

Catholic Central seeks baseball crown

By KEN VOYLES

The baseball season will reach its climax Saturday for Detroit Catholic Central when it travels to Battle Creek for the state Class A baseball finals.

CC will battle it for the championship with three other strong contenders from across the state — Adrian, Port Huron and East Kentwood.

The trip is nothing new for the Shamrocks, but it still has to be one full of high hopes, tremendous pressure and youthful optimism.

Under the guidance of veteran coach Frank Corey, CC defeated Lake Shore, 7-4, last weekend to advance to the finals. It was a strong effort on an extremely hot afternoon.

CC will meet Adrian at 10 a.m. at Post Field.

Adrian last weekend knocked off Plymouth Salem, 4-2, and Garden City West, 2-1, at the Wyandotte Regional.

If they win, the Shamrocks will play the winner of the Port Huron-East Kentwood game slated for 12:30 p.m. The championship game is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. at Post.

To reach the site, take I-94 west to the 22nd Michigan Ave. exit. Go three miles on East Michigan. When you come to a Y in the road, stay to the right. The field is a mile from the fork.

Two players will without a doubt charge the Shamrocks in their bid for state glory. Craig Herberholz, and Chris Sabo are potential all-state material for CC.

Herberholz, a senior right-hander, threw five shutouts during the regular season. He had an outstanding game when he pitched in the regional opener against Center Line, 3-0, with Herberholz striking out eight and walking two.

Center Line picked up just one hit against him and only three balls were hit out of the infield.

Sabo is CC's strong man with the bat. Although he didn't have a good day at the regional where he had one hit in seven trips to the plate, he should come around for the state finals.

Sabo was the state finals with a .425 batting average. The powerful third baseman collected eight triples, 10 doubles and 19 RBIs during the season. He was also chosen for the all-Catholic League squad.

Other Shamrock hitters such as Rob Williams and Jerry Scanlon picked up the offensive slack for CC in the regional games.

Corey is working his squad hard for the finals with three practices during the week and a scrimmage doubleheader yesterday against Southgate Aquinas.

Practice is alright but you have to keep sharp with actual game conditions. That's why we need to play the doubleheader," said Corey.

CC will start Herberholz against Adrian and, according to Corey, the squad will play the game like every other game during the regular season and in tournament action. "To us, everybody is tough before we play them," he said.

Catholic Central reached the state baseball finals in 1977 only to be defeated in the championship game, 6-2, by Grand Lodge. In 1978, the Shamrocks lost in the regional finals to Hazel Park, 7-2.

The 1977 team had a little more of offense and have been in state tournament play before with other baseball squads or with the Shamrocks' basketball contingent.

"They don't succumb to pressure easily. They know what is what and are ready," Corey said. "As for Adrian, as far as I am concerned, anyone that has advanced this far has to be good and have some talent."

Corey. "We are playing well as a team. Everybody is loose and confident and that's good. They seem relaxed and they should be," he said. "Besides, we have very excellent pitching."

On that pitching staff along with Herberholz are Ken Leonard, Greg Wendt and Jeff Evans. All three lived in the championship game of the regional. They may not have the velocity or control of Herberholz, but each can hold his own, said Corey.

Herberholz will not only start against Adrian, but he may also be removed from the game in the late innings if CC is ahead so that he will be available to pitch in the title game.

"When Craig throws, he throws so well that the outs are very routine and that makes everybody look good," said Corey. "The team really plays better with another pitcher in there but the kids are sharp and know what is going on."

Some of the CC players have been in state tournament play before with other baseball squads or with the Shamrocks' basketball contingent.

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On to the finals for C'ville girls

By DOUG FUNKE

The keys to Clarenceville's success this softball season, according to the players themselves, has been their defensive plays and ability to get along with each other on and off the field.

And, as they prepared for their second trip to the Class B state finals in as many years, most concurred that the experience gained last season will help them Saturday in Ionia.

The Trojans, with a 15-5 record, will meet Ponton, defending state champion, at 10 a.m. in Robinson Park. South Haven and Mt. Pleasant will battle in the other semifinal, with the two

winners playing at 2:45 p.m. for the title.

To get to Robinson Park, take I-96 west to M-66. Go north on M-66 approximately seven miles to Main Street. Turn right on Main and stay on Main through town until it runs by the park. Admission is \$2.

One of Clarenceville's aces is experienced. The starting lineup contains seven seniors, and six — Kris Kinnin, Carol Skaggs, Mary Laird, Shelly McCamant, Peggy Gardella and Maureen Morrison — have played together for four seasons.

"It's so nice to go (to the state (Continued on page 6))

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FHS girls lose

(Continued from page 2B)

gional final by eliminating Plymouth-Salem 6-2, earlier last Saturday. Galfadi was the winner, giving up 11 hits and striking out two. Salem pitcher Jan Boyd, who finished with a 5-3 record,

allowed 11 hits and struck out two. Annapolis scored all four runs in the fourth inning.

Annapolis, now 20-2 overall, advances to the state Class A finals next Saturday morning at Southfield High School.

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