

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL: BAY 17, FAIRVIEW 2

# Rocket's big innings bomb Warriors in GLC contest

By **BRIAN LOVE**

A baseball game can turn in a matter of an inning, and that was shown last week when the Bay Rockets used two big innings to turn a one-run game into a 17-2 runaway.

The victims, the Fairview Warriors, were battling fairly evenly for three innings in Bohlken Park, then 15 batters came to the plate in the fourth inning, scoring 10 runs. The fifth inning had nine batters scoring four more runs.

The game was shortened to five innings for the mercy rule.

"In those first three innings, we kept chipping away at it, kept getting a run here or there," Fairview Coach Zak Broschk said. "We were getting out of the inning, getting out of tough situations. And then in the fourth inning, the wheels fell off. Sometimes that happens. It just didn't fall our way."

It was the third time this season the Rockets scored in double digits. It was something Coach Ben Boka was looking to happen.

"It was nice to see us come out and have that kind of production," Boka said. "That's something we haven't done all year, so it's always good to see that materialize. We've been prone to not get many hits with runners in scoring position."

The teams played a closer game on Wednesday with Bay (9-6) winning 4-2 at home against Fairview (3-11).

Holding a 3-2 advantage, Bay opened the fourth with Frank Bird walking, followed by a bunt single by Evan Bottone. The pair scored on a double by Danny Surdy.

Runs by Surdy, Andrew Chesterfield, Jack McAlea, Tony Buttari, Carter Ormsby and Ryan Nolan gave the visitors a 1-2 lead. Bird, who walked, and Bottone, who doubled, scored

again to cap the 10-run inning.

Cyril Yuhas (pinch hitting for Buttari), Nolan, Aaron Bergstresser (pinch hitting for Bird) and Surdy scored in the top of the fifth for the 15-run advantage.

Nolan was 4 for 5 scoring three runs. Bottone finished with three hits in five at-bats, scoring three runs, while Surdy also went 3-for-5 with three runs scored.

The Rockets finished with 12 hits, nine walks and three batters were hit with pitches.

Meanwhile, Surdy was pitching a solid game. In five innings, he gave up single runs in the second and third innings.

"Danny's done a really nice job all year," Boka said. "He throws the ball pretty well. He was mixing up good pitches today and throwing strikes."

After the Rockets took a 3-0 lead in the first inning on runs by Nolan, Surdy and

Chesterfield, the Warriors came back in the bottom of the second when Jack Burke scored on a sacrifice fly by Dylan Sather.

Fairview cut the lead to 3-2 in the third, when Josh Hill led off with a solid single, then scored on a single by Burke.

And then the onslaught came in the fourth and fifth.

Fairview will travel to North Olmsted on Thursday, followed by a home game against Rhodes on Friday. The Warriors will then play a home-and-away series with Rocky River on Monday and Tuesday.

Bay, meanwhile, will play Buckeye on Thursday, followed by an away-and-home series with North Olmsted on Monday and Tuesday.

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