and a half after winning their first title, the Spurs remain the NBA's model organization, a small-market team that simply wins big and hardly ever does it with a high draft pick. Instead, they found players overseas or in other organizations who would fit the Spurs' way of doing things and mesh with Duncan, Parker and Ginobili, who

See SPURS, Page B2

WORLD CUP



U.S. forward Clint Dempsey celebrates after scoring against Ghana in an opening match at the World Cup in Brazil on Monday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

By Ronald Blum

Associated Press

NATAL, Brazil — After 90 brutal minutes of end-to-end action, the Americans emerged with a thrilling 2-1 win over Ghana.

"It was a grind, but it was a wonderful win at the end of the day," coach Jurgen Klinsmann said.

U.S. fans were screaming for revenge Monday after the Black Stars eliminated the Americans from the last two Cups.

They got it. At a price.

Clint Dempsey scored a shocking goal a half-minute in, but the U.S. couldn't make it stand up. Andre Ayew tied the score in the 82nd minute after a brilliant back-heel pass from Asamoah Gyan, who had eliminated the U.S. four years ago.

And then, just four minutes later, 21-year-old John Brooks rose to head in Graham Zusi's corner kick from 8 yards — the first substitute to ever score for the United States in 30 World Cup games over 84 years. The defender, an unexpected addition to the American roster, was so overcome he fell to the field and

was unable to move even after teammates climbed off the dog pile. He had made his national team debut only last August, and Brooks hadn't scored in four appearances.

U.S. players ran onto the field to celebrate at the final whistle, jumping as supporters chanted "U-S-A! U-S-A!" Now they're in good position in Group G, where Germany opened with a 4-0 rout of Cristiano Ronaldo and Portugal.

After the game, Vice President Joe Biden visited the victorious Americans

See SOCCER, Page B2

Germany makes short work of Portugal

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Germany was supposed to be a team that would melt in Brazil's tropics, and the United States was supposed to be a team that can't beat Ghana.

Both teams flipped the scripts on Monday and find themselves tied atop Group G.

In Salvador, Thomas Mueller scored a hat trick and Germany dominated Portugal — which played with 10 men after a red card in the 37th minute — 4-0, leaving German President Angela Merkel with a big smile.

Clint Dempsey scored in the first minute and rookie substitute John Brooks scored

in the 86th as the U.S. defeated Ghana 2-1 in Natal, with Vice President Joe Biden watching and giving the team a postgame pep talk.

Ghana had eliminated the Americans from the last two World Cups.

The two games helped the World Cup continue to deliver lots of goals — 44 in the first 14 games.

Nigeria played Iran in the day's other match, and neither team added to that tally. The teams played the first draw of this World Cup, finishing scoreless. Argentina defeated Bosnia 2-1 on Sunday in the other Group F match, and both will feel confident after watching Nigeria and Iran fail to produce.

Two seeded teams — defending champion Spain and Uruguay — were upset earlier. That fate would not befall Germany on Monday.

It was Germans' 100th World Cup match, and they had it wrapped up by halftime.

Mueller, who led the 2010 World Cup with five goals, scored on either side of Mats Hummels' headed goal as Germany took a 3-0 lead at the break. He added his third goal in the 81st.

"To score three goals in the World Cup opener against such an opponent is great," Mueller said.

Cristiano Ronaldo started at Arena Fonte Nova despite some nagging injuries. The winner of FIFA's best play-



Portugal's Pepe headbutts Germany's Thomas Mueller (L), receiving him a red card, during their World Cup Group G soccer match at the Fonte Nova arena in Salvador. REUTERS

er award, he faded after threatening early in the match. He had a shot from a break that Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer blocked, but there was nobody from Portugal to pounce on the rebound.

The defending Cup of Africa Nations champion, Nigeria will be more disappointed with the draw than Iran.

Neither Iran nor Nigeria has won a match at the World Cup since 1998.