

# Juniors win second in European championship

by MARTY BEST

The Berlin Junior "A" Division Baseball All-Stars, (for young men 13 to 15 years old) traveled to Frankfurt last week to compete in the USAREUR AYA championships. There were six teams from West Germany and each team had won in their district by defeating other all-star teams. Berlin is considered a district by itself since the team can't travel around and therefore didn't go through the rigorous competition against other all-star teams.

The team came valiantly through the loser's bracket, for a second place finish in Europe. Berlin played six games in the tournament while third place K-town played four games and the champions, Augsburg, played three times.

On opening day Berlin defeated Pattonville of the Bad Wuerttemberg district 10-2. Steve Bullington pitched a three-hitter. Bobby Lang was three for five with a bases loaded triple and four RBIs. Tim Shepard had two hits as did Doug Kincaid and Steve Bullington.

Berlin lost the next day 11-4 to a fine Augsburg team. Doug Kincaid pitched a four-hitter, but was plagued with wild throws and a seven run inning on one hit.

After two days, Berlin was in the loser's bracket with a long way to go. The next loss would mean a duty train ride back to the divided city. But the teams desire to play baseball and stay in the competition showed the next day by Berlin defeating Furth 4-2 on another Steve Bullington three hitter. The "Bull" upped his season record to 12 and 1 with his tenth consecutive win and fourth in play-off competition. Steve McCarthy drove in a big run with a triple and Tim Shepard, Doug Kincaid and Bobby Lang drove in one each.

Berlin was not showing the wear and tear of sleeping on the floor at the Platen AYA house. They didn't even look tired from the twenty minute walk to and from chow three times a day. The team stayed together even after their money and wallets were taken. Somehow these guys maintained their willingness to **go-fight-win-Berlin!**

The next day was a double-header for Berlin, if they could beat host Frankfurt. The Frankfurt fans packed into the Platen bleachers and Berlin had a contingent you could count on one hand. Nevertheless, Doug Kincaid mowed down Frankfurt for three innings and left with a 7-0 lead. Dave Aura came in to pitch, but it was the "Bull" who came in to put the fires out as Berlin hung on to a 9-7 squeaker. Tim Shepard was 3 for 3 with 2 RBI's and two doubles, Doug Kincaid added two hits again.

Right after the Frankfurt game came the clash for entry into the finals, K-Town was the last obstacle standing between a rematch with Augsburg. Berlin put it all together and played the best game of the tournament, playing errorless ball and defeating K-Town 4-0. Doug Kincaid pitched five more shutout innings dazzling the crowd with his array of curves, fastballs and sliders but then was pulled due to a tournament rule that a pitcher can't pitch more than eight innings in one day. So Dave Aura came in as relief pitcher. Dave preserved Doug's second victory of the day with some clutch pitching. Bill Bourbe tripled in the winning run.

Ray Sicotte at third base, Tim Shepard at shortstop, Bobby Lang at second base, and Bill Bourbe at first base, played fantastic defensive baseball and handled their

chances as if they were pros. The outfielding of Dave Aura, Vince Harrison and Steve Bullington was great defensive ball throughout the whole tournament. Roger Kreuzer threw out a K-Town runner stealing and K-Town didn't test Reg's arm again. Billy Bourbo and Doug Kincaid had two hits each while Bobby Lang and Tim Shepard each drove in one run.

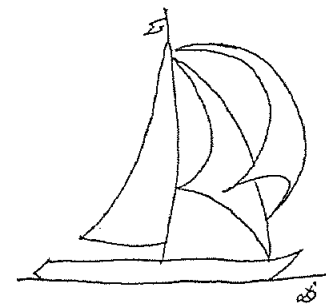
The final day saw Berlin get their rematch with Augsburg, but "Bull" pulled his arm in the second inning after getting behind 3-0 and Tim Shepard allowed one run in each of the next three innings. Dave Brown was brought in to pitch the last inning for Berlin. Dave only stands 4'11" tall but he struck out their six foot centerfielder on an array of junk pitches and won the hearts of the crowd by pitching a hitless, scoreless inning. Alan Kincaid, Vinnie Gore, Alan Ward and Scott Stowe rounded out the Berlin All-Stars. Doug Kincaid and Tim Shepard led the team in hits with eight each, while Shepard and Lang were tied in RBI's with seven each.

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## sailing

by

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