

# Borgess Surprising All In Les Anders

By TOM DONOGHUE  
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Now there are four...

The Les Anders baseball tournament is narrowing down into its final stages with four teams remaining in competition.

Most of the favored teams have been knocked out with the biggest surprise being Bishop Borgess. Clarenceville and Redford Union have fallen to Borgess but Coach Jim Brisky is far from surprised.

"We have a good chance of winning this tournament," said Coach Brisky. "Everybody sort of took us for granted, but we are holding our own."

The semifinals are set for Monday (May 29) at Ford Field in Livonia. The 6 p.m. game pits Wayne Memorial against Borgess with Farmington and Stevenson meeting at 8:30 p.m.

The two winners will meet in the championship clash on Tuesday (June 6) at Ford Field with opening pitch at 7:30 p.m.

BORGESS KNOCKED favored RU out of the running with sophomore righthander Reese Dobrick hurling a five hitter and slamming a round tripper to win, 3-2.

The Borgess pitcher struck out six and walked two in chalking up his fifth win against two defeats. Pat Burgess and Steve Friedman worked for the Panthers with Burgess the loser.

Borgess struck first in the second with Dobrick booming out his round tripper. A single by Chuck Abraham and another homer by Dan Kelly gave Borgess a 3-0 margin.

RU fought back with two in the fifth. Mike Kalil singled and moved to second on a passed ball. Friedman drove him in with a one base hit and scored on a hit by Mark Durance.

But Dobrick bore down and retired the Panthers in the sixth and seventh.

STEVENSON finally beat St. Agatha in a rain delayed game, 5-0, to move into the second round against Garden City West and the Spartans responded with a 7-0 triumph.

Bob Bialy went the route, allowing four hits, walking two and striking out eight in scoring his first win. Jerry Volas chucked for West and gave up six hits, walked two and struck out 11.

The Spartans scored one in the first on a single by Mark Temby, a stolen base, and a wild pitch. The rest of the damage was in the sixth inning where Stevenson put together four hits and made use of two West mishaps to score six times.

TERRY MELROY singled and Temby was safe on an error. Both runners stole and Bialy walked to load the bases. Tressler connected on a two run single and Finn was safe on an error with Bialy scoring.

Keifer singled and Bob Gazak tripled to conclude the attack.

Farmington didn't have an easy time with John Glenn. In fact Glenn outthit the Falcons, nine to four.

But the bounces were with Farmington and Jeff Herman in his first pitching performance scored a 3-2 victory with three strikeouts and two walks.

DAVE WESLEY and Bob Anderson worked for Glenn with Anderson taking the loss. The two combined for 11 strikeouts.

Glenn opened the scoring in the first with J.P. McBride getting a single and Jeff Hodgkins lining a single to right. The ball got by the rightfielder and McBride scored but Hodgkins was nailed at the plate on a perfect relay.

Farmington tied it in the fourth when after two outs, Harte walked and scored on a three bagger by Rick Pauline. The Rockets took off in the bottom of the sixth with Roger Sanders drilling a single to left and moving to second on an error. With two outs, Wesley singled in Sanders to put Glenn up, 2-1.



THE FALCONS PUT it away in the seventh. Bob Holton singled and Mike Flynn singled to left. The ball took a weird bounce and hit the fielder in the face. Holton scored and by the time the Glenn shortstop Sanders got the ball in left, Flynn was standing on third, and the left fielder Hodgkins had a bruise on the cheek.

Pauline singled to score Flynn with the deciding run.

Wayne Memorial scored five times in the fifth inning to topple Thurston, 7-5, and win the right to face Borgess in the semifinals.

Thurston got by North Farmington in the first round with an extra inning, 8-5, win.

It was Mark Miller and Mark Falvo on the mound for Thurston with Craig Barozuk hurling for Wayne. Miller put the Eagles in front by one in the third with a solo homerun but Wayne came back with two in the fourth.

THURSTON bounced back with three runs to lead, 4-2, going into the fifth. Bill Fraser, Dave Harding and Mike Robinson collected hits to put the Eagles in command.

But Wayne got to Miller in the fifth with five runs on three hits. Two errors, two walks, and singles by Barozuk, Bruce Davis and Harold Durrie told the story while the last six Thurston batters went down in order.



THE WINDUP AND A DOG? North Farmington pitcher Scott Ramsey was about to uncork a pitch in the Thurston Les Anders game but a black dog decided it was time for a stroll

around the infield. North's Kim Parker looks on with arms folded. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

# Farmington's Durham Wins State With 15' Vault

By TOM DONOGHUE  
Sports Editor

That's the way it can go at the state prep track meet ... A team that finished second in its league and fourth in the regional totaled 31 points in the state meet at Flint. Northwestern to claim the title of No. 1.

The team was Oak Park. Saginaw finished second with 26½ points, Ann Arbor Pioneer came in third with 26 and Observant's Livonia Franklin placed fourth with 23.

The irony of the finish was that Oak Park scored more points in the state meet than it did against Franklin in a league dual meet. Franklin crushed Oak Park, 94-29 ... that's right, only 29 points and Oak Park scores 31 in the state meet to win it all.

"It was really funny the way it worked out," said Franklin Coach Bob Holmes. "But that's the way these things usually happen."

Observantland did boast one state champion and he did it in grand style.

FARMINGTON'S NAT DURHAM soared to a new state height in pole vaulting of 15' to place No. 1 and become the first Michigan prep to reach that height.

