

B  
y

A  
S  
H  
L  
E  
Y

S  
C  
H  
A  
B  
L  
E

T  
i  
m  
e  
s

H  
e  
r  
a  
l  
d

S  
p  
o  
r  
t  
s

E  
d  
i  
t  
o  
r

DES MOINES - Greg Schulz grabbed a quick nap during an hour and 10-minute weather delay at the state baseball tournament Tuesday night and then returned to finish what he'd started.

The Carroll ace threw a two-hit shutout and drove in the game's only run with a walk-off single in the bottom of the seventh inning for a 1-0 quarterfinal win over Marion.

The game was scoreless in the top of the seventh when lightning struck and rain followed. Marion's Ben

Messerli, the leadoff hitter in the inning, had a 1-2 count when the umpires pulled the teams off the field.

"I went in there and took a little nap and after about 15 minutes I started stretching," said Schulz. "My arm was a little sore, but it's the state tournament and you kind of have to come out and finish the job you started."

When play resumed at Principal Park in Des Moines, Marion went down in order on a pair of strikeouts by Schulz and a groundout to short-stop Chase Steinkamp. Schulz threw 19 pitches after the delay, 15 of them were strikes. Matt Fleshner reached on an error to lead off the bottom of the seventh for Carroll. Then pinch-runner Derek Major stole second and scored on Schulz's single to the gap in right-center.

"I thought I was going to have to get him to second with a bunt," Schulz said of Major. "But I pretty much didn't get that job done, so I thought I might as well make up for it and get a base hit."

Carroll coach Dirk Troutman called a bunt on the first pitch, but Schulz let it go by. Major mistakenly went to second and was called safe after the ball rolled away from short-stop Eric Hanna.

Schulz fouled off the next pitch attempting to bunt. He worked the count to 2-2 and then stroked a single up the middle to send Major across home plate.

"I just knew it was over, it got by the second basemen, so I just went for it and I saw coach sending me home," Major said of the game-winning run.  
"

It was the second straight late-game rally for Carroll, who scored in the top of the seventh to beat Creston 5-4 in the sub-state final to earn the program's first trip to the state diamond. The Tigers scored four runs in the sixth inning in a 4-0 win over fifth-ranked Harlan in the district final.

Carroll (25-9) moves on to face the winner of this morning's final quarterfinal between Raccoon River Conference foe Saydel and Western Dubuque on Friday afternoon at 2 p.m. The Saydel-Western Dubuque game was rained out last night and was to be played at 10 a.m. today. Marion, making their first trip to the state tournament, ends the season with a 25-12 record (10-0) and Marion started Matt Holland (5-3) were locked in a duel for most of the night. Schulz allowed just four Marion batters to reach base and only five were able to reach base against Holland. Both pitchers went the distance with Schulz striking out four and Holland fanning five.

Joey Swanson was the only Indian batter able to get a hit off of Schulz. He singled to lead off the game and later singled in the sixth.

"I've had some pitching duels in my time, but this was one of the better ones," Schulz said after the game. "I knew it was going to probably take one run to win it. You got to hope that your defense will step up and hold them to one."

The Carroll defense turned a double-play in the second inning and recorded 10 of the game's 21 outs by catching fly balls in the field. Its only miscue was an error at first in the fifth inning.

"Your fear is that you'll come in and they will be overwhelmed, but we didn't have any of that at all," Carroll coach Dirk Troutman said of his team, which features eight seniors. "We're playing well right now and win or lose, we were playing a heck of a ballgame."

Troutman said he will chose from Kyle Semprini, Ben Gossett and Chase Steinkamp for a semifinal starter.

"We'll have to look and see what happens here," he said of the Saydel-Western Dubuque match-up. "Saydel has seen some of our kids and they are awfully darn good. But at this point, we're happy to play anybody."

**Game Statistics**  
**Carroll vs. Marion**

	R	H	E
Marion	0	0	0
Carroll	0	0	0
LOB — Marion	3	Carroll	4
Carroll RBIs —	Schulz		
Carroll multiple	hitters	—	
None			

	IP	H	BB	SO	R	ER
Schulz (WP)	7	2	1	3	0	0
Holland (LP)	7	2	0	5	1	0

