

Bottom of order has Media on top

By **TERRY TOOHEY**

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MARPLE — Mike Young, Ryan Patroni and C.J. Boyle make up the bottom third of Media's batting order, but they were not easy outs Sunday afternoon.

And the Knights are still alive in the Delco Baseball League playoffs because of it.

Young, Patroni and Boyle went a combined 7-for-9 with eight RBIs and six runs scored as the Knights beat the Upper Darby Blue Sox, 11-3, for the first playoff victory in franchise history.

More importantly, the win tied the best-of-3 opening round series at a game apiece. The rubber match is set for 5:45 tonight at Kerr Field in Yeadon.

Boyle did most of the damage. The second baseman went 4-for-4, knocked in four runs and scored twice.

"I saw the ball well and was able to hit it hard," Boyle said.

Patroni was 2-for-3 with three RBIs and two runs scored. One of his two hits was a drag bunt, which would not seem important in a game with 14 runs, but it was. The daring two-out bunt in the fourth

inning helped turn a two-run inning into a four-run outburst that put the Knights in front to stay.

Boyle followed with the first of two doubles, a ball that Upper Darby right fielder Jim Grafstrom lost in the blazing sun. Patroni scored the tying run and Jeff Monaco followed with an RBI single that gave Media a 4-3 lead it would not relinquish.

"(Upper Darby third baseman Franco D'Urso) was playing back the whole game," Patroni said. "I was just trying to fake him out. I wanted to lay one down

and if it went foul, come back and hit the next pitch over his head. Luckily, I laid down a good bunt. He couldn't do anything with it."

Just for good measure, the Knights added five more runs in the bottom of the fifth inning. Young (walk, run scored), Patroni (two-run single) and Boyle (two-run double) were right in the middle of that rally, too. Young finished with one hit, one

RBI and two runs scored. Monaco chipped in with three RBIs.

"Those guys were huge today," winning pitcher Jason McDevitt said of the bottom of the order. "Patroni may not have the best average, but let me tell you, he's a clutch hitter. He always seems to come through with a hit when we need it."

More than anything, though, Media needed, and received, a complete-game effort from McDevitt. He scattered eight hits, walked two and struck out three. Only two of the runs he allowed were earned.

"I was just trying to get through," McDevitt said. "(I told (center fielder/assistant coach Marc) Spero that I would give him everything I had. I didn't think I'd be able to give him seven innings."

McDevitt came through, though, and so did Young, Patroni and Boyle.

"All year, the top of the lineup has been stable, getting on base and scoring runs," Media manager Greg Baron said. "It was

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”

Media 11, Upper Darby 3

UPPER DARBY					MEDIA				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Ciccione dh	3	1	0	0	Monaco ss	5	0	2	3
Schild ss	4	0	1	1	McGarry lf	3	0	1	0
R. Itri 1b-2b	4	1	2	0	Bradford 1b	3	0	0	0
Corsanico c	3	0	2	1	Spero cf	4	2	3	0
D. Kennedy cf	3	0	1	1	Yingling pr	0	0	0	0
Hogan cf	3	0	1	0	Cooper dh	3	1	0	0
J. Grafstrom rf	2	1	1	0	Illgas c	3	1	1	0
DeVito pr	0	0	0	0	Santello pr	0	1	0	0
D'Urso 3b	2	0	0	0	Young 3b	2	2	1	1
Jerdon 1b	0	0	0	0	Patroni rf	3	2	2	3
J. Kennedy 2b-rf	3	0	0	0	Boyle 2b	4	2	4	4
Totals	27	3	8	3	Totals	30	11	14	11

Upper Darby	101 100 0 — 3
Media	000 452 x — 11

E-Doyle, Monaco, Young. **LOB**—Upper Darby 6, Media 5. **2B**—Spero 2, Itri, Boyle 2, Corsanico. **SB**—D. Kennedy. **SF**—D. Kennedy, Patroni. **S**—D'Urso. **DP**—Upper Darby 1 (Schild, J. Kennedy, Itri); Media 1 (Monaco, Boyle, Bradford).

Upper Darby					
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Livory, L	4 ² / ₃	9	8	8	3
Graham	0	3	1	1	0
Raegoso	1 ¹ / ₃	2	2	2	1
Media					
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
McDevitt, W	7	8	3	2	3

HBP—By Livory (McGarry), By Raegoso (Illgas).

Umpires—Tom Ellis (home plate), Ray Schoen (first base), Jack Dabagian (third base). T-2:00.

nice to see the bottom of the lineup come through in big situations. We were down 3-0, but we stayed positive and Ryan's bunt turned out to be the key hit in a big inning for us."

Terry Toohey is the assistant sports editor of the Daily Times.