

Shamrocks blank district opponents

As expected, Detroit Catholic Central's baseball team cruised through its Division I district tournament Saturday, outscoring two opponents 44-0.

That's not a misprint.

The Shamrocks beat Detroit Redford, 27-0, in a five-inning, semifinal mercy and beat Detroit Mackenzie, 17-0, in the final, which ended after six innings when the Stags decided they had enough.

CC coach John Salter said there was nothing the Shamrocks (25-6) could do, short of striking out on purpose, about the lopsided scores. The district

finals are supposed to go the full seven innings regardless of the score.

"They need an earlier mercy rule when games get out of hand," Salter said. "I had my pinch hitters in the third inning, and we were already up."

Obviously, we'd like to play somebody more competitive but when you have a tournament where everyone enters, you're going to have some mismatches. Between our line score and RU's (against Southfield) you need an extra page for the sports section."

The winning pitcher in the

first game was senior Bob Malek, who allowed one hit and a walk and struck out eight in three innings. Dan Duffey pitched two innings, striking out five of the six batters faced, allowing no hits and no walks.

Malek was 3-for-3, including a double, with two RBI. John Hill was 2-for-5 with seven RBI, stroking a bases-loaded triple in the first inning. Hill also had a two-run single.

Mackenzie managed only one hit off two CC pitchers in the final. Male started and got the win, allowing one hit in three innings.

Malek was 2-for-2 with a home run and two RBI. Mark Chapman was 2-for-4 with a homer, and five RBI.

Tony Nozowski will likely pitch against U-D in the opener Saturday. The Shamrocks have beaten the Cubs four times by a combined score of 61-8.

Malek, who was 6-for-5 in two district games, is hitting .612 with 33 RBI. Dave Lusky leads the Shamrocks with 35 RBI and carries a .406 average. Jussey Rogowski is batting .366 with 34 RBI.

Nozowski is 8-1 on the mound with a 1.67 earned run average.

Raiders from page C1

"All four teams have as much talent as the others. It's just who gets the key hit and lucky break."

Pitching aces Drew Henson (Brighton) and Tom Marx (Rice) are expected to pitch the first game, and Horwitz would like to see both have to go the distance.

(Western coach) Ken (Conner) and I hope, with two great pitchers, they have to go all seven innings, so they only have three left in the second game and we'd have to face somebody other than Marx or Henson," Horwitz said.

"If one team gets way ahead, they'll take their good pitcher

out and try to hold it with somebody else."

In the district final, Salem's defense came unraveled in the bottom of the first inning.

North's Mike Gleason led off with a single to left field, and Evan Fikri reached base on Salem's first miscue — a throwing error by pitcher Kurt Berlin.

Taylor helped his own cause by doubling both runners home to make it 2-0. He scored after back-to-back errors by Salem second baseman Mark Runchey. Berlin escaped further damage with a groundout and strikeout.

The Rocks (18-15) got a run back in the second inning with

Tony Bernhardt's RBI single. Salem's defense settled down after the first inning; North was sharp in the field all day.

Taylor, who struck out nine and walked two, needed help. He allowed 10 Salem hits but was aided by a pair of double plays.

The Rocks put a man on first with one out in the fourth, but North turned a slick double play to kill the uprising. The Raiders did the same again in the sixth.

"They're a good hitting team," Taylor said of the Rocks. "I had to hit my spots. I think our defense is a big reason we won."

North added an insurance run

in the seventh on a walk, a single and another Salem error.

The Rocks scored a second run in the seventh. Jamie LaGrow doubled on a single by Chris Longpre. The Raiders had five hits; Gleason had two.

N. FARMINGTON 5, CANTON 1: Trailing 1-0 in the bottom of the fourth, the Raiders scored three runs.

Gary Panta hit a two-run homer, and Jeff Trzos added an RBI single to lead the rally. Matt Kelmigian had an RBI single during a two-run sixth.

Trzos tossed a two-hitter, walking five and striking out four.

"He had his good stuff," Horwitz said. "He was getting his breaking ball over the plate."

Hawks from page C1

but we'll have (junior pitcher Zach) Burton ready to go in that one."

Thurston is well coached and has a pretty good baseball tradition. Whoever comes out of our region will probably play Orchard Lake St. Mary's in the quarterfinals."

Burton, who started the season as Harrison's No. 4 pitcher, has become the ace of the staff and won the distance in the semi Saturday as the Hawks blanked Country Day, 4-0.

The 6-foot-4 right-hander scattered six hits, struck out six and didn't walk anyone.

"Dad started David Barkholz was replaced by Ryan Hudson in

the third inning.

Harrison scored twice in the third inning when Barkholz issued bases-loaded walks to Dave Pesi and Chris Ghanam. The Hawks made it 4-0 in the fourth with RBI singles by Ghanam and Andy Gutierrez.

In the championship game, Harrison broke a 5-5 stalemate with a three-run third inning and was in the lead the rest of the way.

"The final game was not played real well," Herrington said. "I was worried we might let down a little bit after beating the two supposed best teams. But the kids realized they fought hard to get there, and they came

through with the bats."

