

Cabrillo boy's baseball defeats Nordhoff in C.I.F.

Mike Lee
Staff Reporter

The Cabrillo baseball team advanced onto the second round of C.I.F. play, beating the Nordhoff Rangers 6-2, at Cabrillo on Friday, May 18, 2001.

The Conqs were led by sophomore Tommy Hawk on the mound. He pitched six shutout innings, giving up only one single, one walk, hitting two, and striking out three.

On the offensive side, Hawk had an RBI-triple in the first inning and Jon Cope scored in the third after stealing second and third. In the fourth, Thomas Woodard walked and Ryan Strange and Mark Murray were hit by pitches, loading the bases. Then Jake Marshall came up and hit a two-RBI single, followed by Cope with an RBI-single. Marshall then scored when an attempted pick off at third backfired.

The rangers were able to get on the board in the seventh with a two-run homerun to center field by

Shawn Lowry, hit off relief pitcher Russ Tatick.

"Tommy pitched a great game," said Murray, "they couldn't hit him. That was the key to our success."

This was the first playoff victory for coach Jon Osborne in his eight years at Cabrillo. It's also the first playoff win for the Conqs since 1986.

With the win, the Conqs improve their record to 19-7, with nine straight wins. The Conqs play again in the second round of C.I.F on Tuesday May 22, 2001, at South Hills Covina.

On Tuesday, May 22, 2001, The Conqs lost a close game to South Hills, Covina in the second round of CIF 4-3.

The Conqs drew blood first in the second inning, scoring two runs. Jake Kougl singled to center, followed by Malachie Ruddy, who doubled to left-center, and Woodard who hit a sacrifice fly, scoring Kougl. Then Strange hit a double to

center, scoring Ruddy.

South Hills got on the board when with a runner on, a collision in the shallow right field between the second baseman and right fielder chasing after a pop fly caused it to drop, and the batter reached second base while the runner scored. A single advanced the runner to third base, then a passed ball allowed the runner to come home, tying the score 2-2.

In the fourth, South Hills was able to put two more on the board with 3 singles, a walk, and an error.

At the top of the seventh, the Conqs were faced with a do-or-die situation; they needed two runs in order to go into the bottom of the seventh and pull out a win to advance, or their season was over. They were able to load the bases with Hawk and Isaac

Simmons each drawing a walk and Ruddy getting on with a bunt-single. South Hills was able to retire the next two batters on a line out to second and a strike out. Then the #9 Batter, Murray, came up and walked after drawing out a full count, scoring pinch runner Buddy Hain, running for Hawk. The

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South Hills pitcher was then able to get Jake Marshall to ground out to the first baseman, ending the Conq rally.

“It felt like my heart was ripped out,” said Osborne, “I feel that we should have won it. It was a difficult ride home trying to figure out how we could have won it. It was a well-played game. The boys should have won it.”

“Little things lost it,” said Hawk, “we were well matched. We should have come out on top. If we would have had a couple of breaks it would have gone our way.”

“It was one of those games that could have gone either way,” said Cope, “I thought that we played well. The underclassmen stepped up and gave us a chance to win it. We just didn't catch the breaks.”

The Conqs ended the season with a record of 11-4 in league and 19-8 overall. They came in second place in the Los Padres League.

The Cabrillo baseball program says good-bye to five seniors: Jon Cope, Jake Marshall, Ryan Strange, Jason Rose, and Malachie Ruddy.

“This is one of the best teams I have been associated with,” said coach Osborne, “the far best since I have started here at Cabrillo. They're a good group of guys. They got along well. They're the hardest working guys I've had and they were easy to coach because they knew how to play.”

Meet the team: LFL heads into championship series

Sami Hasan
Staff Reporter

A bead of perspiration trickled down Junior Ruchir Chaudhari's forehead. He tapped his new Andre Agassi shoes (that he just purchased for the second time) restlessly on the floor of Mrs. Gray's Anatomy class. The bead ran until it met the edge of his eyebrow, then, as if to trace it, ran toward cheek and found its niche between his glasses frame and temple.

