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S. Jersey Boys: Pitman reaches regional baseball final

Pitman rallied from a 5-0 deficit and kept its baseball season alive with a 7-6 comeback win over visiting Pennsville yesterday in an NJSIAA South Jersey Group 1 tournament semifinal.

The Panthers started their comeback with a four-run third inning, and added three runs in the fifth, including Mark Lucas' two-run single to right field with the bases loaded.

Kevin Gibbs went 2 for 4 with a run batted in, and Rob Cressman got the save as Pennsville managed just one run in the last five innings.

South Jersey Group 3. Clearview moved into its second straight sectional final by dealing visiting Winslow Township an 11-2 semifinal loss.

Junior Shane Taylor, who has 61 strikeouts in 40 innings, notched a season-high 11 strikeouts in 52/3 innings. He also went 3 for 4 and scored four runs.

Freshman Steve Keane contributed three hits, two runs and two RBIs, and Brandon Sheets went 2 for 4 with three RBIs.

South Jersey Non-Public A. Steve Santiago lined a two-run triple in the fourth inning and Aaron Reid pitched five strong innings to steer Holy Spirit past visiting Notre Dame in a quarterfinal.

Santiago also scored twice, Reid had a run-scoring double, and E.J. Stolfus went 2 for 3 with a run scored and an RBI for the Spartans.

South Jersey Non-Public B. Sacred Heart disposed of visiting Mater Dei, 6-1, in a quarterfinal as Juan Velazquez hit a three-run homer in the third inning and a bases-empty blast in the fifth. Chris Bell fanned nine for the win, and Isaac Gonzalez also homered.

N.J. Vocational Tournament. Drew Gibbs broke a 2-2 tie with a three-run homer and Jade Hendrick struck out 13 GCIT batters as Westampton Tech took the tournament title for the second straight year, 10-4, at East Brunswick Tech.

Colonial. Haddonfield clinched a tie for the Liberty Division title by beating visiting Gateway, 7-5. Ryan Goodwin went 3 for 3, and Shawn Thorndike plated two runs with two singles.

Haddon Township tuned up for tomorrow's Group 2 championship game with a 9-3 victory over visiting Audubon. Ian Lindsay hit a two-run homer, and Tyler Smith went 4 for 4 with a double and a run scored.

Overbrook needed two runs in the bottom of the seventh to claim an 8-7 win over visiting Lindenwold. Kevin Naylor went 4 for 5, including the winning RBI single in the last inning.

Olympic. A.J. Rowell's two-run triple helped Bishop Eustace clinch at least a share of the Patriot Division crown with a 10-3 win over visiting Paul VI.

Nick Valori and Nick Favatella had back-to-back two-run hits with two outs in the sixth inning to lift Washington Township past visiting Camden Catholic, 6-3.

Nate Mulberg's two-run single ignited a four-run fifth inning as visiting Cherry Hill East knocked off Cherry Hill West, 6-2. Jeff Bohus tossed a complete game and doubled.

Cape-Atlantic. Bridgeton snapped a 19-game losing skid with a 16-10 win at Cape May Tech that featured five RBIs by winning pitcher Brandon Dennis.

Hammonton blanked visiting Mainland, 5-0, as Anthony Melora and winning pitcher Steve Melchiorre each had a single, a double, and two runs scored. Melchiorre struck out 14 batters in a three-hitter.

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