

# SPORTS

## Irlbeck Ignites Kuemper

By Dennis O'Grady (Sports Editor)  
 Kuemper wiped out a 3-0 deficit with a seven-run explosion in the fifth inning here Wednesday night and went on to score a convincing 8-3 victory over rival Carroll in a battle of state baseball powers. It was the opener for both teams.

Veteran pitcher Ken Nurse and left fielder Scott Irlbeck proved most damaging to the Tigers as the Knights ended a four-game losing streak to Carroll that had spanned two years.

Nurse settled down after a shaky start and went the distance on a two-hitter. He also fanned 13 and didn't allow a hit after the first frame.

Nurse also helped himself at the plate, going three-for-three, including a

bases loaded triple in the fifth that put the Knights ahead for good at 5-3.

Irlbeck, who played very little last year, touched off the Kuemper uprising by slamming a home run over the left centerfield fence to start off the fifth against Carroll ace Todd Pettitt.

Don Nieland then drilled a double down the left field line and that ended Pettitt's appearance on the mound.

Carroll then went to lefty Eric Siemer, but the Knights roughed him up for four more hits in the inning.

The big hits in the inning besides Nurse's three-run triple were a run-scoring double by Jeff Kruse and a run-scoring single by the man who started it all, Irlbeck.

Kuemper, rated 10th in the state in Class AA, added

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another run in the seventh as pinch-hitter Gary Snyder doubled down the rightfield line and came home on a fly ball hit by Mike Harman that was dropped.

Carroll, which came into the contest with a No. 10 rating in Class A, took a 1-0 lead in the first on a sharp single to right by Jim Petersen. Petersen then stole second and third and raced home on Siemer's infield hit.

The Tigers made it 3-0 in the third as control problems hit Nurse. Three walks and a sacrifice bunt to go along with a wild pickoff throw at third base by the catcher brought in one run and the other run came home on Dan Wittrock's sacrifice fly to center.

"Overall, the kids kept their composure real well for the first five innings," commented Knight Head Coach Bill Wieland.

"Irlbeck (Scott) got us going. He gave us the momentum and Nurse had a good night," continued Wieland.

Starting right fielder Randy Heller had to leave the game after sliding into second. He twisted his knee and is questionable for tonight's home tilt with Harlan.

Joe Schweers will be Wieland's starting pitcher against the Cyclones. A junior varsity game will get things started at 6 p.m.

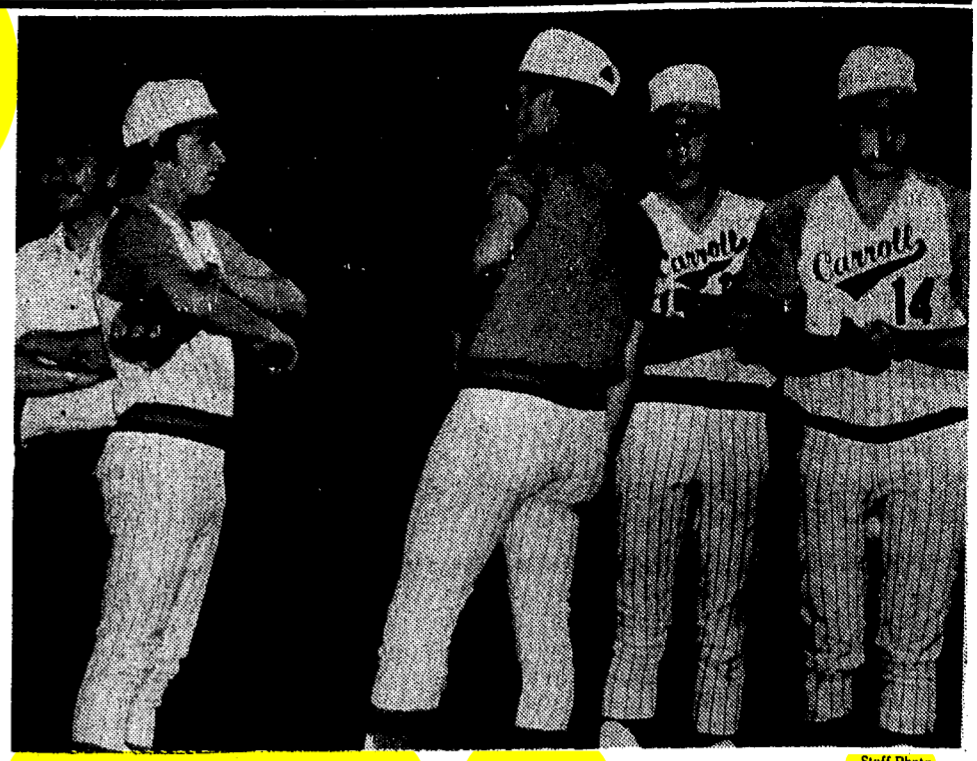
"A better ball club beat us and Irlbeck touched them off," Carroll Head Coach Ted Edwards remarked. "They also hit the ball well."

