

Saints fall short in role as LOL spoiler

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Ninth inning rally allows Cedarburg to repeat as Land O' Lakes champions

The Saukville Saints seemed to relish the role of Land O' Lakes spoiler in Sunday's road showdown with the Cedarburg Mercs — that was, right up until the final at bat.

Cedarburg clinched the title as the Northern Division's regular champions with a 3-2 home win over Saukville. The win snuffed out the hopes of the second-place Grafton Express to unseat the Mercs.



In Sunday's game, the Saints scored two runs in the opening inning, and gave up only one run over eight innings. That set the stage for some ninth-inning dramatics.

Cedarburg's Robby Proehl delivered a one-out sacrifice fly in the bottom on the ninth to tie the game. The next Mercs batter, Ross Zahour, singled to deliver the game winning run.

Zach Lauterbach got the win for Cedarburg.

Zahour collected three hits during the day, as did Ian Tucker for the Saints.

The Mercs wrapped up their regular season play Monday with a road win against the West Bend Benders.

The 13-0 victory gave them a season record of 16-2.

In other Land O' Lakes action:

Grafton 8, Port Washington 7

The Grafton Express did their best to keep the division race interesting, pulling off an 8-7 road

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win Friday over the Port Washington Lakers.

Grafton overcame a sluggish start to lead 5-3 after two innings and held off a determined Port Washington rally in the bottom of the ninth for the win.

Lance Keplinger, Max Pruefer and Drew Doring each had two hits for the Express.

Miles Mayer earned the win, and Nick Wycklendt came in for the save,

Justin Behm launched a home run for the Lakers.

The Express finished the regular season with a 14-4 record.

Thiensville-Mequon 11, Port 2

The Lakers continued their hard-luck ways Sunday, dropping their regular season finale on the road to the Thiensville-Mequon Twins, 11-2.

The host Twins took advantage of the generosity of the Lakers pitching staff, which issued 13 walks.

Thiensville-Mequon also benefited from the powerful bat of Cory McEwen, who blasted a pair of three-run homers.

McEwen's first shot came in the five-run fifth inning. The second came in the eighth inning.

Port's Max Kaske hit a solo homer in the eighth inning.

Josh Ruppel took the win for the Twins.

The Lakers ended the season with a 3-15 record. The Twins finished the regular season 8-10.

Saukville 5, Plymouth 3

The Saukville Saints ended their regular season Sunday with a road victory over the Plymouth Flames, earning them third place in the divisional standings.

Leading 3-1, the Saints scored two insurance runs in the eighth inning on a double by Ryan Modder and an infield grounder by Dave Dickmann.

Cole Granrath had three hits for Saukville, and Kyle Dieringer tallied two. Both players had a pair of doubles.

Three Plymouth batters had two hits.

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Saints pitcher Mike Sherrick earned the win and Kyle Dieringer got the save.

Saukville ended the season with a winning record, at 11-7.

Image Information: SAUKVILLE SAINTS STARTING pitcher Sam Matthies held the Cedarburg Mercs in check through most of Sunday's Land O' Lakes baseball showdown. It took a ninth inning rally for Cedarburg to repeat as the Northern Division's regular season champions.

Photo by Sam Arendt