

CC nips Churchill for district crown

By Chris McCoskey
staff writer

Just think: John Rogers wasn't even supposed to pitch.

Redford Catholic Central baseball coach John Salter had hoped to throw his ace right-hander Rich Muller at the hard-hitting Chargers from Livonia. Churchill in the state Class A district championship game Saturday at Southfield.

But Muller was feeling ill. Tough break for Churchill.

Salter countered with his on-again, off-again left-hander Rogers. On this day, Rogers was right on.

The senior fired a one-hitter at the Chargers, leading the Shamrocks to a 3-0 victory. The victory advances CC to the regional tournament Saturday at Wyandotte. The Shamrocks will play the winner of the Wyandotte Roosevelt district.

Rogers had pin-point control on his looping breaking ball and sneaky-fast fastball. He kept the Charger hitters off stride the entire contest.

"That, by far, was the best pitching performance we've seen all year," said Churchill coach Herb Osterland.

CHURCHILL'S LONE hit came with one out in the fifth inning. Scott Hillie

hit a shot down the third base line. Third baseman John Connor took a diving stab at it, but could only deflect it into left field.

"That was the best game John's pitched this year," Salter said. "We knew that Churchill was a good-hitting club. We had hoped to get some runs early and get a good five or six innings out of Rogers."

Churchill pitcher Chris Senuk also pitched a strong game. He allowed just five hits. The only flaw in his performance — walks — cost him all three runs.

Two of the free passes came in the first inning, to the first two batters. Larry Kirchner and Joe Dulzo led off the game with walks. Dan Michaels laid down a pretty bunt moving the runners up a notch. Then Tim Michalik bunted one to second base to score Kirchner. Ed Turek followed with a solid single — boom, 2-0 CC.

A leadoff walk to Michalik in the third led to the third, and final, Shamrock run. The speedy Michalik took second on a throwing error and eventually scored on a wild pitch.

"YOU HAVE to give the credit to Rogers," Salter said. "He pitched a one-hitter and that takes the pressure off us to produce a lot of runs. Churchill, we

baseball

know, was a good club. We wanted a low-scoring game."

Said Osterland: "The walks, really, were the difference in the game. But, we're happy with our season. We're 16-6 and co-champs of our league (Western Lakes). It's been a good season. And CC's a heckuva team."

The Shamrocks are 28-8 on the season.

CHURCHILL 7, REDFORD UNION 2

This first-round district contest was a much better game than the final score indicates.

RU coach Stu Rose opted to pitch his curve-balling left-hander Mike Harle, instead of hard-throwing ace Gino Picano.

"We knew Churchill was a hard-hitting club. We figured the best way to go at them was with someone like Mike, who could keep them off stride," Rose said.

It was a sound strategic play. Except the bulls the Chargers hit off Harle, with one exception, had eyes.

tack with three hits and two RBI. John Olinson and Trevor Baird each had a second, 199 in the third, and six more over the course of the final three innings.

Greg Droe had three hits including a two-run double for RU (14-10). Kevin Moore added a pair of hits.

CATHOLIC CENTRAL, 14-8, SEVENTH LEY 3: The Livonians laughed first, but the Shamrocks laughed longer in this one. Brian Trivallan got Bentley to produce the runs.

Dave Munson led the Churchill at-

run in right. CC countered with four runs in the second, 199 in the third, and six more over the course of the final three innings.

Dan Michaels led CC with three hits and three RBI. Joe Dulzo, Tim Michaels, Paul Michaels, John Connor, and two left-handers, Tom Sente and one right-hander, the Shamrocks — he hit a solo home run.

John Michaels allowed just two hits in five innings of work to get the win. Bentley (10-1) took four hits in the game.

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GIRLS HOOP CAMP

Larry Baker, the successful head coach of the Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy girls basketball program, will direct a series of girls basketball camps this summer at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus.

The camps, sponsored by the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department and OCC, will be broken into sessions for middle school players and high school players.

Two middle school camps will run July 9-13 and July 20 to Aug. 3, both from 8:30 a.m. to noon each day. The two high school camps will run the same two weeks, but will go 1-4:30 p.m.

Baker, who has led the Mercy Marlins to six Class A regional champion-

ships and two state titles, will direct the two middle school sessions emphasizing fundamentals, drills and team scrimmages.

For more information, call OCC at 471-7553.

VOLLEYBALL CAMPS

The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department and Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus will sponsor a series of volleyball camps for junior high and high school girls.

The camps will be directed by successful Royal Oak Kimball coach Richard Nash.

Three separate junior high sessions will run 8:15-10 a.m. June 18 through July 20. Three senior high sessions will run 1-4:30 p.m. the same days.

The fee is \$45 per student. For more information, call 471-4115.

DIVING CAMPS

The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department and Oakland Community College — Orchard Ridge Campus, will be co-sponsoring a series of diving clinics directed by Don Mason.

Mason, a former Division II NCAA national champion and currently a coach at Marian High School, will teach fundamentals and a progression of skills tailored to the individual diver's needs.

Eight separate five-day sessions will run beginning the week of June 11 through Aug. 10.

Those interested should contact OCC at 471-7553 for more information.

3rd best NSL softball squad still alive in state tournament

They've been quiet, somewhat of a mystery team.

But Westland John Glenn has emerged in the state softball tournament after posting wins last weekend over Dearborn Edsel Ford (6-5) and district host Dearborn (9-1).

The Rockets, 19-7 overall, face Redford Bishop Borgas Saturday at the Hazel Park Class A regional. Game time is 12:30 p.m.

"We were 4-5, but now we're won nine straight," said Vic Koon, the Glenn coach who has shunned publicity all season long. "We're playing good ball. Defensively, our infield has been tough

and Kathy has been tough."

"Kathy" is Kathy Garrett, the Rockets' ace pitcher, who is 13-5 on the season.

In the championship win over Dearborn, Garrett walked four and allowed just four hits.

Meanwhile, her teammates collected 14 hits. Mimsy Lundy led the way, going 4-for-4. Carol Hall contributed a two-run triple for the Rockets, while Cheryl Duxler and Jill Runkle each added two hits.

AGAINST EDELS, Garrett fanned 10 and scattered six hits to pick up the victory.

The Rockets trailed 5-2 after one inning, but rallied for four runs in the fifth. Lundy, who had a two-run triple earlier, contributed a key RBI single during the surge. Glenn scored the winning run on a late Edsel throw.

In the bottom of the seventh, sophomore outfielder Kim Johnston preserved the victory when she threw out the potential game-tying run at the plate. Runkle, the catcher, held on for the tag.

Despite finishing third in the Northwest Suburban League (NSL), Glenn is only one of two area teams left in the state softball tourney.



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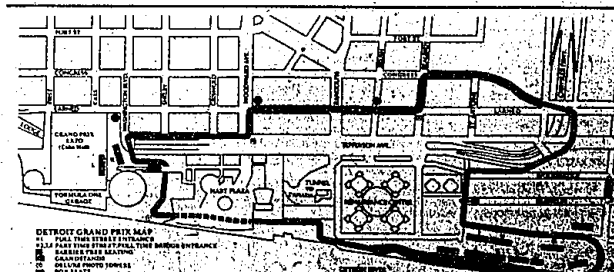
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