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PREPS ROUNDUP

# Novi CC blows early lead, but defeats U-D

## Advances to final vs. De La Salle

PERRY A. FARRELL • FEBRUARY 26, 2009

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Up by 17 points at the end of the first quarter Wednesday night, it seemed unlikely that Novi Detroit Catholic Central would allow a comeback by University of Detroit Jesuit at Birmingham Marian.



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But the Cubs came back to tie the game at 53 with the right to play Warren De La Salle at 3 p.m. Sunday in the A-B Catholic League championship at Calihan Hall on the line.

Then CC (14-4) regrouped, scoring the final six points for a 59-53 victory.

"Last year, we were scoreless in the first quarter of the semifinals, so we wanted to get off to a good start," said CC's Tim Dezelski, who scored 12 of his team-high 15 points in the first quarter.

Brett Smith, the hero of CC's victory Sunday over Birmingham Brother Rice, picked up two early fouls and had to retreat to the bench. He responded in the second half, hitting two free throws after being fouled by Daniel Fields (10 points) that gave the Shamrocks the lead for good, 55-53. He finished with 14 points.

Steve Harding (13 points) scored the final four points.

Smith's teammates didn't need him early as Dezelski scored the team's first seven points and 12 in the first quarter as the Shamrocks jumped to a 23-6 lead.

"I knew they'd come back," said CC coach Bill Dyer. "They have great players; they are well-coached. Tim, Brett and Steve were great for us. Tim has been hurting physically, and we've tried to limit him in practice. He had a little more energy tonight."

CC also did a good job of neutralizing Michigan-bound Jordan Morgan, who scored 10.

As U-D (12-5) crept back into the game, Catholic Central's inability to make free throws in the second quarter kept the Cubs in it. CC was 4-for-10 from the line in the quarter.



KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL / DFP

Catholic Central's Jamie Morris (33) gets the rebound against University of Detroit Jesuit's Jordan Morgan (52) during the boys catholic league semifinals held at Marian High School in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., on Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009.

PHOTO GALLERIES

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**michigan7011** wrote:

Replying to czyhorse:

*glad they're winning or the recruiting would be stupid. all their Catholic trophys are great. but i and many others working in High School sports feel that any state championship won by non-public school is as tainted as a winner on steroids. when i worked with state in 1980's we had a proposal in front of us to exclude all non-public schools from championships. too bad it wasn't in place. sports is an extra activity at a school RIGHT? so why should a school that cheating on resident status be allowed to compete? they are welcome to have their Catholic Championship...and they do. but no way should some small school from up have to play in any sport with a Catholic school that only has boys to count from. double an all boy or girls student body count and move them up a class if you're going to let them cheat, recruit and dodge resident requirements. they don't recruit? huh they recruited me and my son.*

You sir are an uneducated idiot!!!!!!

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**czyhorse** wrote:

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**25NOUT** wrote:

Let's see. Novi Detroit Cathoilic Central defeated Detroit University Detroit Jesuit. Come on. CC defeated U of D. Everyone knows who they are. Quit with all the identifiers already.

02/26/2009 7:42:33 a.m. EDT

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