"We have a tough next week," continued Edwards. "We have Perry, Denison and Kuemper."

The Tigers will seek to get in the win column tonight when they travel to Lake View for an 8 p.m. contest. Tom Reiman will be on the mound.

The top play of the game came when Carroll right fielder Mark Steffes' perfect throw to Wittrock nailed the sliding Nieland at home plate in the third inning.

Seidl, PH	1	0	0	0
Heller, RF	2	0	1	0
Baldus, RF	2	0	2	0
Meyers, RF	0	0	0	0
Loew, 3B	3	1	0	0
Lengeling, 1B	2	1	0	0
Hinners, C	3	0	0	0
Diers, PR	0	1	0	0
Nurse, P	3	1	3	3
Snyder, PH	1	1	1	0
Kruse, SS	3	1	1	1
Tiefenthaler, PH				
Irlbeck, LF	1	0	0	0
Henkenius, PH	3	1	2	2
Totals	33	8	12	6
Carroll—				
Buck, CF	3	1	0	0
Petersen, 3B	3	1	1	0
Edwards, SS	2	1	0	0
Siemer, 1B-P	2	0	1	1
Wittrock, C	2	0	1	1
Steffes, RF	1	0	0	0
Molitor, LF	3	0	0	0
Reiman, 2B	3	0	0	0
Pettitt, P-1B	1	0	0	0
Collison, PH	1	0	0	0
Totals	21	3	2	2



—Staff Photo

### Wasn't Carroll's Night—

It wasn't Carroll's night on the pitching mound Tuesday night as Kuemper pounded out 12 hits to whip the Tigers, 8-3, at Carroll Stadium. Tigers pondering pitching change are from left, Brad Edwards, Head Coach Ted Edwards, Tom Reiman and Eric Siemer. At far left is Umpire Bruce Schuldt of Audubon.

### Cubs Clip Cards, But Franks Says Cards Will Win NL East

By The Associated Press  
 Give Chicago Cubs Manager Herman Franks a forum and he starts sounding like Muhammad Ali.

"The St. Louis Cards will win it (the National League East pennant) easy," Franks said Wednesday night.

"Why? They've got a better ball club than we have. They've got more guys that really fly."

"I'm not setting anybody up," Franks continued. "We need a left-hander. The only one we have (Willie Hernandez), I have to save for the bullpen."

Despite Franks' opinion, the Cubs are in first place by 1 1/2 games after edging the Cards 4-3 in 13 innings Wednesday night.

St. Louis Manager Vern Rapp responded to Franks' appraisal, saying, "It sounds like psychological warfare. He doesn't want the load on his shoulders."

In other NL games Wednesday, San Francisco edged San Diego 2-0, the New York Mets stopped Montreal 6-4, Pittsburgh blanked Philadelphia 3-0 in a rain-shortened contest, Cincinnati defeated Atlanta 5-2, and Los Angeles downed Houston 6-2.

Starter Rick Reuschel and relievers Bruce Sutter and Hernandez, combined to strike out 16 Cardinals. Sutter fanned nine in his five-inning stint.

But it took Steve Ontiveros' third hit of the game—a one-out single in the 13th, to score Jerry Morales with the winning run.

Bobby Murcer hit his eighth homer of the year, a two-run shot, for the Cubs, while St. Louis sent the game into extra innings when Lou Brock doubled with two out in the ninth and scored on Ted Simmons' fourth hit of the game.

Ed Halicki hurled his first complete game of the season, scattering six hits in leading San Francisco over San Diego. Halicki struck out 11 and walked only one in snapping the Padres' five-game winning streak.

Rob Andrews singled in the sixth and eventually scored on Jack Clark's single. Andrews also scored the Giants' second run, slugging a double and coming home on Darrell Thomas' single.

Mets 6, Expos 4  
 New York gave new Manager Joe Torre his second straight victory as John Stearns belted his first major league grand slam home run, capping a five-run fifth-inning rally.

