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Impressive first rounds for Vanguard, Forest

STAR-BANNER STAFF

GAINESVILLE - Vanguard batted around in the first and second innings en route to a 14-3 win over Lake Weir in the first round of the Class 5A-District 4 baseball tournament at Gainesville High School Tuesday afternoon.

The No. 4 seed Knights pounded out 14 hits in all, scoring five runs each in the first two innings to erase an early 1-0 deficit.

Right-hander Karl vonRodenstein pitched four innings to pick up the win, allowing three hits and striking out five to move to 6-5 on the year. He aided his cause with two hits and two RBIs at the plate.

Center fielder Matt Wright led the Knights assault, posting two hits and two RBIs in the second inning alone. Wright capped off his day with a three-run homer in the fourth.

First baseman Joe Jones added two hits and two RBIs and [Eric Grabe chipped in a two-run single for Vanguard](#) (20-6), which meets No. 1 seed Gainesville tonight at 7.

Lake Weir starter Tyler Schacter lasted only one inning in the loss. Ben Grim led the offense with two hits, including an RBI double in the top of the first that gave Lake Weir (6-19) a brief 1-0 lead.

FOREST 12 , EASTSIDE 2. At Gainesville, Forest pitcher Tres Ramirez held Gainesville-Eastside to two runs on two hits while striking out six in a complete, five-inning game.

B.J. Robinson went 3-for-3 with two triples and an RBI to lead the Wildcats, who scored a four-run fourth and a three-run fifth to put the game out of reach thanks to the 10-run mercy rule.

Gary Merians added a two-run homer, while J.T. Thomas and Blake Spires both added RBI singles for Forest.

No. 2 seed Forest (16-9) moves on to face No.3 Lake City-Columbia today at 4 p.m. Columbia is coming off of a 10-run mercy rule victory over Leesburg on Tuesday night.

District 1A-8 Semifinals

□ **SEVEN RIVERS 7, ST. JOHN LUTHERAN 5.** At Hernando Christian, the Saints committed six errors behind starter Austin Windham, who went the distance and struck out 10 Warriors. Windham allowed 10 hits and didn't walk a batter over seven innings in the 1A-8 semifinals.

Gage Reynolds led No. 2 seed St. John with a three-run home run. Windham was 2-for-3 with a double at the plate.

St. John ends its season with an 11-12 record.

Boys Golf

OCA 162, HERITAGE PREP 273. At Stony Brook West in Orlando, Crusader Jesse Carter was the medalist, shooting a 39 for the day's lowest score.

Cecil Pruitt, Harry Cribs and Carlton Schwartz each shot a 41 to help push OCA to the 111 stroke team victory.

OCA (9-1, 7-1) moves on to compete in the FCC conference championship on Monday at Country Club of Silver Springs Shores, with first tee at 10 a.m.

Softball

PINE CASTLE 17, ST. JOHN 0. The Saints' season ended with a road loss.