

Errors end Canton's season

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This shouldn't have happened. Not now.

Plymouth Canton's baseball team was rolling going into last Saturday's tune-up against a Redford Catholic Central team that was trying to recover from its loss to Birmingham Brother Rice in the Catholic League championship the previous day.

But that double-header should have served as a warning, if nothing else. The Shamrocks slammed Canton twice, mercy-ing the Chiefs 13-3 and 10-0.

Still, such a thing could be expected from CC, which improved to 22-5 with the sweep. Not so with Tuesday's pre-district game at South Lyon, a team that struggled to win anything all season.

But the Chiefs decided to help the Lions out, committing a season-high five errors — four of them in the fifth inning when South Lyon scored all four of its

BASEBALL

runs in a 4-2 victory.

"I'm still kind of shocked," said Canton coach Scott Dickey, his team ending its season at 18-10. "South Lyon was not a good team. This was all just kind of frustrating."

Mark Hanson certainly did all he could to avoid the outcome. Hanson tossed a four-hitter, allowing no earned runs and striking out eight. Hanson was also 2-for-3 at the plate with a two-run home run in the fourth inning.

But it wasn't enough.

South Lyon advances to play Plymouth Salem in the state district semifinal Saturday at South Lyon.

In the first game against CC Saturday, the Chiefs scored three runs in the fifth on a walk to Chris Pirsch, a Kondratuk base hit, a walk to Hanson, a Brent Kwiatkowski fielder's choice that

scored one run and a Matt Kay single that scored two more.

But that was more than offset by freshman Eric Vojtkovsky, who had three hits in that game (including two doubles). He also had two hits in the second game.

"I don't think we were prepared to play them," said Dickey of the double-header merces. "I haven't seen a freshman hit the ball like that since (Canton's) James Wisniewski."

Indeed, Matt Staley started and lost the opener, giving up seven runs (five earned) on six hits in 1 1/3 innings. In the second game, both teams emptied their benches, playing their entire rosters.

Still, finishing their season with four-straight losses — after winning their previous six — was not where Dickey figured the Chiefs were headed. "It was frustrating," he repeated, once again.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

STINGRAY SWIM SIGNUP

The Farmington Family YMCA Stingray swim team is registering swimmers for its summer long course season, a competitive swim program that runs from Monday, June 3, through Thursday, Aug. 1.

Team participation is open to anyone between the ages of 6 and 18. Participants are required to be a YMCA member.

Depending on ability, participants will swim either at the YMCA or local high school pools. After June 12, swimmers in the two higher-level groups will swim at an outdoor 50-meter pool.

For more information, call Cathy Warnick at (248) 563-0276 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.

FPS COACHING ACADEMY

Farmington Public Schools will host a coaching academy on Thursday, June 13, for anyone interested in attending, especially youth, middle and high school coaches.

Brian Gregory, associate head basketball coach at Michigan State University, will be the keynote speaker. He will talk about building a successful program and developing a family atmosphere with athletes from a variety of backgrounds.

The academy also will include a breakout session on topics ranging from developing a positive relationship with parents, heat related illness, creatine and other supplements, helping athletes cope with stress, communication, nutrition and performance.

The clinic is free of charge. To register contact FPS Athletic Director Brian Swinehart by email at brian.swinehart@farmington.k12.mi.us or by phone at 248-489-3352.

FPS ATHLETIC SCREENINGS

Pre-participation athletic physical screenings for Farmington Public School students are scheduled for 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, at North Farmington High School. Screenings will be done on a first-come, first-serve basis. The cost is \$15 (cash only).

SCHOOLCRAFT HOOP CAMP

Schoolcraft coach Carlos Briggs and assistant Steve Norgrove will conduct a boys basketball instructional camp for boys in incoming grades 1-12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday, Aug. 5-9, at the school's gym.

The cost is \$125 per person. For more information, call (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5254.

MHSAA submits new sports season-changing plan

Stating its belief that more students are helped and fewer are hurt by adding new tournaments than by switching existing seasons, the Michigan High School Athletic Association submitted to a Federal District Court a plan that would change the scheduling of its tournaments in three sports and add four new tournaments for girls.

The MHSAA's tournaments for golf, swimming & diving and tennis would be affected. The MHSAA's Lower Peninsula tournament in boys golf would move to the spring, girls golf to the fall; girls swimming & diving would move to the winter, boys to the fall; and boys tennis would move to the fall and girls to the spring.

In the Upper Peninsula, the MHSAA's championship for girls golf would move to the fall while boys golf would remain in the spring; boys swimming & diving would move to the fall, while girls swimming & diving would remain in the winter; and the MHSAA's U.P. championships in boys and girls tennis would reverse seasons as in the Lower Peninsula.

These changes are dependent

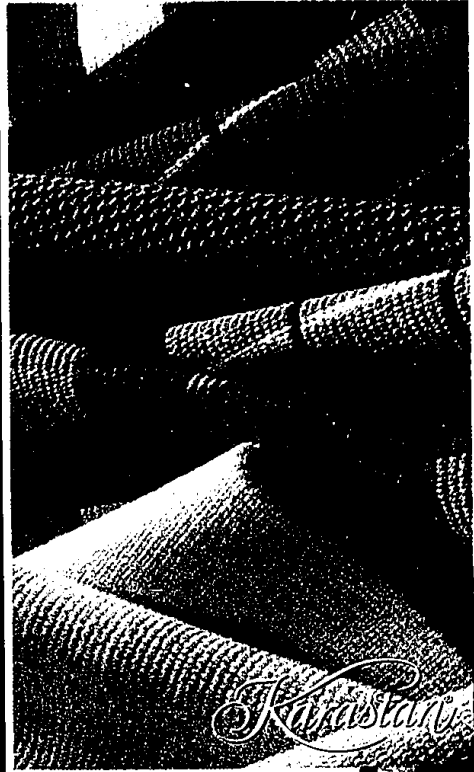
upon the approval of the U.S. District Court in Kalamazoo later this summer, and none of the changes will occur if the MHSAA's appeal of the District Court's decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals is successful. On May 9, the Sixth Circuit of the U.S. Court of Appeals delayed until at least 2004-05 the District Court's ruling that seasons be realigned in 2003-04.

The MHSAA's plan also commits the association to starting four new post-season tournaments for girls before adding any new tournaments for boys. Two new tournaments would be initiated each year for two years, with the association choosing the four sports that serve its membership best from the following list of 12 sports: bowling, crew, equestrian, field hockey, figure skating, ice hockey, indoor track & field, lacrosse, powerlifting, synchronized swimming, water polo and wrestling.

The compliance plan was approved by the MHSAA Representative Council during a recent meeting and filed with the Federal Court.

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