

St. Mary's plugged in Class C finale

By Marty Budner
staff writer

Orchard Lake St. Mary's athletic director Tim Domke said it best.

"It's a shame we had to play our worst inning of the (state) tournament in the championship game."

That's precisely what happened at the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Class C state baseball championship game at Eastern Michigan University's Baseball Stadium in Ypsilanti Saturday afternoon.

The "Cinderella" Eagles, who had never won a district title up until three weeks ago, lost the state Class C title to Berrien Springs, 4-2. The Shamrocks

from the Southwestern part of Michigan tallied three unearned runs in the first inning and that ultimately was the difference.

"No way did I expect something like that," said Eagle coach Sandy Peters, whose team finished the season with a 21-11 overall record, including district and regional titles.

"We seemed loose before the game... just like any other time. They weren't nervous," he said. "They were pumped up to win. We were confident and ready."

St. Mary's actually took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first when lead-off batter Jeff Petrucci rocketed a triple to left

field. He scored on a safety squeeze by Jim Talbot.

THE ONLY question at that point was: could Matt Biringier, who was told just two hours before game time that he was going to be the starting pitcher, hold off Berrien Springs for at least three innings and have mound ace Mike Ignasiak close out the game?

The answer came quickly as the Shamrocks, who came into the game with a 20-7 record, scored three times on just two hits. St. Mary's threw the ball around the field that inning as if they were playing with a friar.

Biringier walked the first Shamrock batter, then threw wildly to first in an

attempted pick off. Two straight hits tied the game, then, with runners on first and second, St. Mary's catcher Marty Brennan threw wildly into center field on another attempted pick off.

It looked like St. Mary's would get out of the mess just one run down, but Biringier threw his second wild pitch and Berrien's third run trotted across the plate.

St. Mary's never recovered. "I was really shocked at the way we played ball in that inning," said Peters. "I don't think we committed that many errors during the whole tournament."

"We may have been jittery because I haven't seen so many wild throws in a

long time," he said. "Take away that first inning and it's a different game."

ST. MARY'S said the Shamrocks' scoreless over the next four innings and the Eagles made it 4-2 in the top of the fifth. "That's a pretty good inning," said Peters. "We were able to get the tying run in the bottom of that inning, but Ignasiak, who threw 9 1/2 innings in a 1983-84 semifinal win over Saginaw, was only available for 4 1/2 innings in the championship game. The big hit was a double to

left center by Greg Wright. Brennan's pitcher, Scott Gliniak, who bowled a 100-effort in his team's 1-0 semifinal win over Grandville College in Berrien Springs Friday, tossed 2 1/2 innings of scoreless relief to preserve the state championship trophy. The only hit off the Berrien, right-hander, was Brennan's single. The run was charged to Shamrock starter Brian Campbell.

Defender Steve Brennan was the only other player besides Brennan and Petrucci to get a hit for St. Mary's. That was a far cry from Friday's semifinal win over the Eagles and Paul when the Eagles' pitcher hit a double run on a home hit.

All-Star classic Friday

Continued from Page 1

• Rigstad, a senior forward, scored 24 goals and had 10 assists. She is a second-team all-star.

• Russell, a junior forward, had 21 goals and eight assists, and was an all-state honorable mention.

• Huegli, a sophomore forward, scored 12 goals and had eight assists.

• Ruggiero, junior midfielder, scored 22 goals and had 21 assists during Macey's first year of varsity soccer. She is a first-team all-star.

• Dudek, a senior midfielder, scored 12 goals and had 20 assists. The all-star had a goal or assist in 16 of 19 games.

• Patterson, a sophomore midfielder, played all over the field for Bentley. She finished the year with 14 goals and 11 assists, and was an all-state honorable mention.

• Bartman, a senior defender, was Farmington's captain and the team's three-year MVP.

• Wolfe, a junior defender, picked up a pair of goals and five assists during the season. She has the ability to

take the ball the length of the field and put the ball in the net.

• Wanglicker, a senior defender, was the mainstay of the Canton defense. She also scored a goal and had five assists.

• Gallardo, a senior defender, finished the season with four goals and two assists. She can distribute the ball to get the offensive attack rolling.

• Beagle, a junior goalie, had 11 shutouts and had a 0.65 goal against average.

The following is a summary of some of the Eccentric team players:

• Wojtaszek, a junior forward, led the state in scoring with 34 goals and 37 assists. She is a first-team all-star.

• Nicely, a first-team all-star, was a senior forward who finished the year with 29 goals and 10 assists.

• Bessette, a freshman forward, had 40 goals and 21 assists for Marian.

• Suttle, a junior midfielder, was injured for a portion of the season, but scored 18 goals and added 12 assists. She is a first-team all-star.

• Green, a junior forward, was a

second-team all-star who finished the year with 30 goals and four assists.

• Leonard, a senior midfielder, was a first-team all-star. She finished the season with 11 goals and 10 assists.

• Andrae, a sophomore forward, had 14 goals and 16 assists. She is a first-team all-star.

• Bodmark, a junior forward, was a second-team all-star selection who ended the year with 12 goals and six assists.

• Bessell, a senior defender, was a key reason Athens held opponents off the scoreboard. Athens allowed just 17 goals in 22 games.

• Scott, a senior defender, scored five goals, but more importantly, was the glue on Seabolt's defense.

• Lormin, a senior, was one of two first-team all-star goalies. During the season, she played 18 games, allowed 15 goals for a 0.83 goals against average, and posted nine shutouts.

• Blake, a senior, was the other first-team, all-star goalie. Blake allowed 17 goals in 19 games for a goals against average of 0.89, and posted 12 shutouts.

Farmington Legion team takes 2 of first 3 for new head coach

Farmington swept a double-header Sunday from Milford in American Legion District 18 play, blasting to a 15-8 win in the opener at Drake Field, then squeaking by in the nightcap, 5-4.

The win, coming after an 8-3 loss to Oxford in the season opener Friday night, gave Farmington and its new coach, Randy Meier, a 2-1 record.

Farmington scored five runs in the fourth inning of the first game of the twin bill to break open a 6-6 game and give Scott Draper the win. Draper allowed three runs in a shaky first inning, then settled down and allowed just four hits the rest of the way.

Backing him up were three-run home runs by Keith Weyer and Dave Casaroli.

baseball

IN THE nightcap, pitcher Scott Gliniak went all the way, settling down, as did Draper, after a three-run first inning. Gliniak gave up six hits and struck out five.

The big hit for Farmington was a three-run, two-out triple by Joe Raham in the four-run fourth inning.

It came after the Milford hurler walked the bases full.

Eric Engle tripped in what proved to be the winning run in the fifth in-

ning to make it 5-3. Milford scored once in the bottom of the seventh for the final run.

Friday night, Farmington took it in the chin despite big nights by Weyer, who was 2-for-3 with an RBI, and Joe Bob Wesson, who was 2-for-4.

Farmington hosts Bentley in a single game at Drake at 6 p.m. Friday, then plays at Royal Oak in a Sunday double-header.

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