

## BASEBALL

# PCM downs Rams, Eagles in HOIAC play

Troy Hyde  
thyde@shawmedia.com

PRAIRIE CITY — A seven-run second inning put the PCM baseball team in front of Greene County on June 14 and the Mustangs took advantage of nine Ram errors during a 10-4 home victory.

The game was tied at 2-all after one inning, but the seven-run second put the Mustangs in front for good during the Heart of Iowa Athletic Conference game.

The Mustangs earned a season sweep of the Rams and outscored them 22-4 in the two meetings.

PCM (10-8 overall, 8-2 in the conference) cranked out 13 hits in the win and committed three errors.

Kaleb DeVries led the way with four hits, Jacob Wendt hit his first career varsity homer and Coby DeRaad scored three runs in the conference triumph.

Gavin Fenton, Nick Farver and Gabe Hobbs each had two hits, DeVries scored two runs and had one RBI and Easton Webb, Wendt and Chase Wagaman all collected one hit.

Farver added three RBIs, one run and one steal, Fenton doubled and walked once and



PCM sophomore Kaleb DeVries makes a diving attempt at a catch in center field during the Mustangs' road game against Lynnville-Sully on June 13. Troy Hyde/PCM Explorer

Hobbs tallied two RBIs and one steal.

Wendt's career night included two runs, one RBI and one walk and he was hit by one pitch. Webb doubled and collected three RBIs, Wagaman doubled and scored one run and Carson Hansen was hit by one pitch and scored one run.

Zeb Padget earned the pitching win after allowing four earned runs on eight hits in six innings. He struck out seven

and walked three.

Shay Burns tossed one inning and surrendered no runs and no hits and struck out one and walked one batter in 11 pitches.

Greene County (2-13, 1-9) was led by Gavyn Winters, Adam Bills and Camden Jacobs, who all finished with two hits and one steal.

Matthew Hovick tossed a complete game on the mound and allowed five earned runs

and struck out four.

### PCM 5, Saydel 4

PRAIRIE CITY — The Mustangs scored all five of their runs in the first inning and held on for a 5-4 home win over Saydel during HOIAC action on June 12.

PCM out-hit Saydel 13-5 and both teams committed one error. The Eagles scored twice in the fourth and once in each of the sixth and seventh

but fell short.

Webb and Jack Jungling each had three hits, one run and one RBI to lead the offense, while Wagaman and Wendt each collected two hits.

Wagaman registered two RBIs, Fenton, Farver and Trigg Steenhoek all had one hit and Hobbs scored one run and finished with one RBI.

Fenton stole one base and Farver and DeRaad each scored one run.

Trenner Van Dyke earned the win after allowing three runs — one earned — on four hits in six innings. He struck out nine, walked three and hit one batter.

Padget earned the save after surrendering one earned run on one hit, two walks and one hit batter in one inning. He struck out two.

The win gave PCM a season split against the Eagles, who won the first meeting 4-3 on May 24.

Jayden Cordova had two hits, one run and one walk to lead the Eagles (12-11, 8-2) and Payton Rummans collected two RBIs. Cordova also earned the pitching loss after allowing five earned runs in six innings.

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## SOFTBALL

# Mustangs lose twice to ranked conference foes

Troy Hyde  
thyde@shawmedia.com

MONROE — The PCM softball team almost needed things to go perfectly to knock off Class 3A No. 7 Saydel on June 12.

The Eagles are tied atop the Heart of Iowa Athletic Conference and have one of the top pitchers in 3A.

A slow start certainly plagued the Mustangs, but a few unfortunate calls and a little bad luck also played a factor in the Eagles' 7-3 road win.

Saydel scored twice in the first inning and went up 7-0 before the Mustangs made a late run in their conference matchup.

"Saydel is good, and they are tough to come back on if you fall behind 5-0. And they were eventually up 7-0," PCM head softball coach Shaun Hudnut said. "I was proud of our girls. The energy stayed up and they continued to fight. I thought our at-bats got better as the game went on."

Saydel starting pitcher Dakota Lake registered 1-2-3 innings in the first, third, fifth and seventh and she had multiple strikeouts in four of the seven frames.

Lake surrendered three runs on five hits and she struck out 13 and walked just one.

"She has a good pitch mix. She can throw hard, but she has a good change and rise



PCM senior Sidney Shaver fields a ground ball at second base during the Mustangs' home game against Class 3A No. 7 Saydel on June 12. The Eagles jumped out to a 7-0 lead and downed PCM 7-3 in Monroe. Troy Hyde/PCM Explorer

ball, too," Hudnut said. "You have to be aggressive early on."

Paige Steenhoek swung at the first pitch she saw with one out in the fourth. She drove that pitch out of the park for a home run to right field to put the Mustangs on the board.

In the sixth, Sidney Shaver hit a bloop single to left and then went to third after Addison Steenhoek reached on an error.

Shaver scored on a passed ball and then Paige Steenhoek drove in her sister with an RBI single to left.

After a single by Joslin Briles put two runners on base, Tori Lindsay drilled a Lake pitch to the shortstop. Her line drive though was caught and the inning ended after the Mustangs were doubled off second base.

There was some controversy with the tag at second. The ball came out of the glove of the Saydel defender on a second attempt at the tag, but the umpire determined that a successful tag was made on the first attempt.

"If Tori gets that ball a few inches to the left or right, it's

a base hit and we are probably still batting," Hudnut said. "It was just bad luck there. We teach the girls to be aggressive on the bases and stuff like that happens. We don't blame anyone for that."

That was the best scoring chance of the day for PCM. Lindsay doubled in the second and RaeAnn Duinink walked to put two runners on base. But Lake got out of the jam with a pop-out to first base.

Lake struck out two in the first and two in the seventh. She registered five straight strikeouts after the Paige Steenhoek homer and fanned the side in the fourth and fifth.

"We are too picky sometimes when we have two strikes. And when you face a pitcher like Lake, you want to use all three swings," Hudnut said.

Paige Steenhoek finished with two hits, a home run and two RBIs to lead the PCM offense, while Shaver, Briles and Lindsay had the other hits.

Shaver and Addison Steenhoek each scored one run and stole one base, Lindsay doubled and stole one base and Duinink walked.

Rylee Parsons (8-7) started in the circle and took the loss after allowing seven runs — six earned — on 14 hits and two strikeouts in seven innings.

Saydel (12-3 overall, 9-1 in the conference) won the season series as the Eagles claimed a 5-2 victory at home back on

May 24.

Lake also led the Eagles at the plate. She laced an RBI double in the first, collected an RBI single in the second and hit a lead-off homer in the fourth.

Caydance Sharp and Lucy Peak also hit home runs for the visitors. Sharp's two-run blast came with two outs in the second and Peak's was a lead-off bomb in the third.

The Mustangs (8-7, 6-4) once again came out on the wrong side of an obstruction call in the first inning.

Lindsay appeared to make a successful tag out at second base, but the umpire determined she blocked the bag without the ball. Saydel scored twice in the frame.

"It's tough when you have a few calls go against you that are questionable," Hudnut said. "There's nothing I can do as a coach. I'm really frustrated with the obstruction calls. They have been really inconsistent. We've been burned on it a few times already."

"There was a memo that came out that said if the ball beats the girl there, then you can be in the base. And we felt like the ball beat her there on that play."

Hudnut just wants more consistency with the call so he can teach his players how to handle the situation.

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