Durfee wins, 3-2, in 13-inning game

By Bob Ryan Globe Staff

The losing pitcher struck out 20 men, and allowed four aits in 13 innings. The other starting pitcher fanned 17 in the 11 innings he worked. Hold on, there's more.

After being relieved due to a "sore back," the starting pitcher for the winning team went to center field where he made two great throws from the outfield in two innings. Hold on, there's more.

The relief pitcher stepped up and swatted a long home run in the top of the 13th inning to win the game. In the bottom of the inning, a boy clouted a triple and was thrown out trying to score in the closest of plays.

So you see that Durfee 3, Norwood 2 was not just another Class A high school baseball tournament game.

There were thrills at Brockton, where Woburn's Al Houston spun a one-hitter and Jeff Lentz singled home the game's only run for the Middlesex County club. It was also tight at Stoneham, where defending champion Newton scored three early runs and held on for a 3-1 win.

It wasn't quite so hectic as Beverly bombed St. Mary's of Lynn, 0-1; as B.C. High stopped Quincy, 6-4; as Somerville smashed Boston English, 9-0; or as Salem ripped Catholic Memorial, 15-5. There was excitement, however, as New Bedford nipped Framingham South, 3-2.

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Relief pitcher homers in 13th to pace Durfee

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The Durfee-Norwood game pitted two sound clubs, each possessed of a pitcher who, by high school standards, could be classified as "great." Norwood's Bill Travers and Durfee's Mark Bomback lived up to their billing.

Durfee scored twice in the fourth; Norwood got single tallies in the sixth and eighth. The home team Mustangs continually left men on base as the somewhat-wild Bomback squirmed out of trouble. After 11 innings his back tightened up and he was forced out.

Travers, meanwhile, rolled on, piling up strikeouts until there was one was relief pitcher Lou out in the 13th. The batter Szerleys, not a distinguished hitter. He picked out one of Travers' of-

ferings and drilled it over the right-center field fence to the dismay of the stunned home crowd.

With one out in the bottom half of the inning, Brian Clougher slammed a ball deep to left center. The relay from Bomback to shortstop Bruce Viera to catcher Steve Silva was perfect, though, and Clougher was out at home. Durfee, for the second straight year,' had eliminated a highly touted Norwood club from the tourney.

Woburn's Lentz had known glory at other times this year, so it was no surprise when he got the hit which made a winner out of hard-throwing Al Houstop.

Tom Murphy was the hero in relief for B.C. High, which scored four runs in the first. Lou Gentile was the winner for Newton, although Jethro Mills alternated on the mound frequently for the winners. Stoneham employed the same musical pitchers set-up, as they have all year.

Steve Hoar (4-for-5) and Mike Soper (3-for-5) were the offensive stars, as Frank Smith picked up his 8th win for Salem. Somerville's entire starting lineup got at least one hit, while John Olson struck out 15 men in the seven innings he worked. Mike Joyce had 4-for-5 for the winners.

New Bedford came up with an uncarned run in the ninth to topple Bay State League runner-up Framingham South.