He broke the state record of 14'6½" held by Dave Leitner of Grand Haven (1967) and Larry Biskner of Waterford (1968).

Farmington High must have some kind of favored post in pole vaulting. It was back in 1966 that a Falcon vaulter became the first in the state to climb 14'.

That was Ron Shortt and now Durham becomes the first to reach 15'. Thurston's Craig Boyak finished in a tie for fourth with Waterford Mott's Jeff Gibbon at 14'9".

Plymouth's Scott Dunson turned in a 1:55.6 half mile but it was only good for the No. 3 berth. Ypsilanti's Dave Fortney clocked in at 1:52.8 to win.

John Glenn's Jim Lockwood placed seventh in the mile at 4:19.0 with Franklin's John Dave eighth with a 4:19.3.

THE 880 YARD RELAY saw two Observantland schools finish in the top 10 with Franklin third at 1:29.9 and Farmington 10th at 1:31.2. Three area runners finished in the top nine in the two mile run. Churchill's Denny Kurts placed seventh with 9:32.6; Pat Daney of Brother Rice eighth with a 9:35.7; and Farmington sophomore Mike McGuire ninth with 9:38.7.

Franklin's Joe Jinnott placed fifth in the 440 yard dash with a :50.0 clocking. The 100 yard 1/4 hurdles saw two area cindermen place in the top eight. Greg Battle finished third for Bishop Borgess with :19.9, and Franklin's Mark Newman placed eighth at :20.4.

FRANKLIN'S 440 RELAY won honors with a second place finish and behind Oak Park. Both teams had been battling it out all season for the state's fastest time and it was Oak Park's day to shine, at :42.9. Franklin clocked in at :43.3.

Now back to the Falcon vaulter who got just what he wanted out of his pole and himself.

The following is the rundown of Durham's vaults in the state meet:

13' - Missed first attempt but cleared second with no problem. "Pole bent too much on the first shot," said Durham.

13'6" - Cleared first attempt. 14'0" - Missed first attempt. "Thinking too much," said Durham. Cleared height on second attempt.

14'4" - Missed on first two tries but cleared on final attempt.

14'7" - Both Durham and Barry Benton of Flint Northern decided to pass and try for 15'.

15' - Cleared record height on third and final attempt. "I had no idea of winning the state crown," said Durham. "Benton had not missed once going into the 15' jump."

The only way Durham could win the No. 1 berth was to jump higher than Benton. Both clearing the same height would have given the title to Benton with fewer misses.

"I almost died on Benton's first jump," added Durham. "He almost cleared 15' but the final two weren't even close."

A TOTAL of 30 vaulters started at 10 a.m. with Durham and Benton bottling it out at 15' around 3:30 p.m.

"It was really hard to concentrate," said Durham. "The 100 yard was going on the same time I was on my last attempt at 15' and officials were running all over the place."

"I said a little prayer and knew I had a lot of people pulling for me. I knew I had to get my head back on the takeoff."

"I went up and turned and when I looked down I could see the bottom of the pit and no bar," added Durham. "I was just about clapping on the way down."

But the fame of reaching 15' wasn't without its anxious moment.

On the historic jump, Durham's pole went under the cross bar but an official grabbed it before it touched anything. A rule infraction was anticipated and it appeared that the 15' vault would be nullified.

"I really thought they would take it away from me," added Durham.

The rule states that the pole cannot break the plane of the bar. It cannot fall or rest on the cross bar or touch any part of the upright.

"I argued for a few minutes that it was a rule that has been changed because of greater heights reached and that the pole now carries under the cross bar," Durham said.

AFTER 15 MINUTES, the committee ruled it a good vault and Durham was the state champion.

Durham stopped at 15'0". "I always thought it took a real super dude to vault around 14 or 15 feet," said Durham. "But I proved to myself that through hard work and a little luck, anyone can accomplish what they set out to do."

When I went home that night, I informed my dad that I was the state champion. He didn't believe me at first but finally let out a big smile and took the family out for a dinner celebration," said Durham.

"My coach Dave Catherman has expected a 15' vault of me all season and I finally came through for him," explained Durham. "He had helped me so much with films and all sorts of meets to pick up the finer points."

In his sophomore year, Nat cleared 13'9". And was favored in the Inter-Lakes conference but broke his pole the day before the meet.

Nat was eighth in the state in his junior year with a vault of 13'11" which included All Conference honors and regional second.

This year has seen Nat capture numerous crowns. He won the Spartan Relays, the individual high 1. Observantland Relays, the Lakes championship, the regional championship and now the state championship.

He also took part in the high jump and low hurdles and was conference champ in high jump at 6'2".

GYMNASTICS have played a key role in his development. He has been on Farmington's squad the past three years and placed third in the state on the side horse.

"Mr. Catherman is the gymnastic coach and I just can't say enough on how he has got me to where I am," said Durham.

"I held Nat back in the early part of the season," said Catherman. "But he is reaching his peak now and with the purchase of a 16' pole, I believe he could reach 16' by the end of the summer."

"I have never seen a kid that collects himself like Nat," said Catherman. "The state championship medal wouldn't have gone to a greater person."

Nat is not through yet in his prep endeavors. He has been invited to vault in the National High School Invitational in Chicago the weekend of June 9 and 10.



ENROUTE TO STATE CHAMPIONSHIP -- Farmington's Nat Durham displays the form

that captured the No. 1 spot in pole vaulting at 15'. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)