

Softball District C-6 runner-up may stay home

Written by Greg Viergutz

Wednesday, 07 October 2009 22:23 -

CLASS C PT. LEADERS	
School record	Point ave.
Friend, 26-2	45.2727
Wahoo, 25-2	45.1111
Yutan/Mead, 21-4	44.2000
Gothenburg, 17-2	44.0000
Cozad, 16-5	43.8049
Fillmore Cent./Ex-Mil., 16-5	43.6957

Despite the fact that both Gothenburg and Cozad are in the top five among Class C point leaders, the District C-6 runner-up may be watching the state tournament from the bleachers.

The Swedes host the C-6 district tournament Thursday and Friday. Gothenburg and Cozad will likely meet in a showdown game early in the double elimination tournament.

No matter who wins, at least one rematch is also likely in the championship game.

“It looks like you are going to have to win the district” to make it to state, Swede coach Roger Neujahr said.

Of the two teams ahead of Gothenburg in the point standings, Wahoo and Yutan/Mead are in the same district. If one of those teams wins the C-2 district tournament, the other will likely take one of the two wild card spots.

Friend and Fillmore Central/Exeter-Milligan are in the same district, but Neujahr thinks Fillmore Central might have the edge despite the difference in records and point averages.

Fillmore Central has reached the state tournament three times in the last five years and own a state championship in 2005. Friend will be a first-time qualifier for state if the Bulldogs reach that level this year.

Southern Valley (2-10) plays Blue Hill (2-16) at 12 noon Thursday. Cozad plays the winner at 1:45 p.m. in Game 3.

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Gothenburg (17-3) faces Minden (3-15), also at 12 noon. The winner plays the Game 3 winner at 3:15 p.m.

Loser bracket games start at 1:45 p.m. and continue through Friday morning. The first championship game will be played at 1:15 p.m. with a second game, if needed, at 2:45.