“Man,” Chaudhari whispered to himself, “I sure hope James isn't late today.”

James couldn't be late. There's only a seven minute allotted period to eat your lunch and pick teams, and after that, your cutting' into game time. First captain gets one...second gets two, and first: ball. That's the system. Never fails.

James Snively is what you would call the dependent variable; he's in charge of bringing the pigskin to the field, and getting it there on time. He doesn't take his job lightly. No sir, not Snivelin' Snively.

“You don't have a ball, you don't play,” said Junior Jeff Greleck, (a.k.a. the “Weasel”) “it's as simple as that.”

As the rest of the school and their brothers get in their fancy cars and

race off to Lompoc for a filling five minute lunch, these studs scarf down their bagged lunches and head out to a



ruchir CHAUDHARI
HT: 5'11" WT: 178 lbs. Born: Nov. 27, 1984 Bangladesh, India

yr	team	rcptns.	tds	ydds	rcptn.%
98-99	LFL	245	26	1254	.4537
99-00	LFL	262	32	1672	.5109
00-01	LFL	289	29	1451	.5723

Ruchir Chaudhari has stepped above the rest as a key player in the LFL. His soft hands for reception provide the LFL with something they've never seen before.

field.

Justin (Sliva) Silva lead the pack with a stoic countenance. No one messes with him...just last week he broke the back window of the special ed. classroom on a TD reception off a slant pattern. No one cared. These kids are CHS's pride and glory. The average GPA of all of them, plus another ten that meet them there, is just around 3.7.

This was a big day. The teams picked today, were permanent for the rest of the year. The playoff between the two was structured as a best of five. Today would be the first game to kick off the series.

Second team got ball (special exemption during tournament play). All but one entered the gridiron. A lone Chris Palocioz stood to the side watching intently. Hitting his toe on a pole had rendered him unable to run without exacerbating his injury.

“He's too big a factor; we need to keep nursing his injury so he's recouped for the deciding games toward the end of the series,” said second team QB, Andre Holly.

It's third and one. Steven Whitehair takes the down on a shotgun...crucial point...need one more completion for a first. Not to worry, the Chaudhari/Whitehair duo is notorious for being virtually unstoppable.

“The combo of me and Steve is like the Bruce Willis movie—Unbreakable,” says Chaudhari complacently.

But, what's this? Team Whitehair/Chaudhari losing 2-4? (scoring is only recorded in increments of 1) Fourth and TD; the ball's in Whitehair's hands as he wavers in-

decisively in the pocket. He sees Ruchir making a definitive cut to the endzone, and launches with all his might. Scrilla. Why else would they call them the dynamic duo?

“Fours (four all!)” Chaudhari hollers out in jubilation.

JEFF GRELCK
“the weasel”

LFL allstar

and walk off to class. Yet another problem solved, expediently and efficiently.

“They cheated,” murmurs Chaudhari as he departs the field, “but let it be known that we will close out the series in four (games).”

And they were off. There will be not one tardy among all of them, no speeding to school, not one ticket, and no whining about the shortening of lunch. But, there might be a little more sweat than that lone bead on Chaudhari's forehead before lunch. Actually a lot more (trust me). That's probably the only negative aspect of these lunchtime jocks; excessive perspiration.

yr	team	rcptns.	tds	ydds	rcptn.%
98-99	LFL	127	12	987	.3256
99-00	LFL	111	9	832	.3125
00-01	LFL	134	16	1234	.4658

Greleck has proven to be a key player no matter what team he is playing for. Greleck has also proven to be very popular among his team mates because of his evasive maneuvers...which is why he has taken on the nickname, “The Weasel”

“What!?” cries out Andre Holly, “it's four-three, us.”

“No way, dude,” Whitehair retorts.

Just then the bell rings, and faces look bewildered.

“Let's give it to 'em,” yells a dark face from among team one.

They concede, grab their bags,

So get introduced to a subculture of CHS that you probably knew little about. Meet the unrecognized Cabrillo High School football players: they get the grades, get the girls, and the only reason they'd want an extended lunch would be to decide their tie games in overtime.