The Hawks produced 13 hits, including three each by senior first basemen Mike Fisher and junior outfielder Blake Boesky.

Fisher started the third-inning rally with a double and scored on an error. Ghanam doubled in a run, and Boesky knocked in Ghanam.

Seaholm closed to 8-7 in the fourth in which Bill Scherman had an RBI single, but Fisher hit a solo homer in the bottom half to give Harrison a two-run lead.

The Hawks scored three times in the fifth. With a run in, senior catcher Tom Judd hit a two-run single for a 12-7 score.

In the sixth inning, Seaholm's

Todd Ritter and Boesky had RBI singles to complete the scoring.

Harrison's Bobby Austin, Zack Cornwell and Fisher had RBI doubles in the first two innings.

Junior Joe Ghanam, who relieved Cornwell, the Harrison starter, in the third inning, pitched the rest of the game and earned the victory. Aaron Wheatley was the losing pitcher.

"They'll hit Joe some, but he won't walk many and he gives you a chance to make plays and we have a good defensive team," Herrington said.

The Maples advanced with a mercy victory over Oak Park, 16-0. Asa Sherwood was 3-for-4 with a double and a home run.

TENNIS

North nets 8th-place finish in Division II state tourney

North Farmington finished eighth in the Division II boys tennis state championships Saturday at the Midland Community Tennis Center.

Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central won the team title with 26 points. The top nine included East Lansing (24), Battle Creek/Lakeview (18), Bloomfield Hills/Lahser (17), Okemos (15), Grand Rapids Northview (14), Muskegon Mona Shores (10), North Farmington (9) and Northville (7).

losing to the eventual champions from Forest Hills Central, Omar Faridi and Dan Smith, in the semis (6-1, 7-5).

Brad Jaffe had a big win in his first match over Lahser's Mark Thomas (6-4, 6-3) at No. 1 singles but lost to top-seeded and eventual winner Chris Schulte of East Lansing (6-4, 6-1). Jaffe was ahead 4-3 in the first set.

"Brad did a great job against obviously the best player there, and he pushed him pretty hard in the first set," King said.

"We had a difficult draw," North coach Dennis King said. "We were playing the top teams up and down the line. If we did well, we really deserved it, because we weren't playing against anybody easy."

"I thought we had a good chance to finish in the top five before I saw the draw. When I did, I knew we'd have to play some real good tennis. We were playing the one or two seeds in the first or second rounds continuously."

"I think some of the guys up there for the first time didn't play up to their potential, probably because of the atmosphere. It's just a whole different thing when you're out there playing in front of a lot of people."

Steve Krueger defeated Saline's Ryan Miller (6-3, 6-0) and lost to No. 2-seeded Fritz Breckner of Okemos, 2-6, 6-3, 6-1.

North's No. 1 doubles team of Justin Street and Chris Erickson was a 6-0, 6-4 winner over Matt Somsy and Jon Einspahr of Loy Norrix but was eliminated by Forest Hills Central's Rishi Acharya and Joe Emdin, 6-4, 7-5.

"That one could have gone either way," King said. "They played tough opponents really tough."

DIVISION I STATE TENNIS FINALS
May 28-30 at Midland Tennis Center
Team standings: 1. Birmingham Brother Rice, 25 points; 2. Ann Arbor Huron and Midland Dow, 19; 4. Grosse Pointe South, 15; 5. Detroit Catholic Central, 17; 6. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 13; 7. Port Huron Northern, 12; 8. Highland West/Oakwood, 9; 10. Lansing Catholic Central, 7; 11. Grand Blanc, Rochester, Rochester Adams, Traverse City Central, 6; 15. Trenton, 5; 16. Holland West/Oakwood, 4; 17. Jackson, Detroit King, Monroe, 1; 21. Fraser, 0.

CATHOLIC CENTRAL RESULTS
Tom Yarnall (No. 1 singles): defeated Matt Hill (Holt), 6-3, 6-3; lost to No. 2 seed David Lynn (Holt), 1-6, 1-6.

J.B. Shade (No. 2 singles): def. Joseph Adams (MLU), 6-0, 6-0; lost to No. 2 seed Vasan Doss (Dow), 4-6, 5-7.

Mike Findling (No. 3 singles): def. Mike Potopse (F); def. No. 4 seed Brian Payne (LCC); def. Bryan Reagan (H); def. Rob Boyce (PHN); lost to Tony Tocco (GPS), 6-9, 2-6, in the finals.

Marc Siciliano (No. 4 singles): def. Alex Suk (OD); lost to Nick Lodzinski (GPS) in the quarterfinals.

Brian Foley-Jeff Plesner (No. 1 doubles): def. John Egger-Jordan Rich (H), 6-3, 6-1; lost to No. 3 seeded Port Huron Northern team (names unavailable), 4-6, 4-6.

Nick Gray-Adam Murray (No. 3 doubles): def. Monroe, 6-0, 6-0; lost to Birmingham Brother Rice in the quarterfinals.

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