



## World Series qualifiers

The 14-and-under South Farmington Blues baseball team won the USSSA Memorial Weekend Tournament May 24-26 at Victory Park in the World Series in July. The team (left to right) Nick Marz, Andy Harris, Stephen Doty, Brooks Tyn, Brendan Clarke; (standing, left to right) Craig Bergeron, Clayton Pack, coach John Castine, Jeff Gorecki, Matt Paul, coach Rick Tyn, Tom Splich, coach Larry Miller, coach Steve Gorecki and Jonathan Castine. Not pictured are Josh Rebandt and Akhenaton Thomas.

## Panthers silence Shamrocks

BY PAUL BEAUDRY  
STAFF WRITER

Maybe it was one game that RU didn't want to let get away. Maybe it was the one the Panthers have wanted since losing in the baseball district final.

Maybe they wanted to extend their winning streak against Catholic Central.

Whatever the reason, a win was the result as the Panthers jumped out to a 7-0 lead and wound up with a 10-6 win over host and cross-town rival CC in a Division I semifinal on Monday.

"One of our goals going into this was to beat CC. Another was to win the district, but that didn't happen," said RU coach Mike Taylor after his team lost in the district final to Farmington Harrison.

The Panthers had to expect it might be their game when John Hageman led off with a controversial triple. Hageman hit a double to right field, CC's Drew Amble dove for near the foul line, but the ball hit the tip of his glove and scooted away. CC argued that the ball was foul, but to no avail.

A couple of doubles, two singles, and a wild pitch or two later, RU wound up with a 4-0 lead, with one out and Jeff Schulz chased from the mound in favor of Mike Monterey.

And it was more of the same in the second as Hageman singled. Dave VanDusen reached on one of five CC errors in the game, then Shawn Meyers scored VanDusen to put RU up 7-0. "Our defense wasn't very good in the first two innings," said coach John Salter, whose team lost to RU when the two last met in 1999. "They hit the ball hard, but we gave them a little extra help. We put ourselves in a 7-0 hole and had to catch up. We did a fairly good

job of getting back into it." And the Shamrocks (21-6) would have done a better job had they not left 10 runners on base. But they did get back into the game, nicking RU starter Chris Rigley in the third for a run as Derek Brooks hit a single to score Todd Tindall.

And CC had a chance to cut into the lead in the sixth as Brooks walks, took second on a single by Mike Monterey, scored on Ryan Gallagher's single, then Vojtkosky walked to load the bases.

But Hageman picked the corner, struck out Schulz looking to end the rally.

JOE AUSTIN/BLUE HOMETOWN LIFE (734) 953-2066

## St. Mary's wins district

Orchard Lake St. Mary's baseball team finally erased the memory of a nightmare district final of a year ago with seventh-inning heroics Monday to win a district championship over Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, 3-2.

The Eagles were losing, 2-0, and their season was down to its last out with only Jeremy Leber on first following his second single in the district final.

But Chris Rachfal singled to put runners on first and second, and Mark Sisson followed with a single up the middle to score Leber.

Nick Brennan then laced a two-run triple over the right fielder's head for the lead, and pitcher Mark McDaniel finished a complete game, seven-inning (walking two and striking out five) in the bottom of the seventh.

"We didn't give up in the seventh, because last year we were winning the district final by 13 runs and ended up losing, 17-

13, to (Auburn Hills) Avondale," Eagles coach Jeff Willis said. "We've been using that as motivation - that the game isn't over until the last out."

The Eagles (17-11) also turned the tables on Avondale in a district semifinal May 31.

Down 6-3 following a Joel Legree three-run homer, St. Mary's chipped its way back into a tie and then won it in the top of the sixth, 7-6, on a solo homer by Rachfal, who had two hits in the game. Kyle Miller had three hits and Jonathan Castine two, and each had one RBI.

Brandon Larson pitched five innings and got the win over Avondale, and McDaniel worked the last two innings and got a save.

It was St. Mary's first district championship since 2000.

The Eagles played Bloomfield Hills Andover in a regional game Saturday at Ortonville-Brandon.

2003-04

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**Women on Wednesdays** is a monthly pregame networking party celebrating the achievements of women in sports. Admission is FREE with a ticket to the game.

**Wednesday, June 18** meet Lucinda M. Trout, Chief Legal Officer for New England Sports Ventures (Boston Red Sox)

Hosted by Fox 7's Sherry Margolis

**5:30 p.m.** Reception in the Upper Deck Lounge at Comerica Park

**6:00** Program

**7:05** Tigers vs. Indians

Meet Linda Parikh, Detroit Tigers B.A. Coach. (scheduled to appear) enjoy pregame networking, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and door prizes

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4	Vietnam Fields	Plymouth	July 7 - 11	\$139.00
5	Pioneer Park	Farmington	July 14 - 18	\$139.00
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7	Clifford Smart Middle School	Walled Lake	July 21 - 25	\$139.00
8	Bloomfield Park	Livonia	July 21 - 25	\$139.00
9	Independence Park	Canton	July 28 - Aug. 1	\$139.00
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#### GIRLS

AGE	1ST TRYOUT	2ND TRYOUT
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U10 (Born after 7/31/93)	6/15/2003 11:00 - 12:30 P.M.	6/18/2003 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.
U11 (2 Teams) (Born Born 8/1/92 & 7/31/93)	6/15/2003 1:00 - 2:30 P.M.	6/20/2003 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.
U12 (Born Born 8/1/91 & 7/31/92)	6/15/2003 3:00 - 4:30 P.M.	6/18/2003 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.
U13 (Born Born 8/1/90 & 7/31/91)	6/15/2003 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.	6/19/2003 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.
U14 (Born Born 8/1/89 & 7/31/90)	6/15/2003 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.	6/20/2003 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.
U15 (Born Born 8/1/88 & 7/31/89)	6/16/2003 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.	6/21/2003 11:00 - 12:30 P.M.
U16 (Born Born 8/1/87 & 7/31/87)	6/17/2003 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.	6/21/2003 3:00 - 4:30 P.M.

#### BOYS

AGE	1ST TRYOUT	2ND TRYOUT
U9 (Born after 7/31/94)	6/15/2003 9:00 - 10:30 A.M.	6/18/2003 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.
U10 (Born after 7/31/93)	6/15/2003 11:00 - 12:30 P.M.	6/18/2003 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.
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1) June 23, 24, 25, 26  
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2) July 14, 15, 16, 17  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

2) July 14, 15, 16, 17  
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

2) July 7, 8, 9, 10  
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3) August 4, 5, 6, 7  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

3) August 11, 12, 13, 14  
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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