Mustangs lose 27-0, but gain split



DES MOINES - The Mount Mercy baseball team was outscored 29-3 Friday, but the Mustangs managed to split their Midwest Collegiate Conference doubleheader with Grand View.

Mount Mercy won the first game, 3-2 in eight innings, on a game-winning single by Jimmy Lizarraga and a strong pitching performance by Cale Henke.

Grand View crushed Mount Mercy in the second game, 27-0.

Austin Czerwiec began the top of the eighth inning of the first game with a double for the Mustangs and was replaced by pinch-runner Ben Larson. Larson advanced to third base on a fly ball by Cody Bell and scored on Lizarraga's single to left field.

Henke allowed a two-out single in the bottom of the eighth inning, then ended the game with his 11th strikeout. Henke (2-2) allowed eight hits and walked only one batter.

Czerwiec, one of Mount Mercy's top pitchers, started the second game for the Mustangs but did not retire a single batter. He was touched for eight runs (six earned) on six hits and left the mound.

Grand View scored eight runs in the first inning, seven runs in the second inning, four runs in the third inning and eight more runs in the fourth inning for a 27-0 lead at that point.

The unusual split left Mount Mercy at 8-10 overall and 1-1 in the league. Grand View won its

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first game of the season Friday and is 1-7 overall and 1-1 in the league.

The same two teams play another twinbill in Des Moines Saturday. Alex Hayden, one of Mount Mercy's top pitchers, has been sidelined with a sore elbow.

Game 1

Mount Mercy000 100 11 - 3 5 2Grand View010 000 10 - 2 8 5

Henke and Lizarraga. DeCovich, Baker (8) and Marchant. W - Henke (2-2). L - Baker (0-2). 2B - Czerwiec, Marchant, DeCovich. HR - Curtis.

Game 2

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Czerwiec, Larson (1), Paz (2), Holmes (4), Hackett (4), Jourdan (6) and Lizarraga. Mesecher, Crowley (6) and DeBondt, Haller. W - Mesecher (1-1). L - Czerwiec (3-1). 2B - Potts, Jensen, Marchant 2, DeCovich, Stokes, Curtis. 3B - Nielsen, Halligan.