

Saints roll into 3A baseball playoffs

Written by Jim Ecker

Tuesday, 12 July 2016 04:43 -



The Xavier Saints should be a confident baseball team when they enter the Class 3A district tournament Friday night.

The Saints ended the regular season on another high note Monday with a 7-3 victory over Clinton in a non-conference game at Ken Charipar Field.

The Saints have won nine of their last 11 games after a rugged start, but they'll need all the confidence they can muster in the 3A playoffs.

Xavier (12-22-1) will face DeWitt Central (28-10) in the district opener Friday at approximately 7 p.m. in DeWitt, and waiting in the wings in the district finals is top-ranked Davenport Assumption.

If the Saints handle all that, they could face another tough opponent in the substate finals for a trip to the state tournament.

Xavier collected a methodical victory over Clinton Monday with a 12-hit attack and solid pitching from Adam Tvedt and Sam Meyers. Tvedt struck out eight batters and allowed three runs in five innings for the victory, then Meyers tossed two scoreless frames to finish the game.

Jake Guckenberger, on a hot streak lately, went 3-for-4 for the Saints. Gabe Lux, batting in the No. 9 spot in the order, was 2-for-2 with a walk, two runs and two RBIs.

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Catcher Nick Stark had two hits for Xavier. Sean Murphy scored twice and drove in a run. Bryce Schulte had two hits and an RBI.

Clinton fell to 12-21.