Tom Seaver, 5-3, posted his first victory since April 30 and his first victory in Montreal since Oct. 3, 1972. Skip Lock-

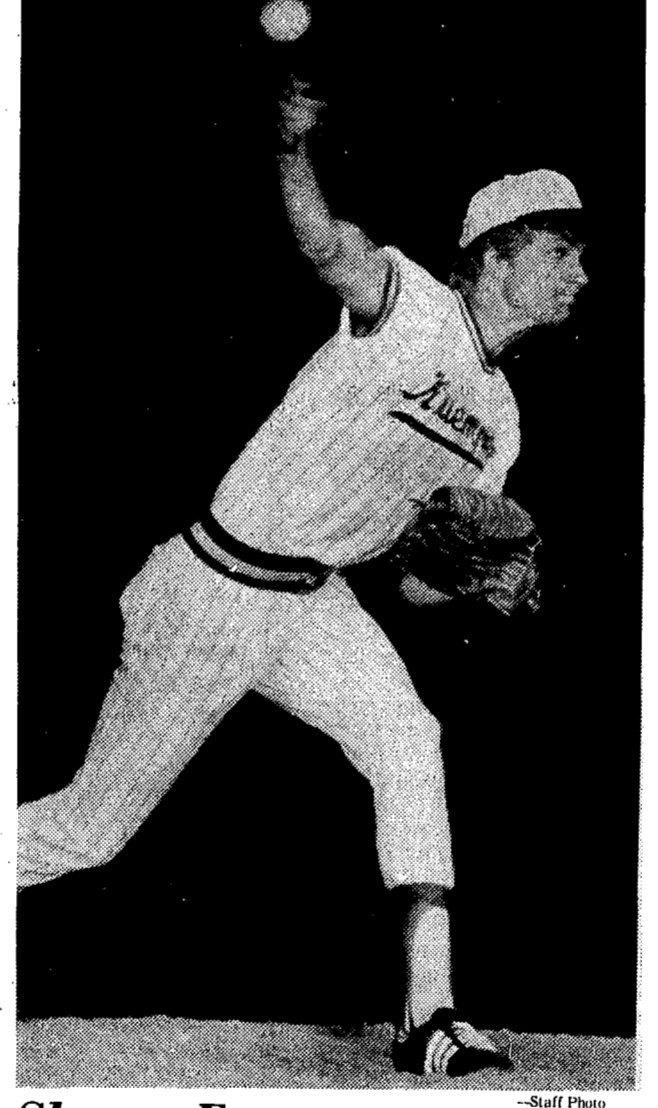
wood relieved Seaver with two out in the seventh after Dave Cash hit a run-scoring triple and Tony Perez an RBI single.

Dodgers 6, Astros 2  
 Ron Cey drove in three runs with a double and a single as Los Angeles snapped a four-game losing streak by downing Houston. Tommy John, 6-2, got the victory.

Box Score:  
 Kuemper—

Nieland, CF	4	1	2	0
Harman, PH	1	0	0	0
Berg, 2B	3	0	0	0

ABRHHBI  
 Nurse (WP)..... 7 2 9 13 3 1  
 Pettitt..... 4 6 1 6 2 1  
 Siemer (LP)..... 3 6 3 5 6 5  
 Time of Game: 2 hours and 17 minutes.



—Staff Photo

### Shows Form—

Kuemper's Ken Nurse shows his throwing form during Wednesday's clash with rival Carroll. Nurse didn't allow a hit after the first inning, finished with a two-hitter and fanned 13 in the Knights' 8-3 victory, their first win over the Tigers in five games. Nurse also went three-for-three.

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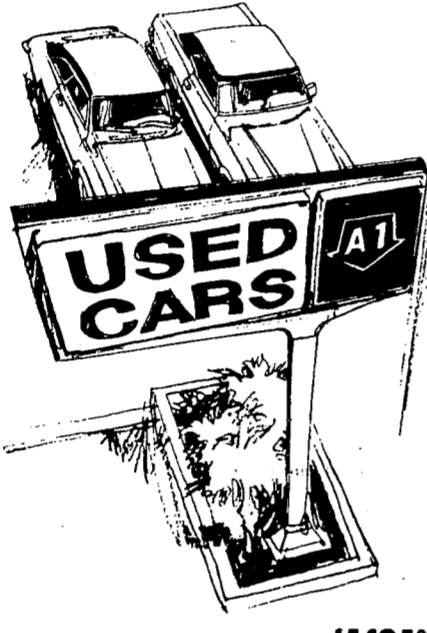
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