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DHS baseball: Bulldogs sweep Whitmer, Otsego

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April 25, 2011

The Bulldogs of Defiance improved to 11-1 on the season after sweeping Toledo Whitmer 11-2 and Otsego 7-3 in twinbill action on Saturday at Defiance's Booster Field.

In the opener, senior righty Kurt Belau struck out 10 in the victory for Defiance (ranked No. 4 in the state in Division II). The Bulldogs jumped out in front early in rolling to the victory.

"Kurt has been very solid for us and Saturday was another good performance from him," stated Defiance mentor Tom Held. "He's the type of pitcher you better get to early, because once he establishes his breaking ball, he's a very tough pitcher.

"Early on we were able to take advantage of some Whitmer mistakes, but offensively I thought we hit the ball well all day," added Held.

Anthony Kidston led Defiance with a single and double in the opener, Ryan Cordray, Shea Murray and Austin Hancock each had a pair of singles and Rob Zeigler added a double.

In the nightcap, Cordray went six innings, finishing with nine Ks and no walks. Senior righty Jake Sanchez came on in the seventh and added his name to the Defiance 90-mile per hour club after hitting 91 and 90 on the radar gun.

"Ryan gave us another quality start, and the best thing about Ryan is that he doesn't walk anybody," Held said. "Then Jake comes in and pops his first pitch at 91, his second at 88 and then his third at 90 ... you should have heard that loud cheer.

"With Jake, he just hides the ball so well in his delivery," added the DHS mentor. "He could be a weapon for us late in games."

Kidston had a pair of doubles, while Cordray also doubled.

Held was appreciative for all the volunteer help in getting the field ready for Saturday's twinbill.

"I can't thank all of the people enough who came out to help us get the field ready," concluded Held. "We had people out there with Shop-Vacs sweeping the water off the field. The field wasn't perfect, but we had to play."

Defiance is back in action today at home against Fairview at 4:30 p.m., weather permitting.

Linescores

Whitmer 101 000 0 - 2 6 3

Defiance 422 300 x - 11 11 0

Winning pitcher: Kurt Belau (6 innings, 2 runs, 5 hits, 10 strikeouts, 3 walks). Other: Cody Barratt.

Losing pitcher: Remer (1 inning, 6 runs, 8 hits, 1 strikeout, 0 walks). Others: Linch, Michalak.

Leading hitters: (Toledo Whitmer, 6 hits) - LaFountain home run; Hickey single, double. (Defiance, 11 hits) - Ryan Cordray 2 singles; Shea Murray 2 singles; Anthony Kidston single, double; Austin Hancock 2 singles; Rob Zeigler double.

Otsego 001 002 0 - 3 5 0

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Defiance 203 011 x - 7 7 2

Records: Defiance 11-1, Otsego 3-6.

Winning pitcher: Ryan Cordray (6 innings, 3 runs, 5 hits, 9 strikeouts, 0 walks). Other: Jake Sanchez.

Losing pitcher: Snyder (5 innings, 6 runs, 5 hits, 3 strikeouts, 2 walks). Other: Tantori.

Leading hitters: (Otsego, 5 hits) - Hackworth home run. (Defiance, 7 hits) - Anthony Kidston 2 doubles; Ryan Cordray double.

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