

**LITTLE LEAGUE**

# MCLL-Lower knocks out Brunswick

**By BILL CAULEY**

Special to the News-Post

BRUNSWICK — For every potential big play Brunswick had a chance to turn on Friday, it seemed Montgomery County Little League-Lower always had an answer on defense. Much of that answer was first baseman Charlie Frank.

Of the 10 putouts he was involved with, Frank had six on unassisted plays, with the ball being hit right at him. Nothing seemed like it was going to get by him.

While Frank's defense was superb, Brunswick struggled in that facet of the game. MCLL-Lower took advantage of five Brunswick errors to score four unearned runs.

MCLL-Lower also got a combined one-hitter from two pitchers. All of this was too much for Brunswick as it was eliminated by MCLL-Lower, 4-0, in the elimination bracket final of the District 2 Little League 10-12 Tournament at Marvin E. Younkens Memorial Field.

"Man, that first baseman had about a million putouts," Brunswick manager Cory Rhodes said. "It was just one of

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## Brunswick Little League eliminated

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those days. We basically hit the ball hard all day, but it was right at someone. Give credit to them, and that first baseman? He was fantastic. Nothing got by him. He played a great game."

The loss ends Brunswick's season. MC-LL-Lower faces MCLL-Upper in Germantown on Saturday in what becomes an all-Montgomery County district championship game.

Brunswick's troubles on defense began early, committing three errors in the top of the first inning, which led to an unearned run. Sam Levin beat out an infield single, giving MCLL-Lower a 1-0 lead.

Brunswick was able to hold MC-LL-Lower in check until the fifth, when two errors resulted in three more runs. Levin, who went 2-for-3 with two RBIs on

the day, singled in one of those runs.

"Some of those plays were interesting, a few slow rollers," Rhodes said. "We were getting into a situation where, maybe, we were going a little bit too fast, but these kids, they've got a lot of baseball left. Their best baseball is ahead of them."

Andrew Ricciardella was MCLL-Lower's starter, pitching four innings of one-hit baseball on 49 pitches. Harald Holton did not allow a hit in relief over the final two innings.

Brunswick's lone hit was a two-out single to right-center by Max Racosky. He was the only runner to reach base for Brunswick, which had one ball hit to the outfield the entire game.

"Their pitchers made a couple of good plays," Rhodes said. "The whole team made good plays all the way around."