

# Post 218 holds on for needed victory

## Legion team snaps losing skid

By Bob Nuse  
Sports Editor

Tommy Parker knew his team was desperate for a win.

So once Princeton Post 218 built an 11-1 lead by the fourth inning of Saturday night's game with Broad Street Park, Parker couldn't help but feel good.

But, by the time the seventh inning had rolled around, that 10-run lead was down to a one-run lead. Showing some poise, Princeton scored four times in the top of the seventh and held on for a 15-12 win, snapping a five-game losing streak to improve to 2-6 on the season.

"We needed this one to get back on track," said Parker, whose team was scheduled to face West Windsor-Plainsboro on Monday. "We've been in pretty much every game we've played so far except for two. Everything else has been close. They can still recover.

"I didn't want them to get into a slide and then continue the downslide. We don't need that. This was a good win. We hung in there even though there were opportunities to hang their head when they started coming back."

The Princeton offense was certainly clicking in the win, as Post 218 pounded out 15 hits and took advantage of seven Broad Street Park errors. Dan Eullerton had four hits, while Richie von der Schmidt drove in two runs and Will Mooney drove in a pair.

"We've had a lot of close games and I think this one will really boost our confidence," said Mooney, who after spending his sophomore season as a jack-of-all-trades at the Hun School, has settled in as the Post 218 third baseman. "We still need to work on our fielding. We've been a little rough in the

field, which hurts our pitchers."

Princeton made five errors in the win on Saturday, which led to seven of the 12 runs being unearned. But in the end, Post 218 held on for what was a huge win.

Mark Madden pitched into the fifth to get the win, as Colby Hering and Jimmy Fuhrman came on to finish the game off on the mound.

"We needed this win," Parker said. "We've got a lot of tough teams coming up on the schedule."

The Princeton lineup is solid and also features some younger players like Mooney, who still has two high school seasons ahead of him.

"I'm more settled in here," he said of the transition from high school baseball. "I am mostly playing third base. It helps to be having a consistent position. I haven't done much different from the high school season as far as hitting.

"I still have junior and senior year left. It surprised me to play as much as I did at Hun. I wasn't expecting that. I was really happy about that. We had a young team, but we're also losing a lot of seniors."

For his part, Parker is happy to have a young player in the lineup who can contribute.

"He's shown great poise," said Parker, the only manager Post 218 has had in its 19 seasons. "I know he had a varsity season, but this is a different level. When we've put him in a game he hasn't been overwhelmed. He comes and does his thing and has been a real steady ballplayer. I've been watching him play for a while."

The little things helped Princeton get a much-needed win on Saturday. Post 218 hopes it helps start something special.

## Windsor