

CC blanks Rice twice

Catholic Central's baseball team kept its unbeaten streak alive Saturday, sweeping both ends of a double-header from Birmingham. Brockley Rice, 2-0 and 6-0, at Redford's Capitol Park.

The Shamrocks (6-0) have recorded an impressive five shutouts in six games this season as they once again got outstanding pitching from John Rogers (3-0) and John Nissen (2-0).

Rogers went the distance in the opener, striking out five while giving up just five hits and one walk.

Nissen lost his bid for a no-hitter in the second game as Tom Zimmerman's single with two outs in the seventh.

In the first game, CC took a 1-0 lead in the first inning. Chris Parsons was

safe on an error and was sacrificed to second on Joe DuBois's bunt. Rich Mueller then rapped a single to drive Parsons home.

The Shamrocks scored their only other run in the third inning. Tim Michalik singled and moved to third on two walks. Dan Michaels got the RBI with a clutch single.

Rice (2-4) loaded the bases in the fourth inning; but the Warriors were unable to take advantage, leaving three men stranded.

The Warriors outbit the Shamrocks 5-3 in the game. Gary Zwolinski took the loss.

Nissen was impressive in the second game, earning his one-hitter while striking out eight and walking just one batter.

"It was the best game he's pitched in two years," CC coach John Salter said. "He kept the ball down and gave up just one walk."

Michalik got the Shamrocks started with a two-run double in the first. He also drove in two runs in the fourth with a double. John Connor also had an RBI single.

The Shamrocks had six hits in the game and played errorless ball.

BISHOP GALLAGHER 9-10, BISHOP BORGES 2-3: The Spartans suffered their first and second loss of the season Saturday against the perennial Catholic League power.

The defeats leave Borges with a 4-2 overall record.

Davidson hot in N.Y.

At the tender age of 10, Farmington Hills native Kori Davidson is displaying the competitive spirit of a true champion.

Trailing 5-4 in the final set, Davidson fought off three match points last Sunday to win the Girls 10 Division Championship of the Easter Classic Tennis Tournament at Port Washington, N.Y., one of the most prestigious junior tournaments in the nation.

"It was an untidy match," said Nancy Davidson, Kori's mother. "It went 6-6 in the tie-breaker. It was incredible. People were asking me if it was the Girls 12 match. They really hit the ball hard."

Kori defeated the No. 1-ranked Girls 10 player in Florida, Spencer Sheller from Miami, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6 (8-6 in the tie-breaker) in the championship match. Ironically, Davidson and Sheller are doubles partners.

NANCY DAVIDSON has raised quite a tennis family. Her oldest daughter Kelly, a junior at Farmington Hills, is a highly ranked junior amateur player in the Girls 16 division. She is also one of the top high school singles players. Ken Davidson, a freshman, plays No. 1 singles on the Farmington Hills boys tennis team.

The spotlight last weekend was on Kori, the youngest Davidson.

She defeated the No. 1 Girls 10 player from the mid-Atlantic states in her first-round match. In her second match she knocked off the No. 1 player from the eastern states. After third round, she was ranked No. 2 in the eastern states, but had previously beaten the tournament's No. 1 seed in the Girls 10 division.

Kori brought home a huge silver bowl — commemorating her triumph.



Jim Hughes

Have you ever seen a pitcher pull the string on a fastball?

IDEAL THOUGHTS from an idle mind:

THE HOLY SEASON:
• I don't know how many Catholic coaches there are in the area, but I hope those who gave up calling in results for Lent will realize the season ended Sunday.
• Speaking of the Lenten season, I saw a coach at a certain bar slipping on "glider ale" in observance of his resolution to give up beer for 40 days. Funny thing, it was the first time I've seen Vernor's with a thick head of foam on it. I guess he took "40 days" literally and figured nights were excluded.

TUBE TIDBITS:
• Best line of the weekend during a full slate of televised sporting events: After the first of two bench-clearing brawls involving hockey players from Montreal and Quebec, a sportscaster described the melee as an ugly sight in an otherwise great game. This comment prompted former Boston coach and hockey analyst Don Cherry to retort, "What do you think this is, tennis?"
• Second best line from the weekend: After Detroit Tiger Larry Herndon laced a line drive off the leg of Chicago pitcher Salome Barajas, the White Sox hurler fell to the turf and rocked in obvious pain. Play-by-play announcer George Kell said, "I think that young man is hurt."
• OK, so Detroit Piston play-by-play man George Blaha isn't the most objective guy around, but it's still fun to hear him call the plays: "Isiah working the top of the key on Sparrow. Sideline right to Benson, back to Isiah. Twelve seconds on the shot clock. Isiah works it down low, baseline Kelly over King. HE FILLS IT!" Then, at the other end: "King working on Smith, turnaround fadeaway from 10, get it."
• Red Wing announcer Bruce Martyn is so smooth, I want him to sing at my wedding. (If I get married.)

ARE YOU SURE? (or things I've never witnessed in years watching sports events):
• A baseball player who could hit the ball a mile.
• Someone who can throw the ball a country mile (which makes me wonder how many laps around a football field make up a country mile).
• A volleyball team that didn't give high fives after a spike, ace serve, dig, set, bump.
• A boxer who admitted he was hurt during the course of a fight.
• A golfer on TV throwing his four wood after hitting one into the woods.
• A clean-shaven defenseman in the National Hockey League.
• A basketball player in a recreation league passing up a 20-foot jumper. (Note: It's a fact that recreation basketball is an individual sport.)
• A pitcher actually pulling the string on his fastball.
• A coach actually reading his team the riot act.
• A team actually sitting in the catbird's seat.
• Somebody actually getting their clock cleaned.
• Somebody actually getting faked out of their job stop.
• A group of fans actually climbing aboard a bandwagon. (I've never seen a bandwagon, either.)
• A pitcher with rabbit ears.

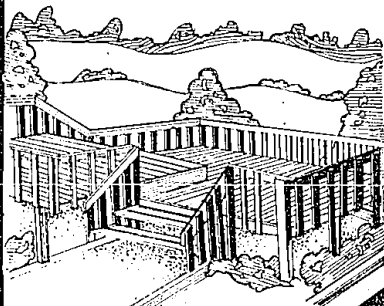
WHY IS IT...
...the day before I run a story on the hopes of Oakland A's pitcher Steve McCatty, he gets shelled? McCatty, who set a goal of having his team win every game in which he pitched, was knocked out of Sunday's game against Boston. McCatty, Troy High graduate, worked three innings, allowed eight hits, three earned runs and three walks. Oh well, it's a long season.
...we're taught not only to avoid sin, but avoid occasions for sin, yet we still play golf every Sunday? I always thought it's more practical to go to church after playing golf.
...people lift weights to increase their strength, but the next day, you can barely lift a pencil?
...when playing the sports edition of "Trivial Pursuit"? I get questions like, "How many people were at the 1978 Super Bowl and who were they?" while my mother gets a question like "What former professional baseball player, known as the Sultan of Swat and Bambino, hit 714 regular season home runs?" Hint: (Like she needed one) he played most of his career with the New York Yankees.

FINAL THOUGHT: I'm not sure about this one but I'd guess the inventor of the umbrella was a golfer from Michigan.

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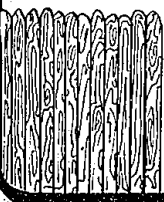
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