

Baseball star recovers to boost N. Farmington

Rich Nutter is back. North Farmington's baseball team is winning.

Nutter, a pitcher-third baseman, missed six games this season because of mononucleosis. The Raiders lost four games while he was out.

But Nutter returned last Friday and collected a single and a triple in three trips to the plate in North's 2-0 victory over Redford Thurston in the North-West Suburban League. A day later he struck out five batters in the nightcap of a double header against Walled Lake Central.

"He looks well to me," said a happy coach Jerry Maxwell, whose Raiders are 5-4 overall and 1-2 in the NSL.

In the Thurston game, winning pitcher Matt Roud went the distance and struck out 11. He had a no-hitter going for 6 1/2 innings. North supported Roud with eight hits.

Sophomore Kevin Shaw designed a

four-hitter and fanned 10 to pace North's 7-1 win over Central in the opening game last Saturday. Rex Baker led North's seven-hit attack with a three-run homer and an RBI single.

North won the second game, 5-1, as John Jeffery pitched five strong innings before being relieved by Nutter. Baker tripled, and John Leitch had an RBI single for North, which had nine hits.

FARMINGTON HIGH'S baseball team has logged four straight victories, including a 10-2 decision over Walled Lake Central last Monday in the Inter Lakes League.

Winning pitcher John Dunn (3-2) gave up five hits, struck out seven and walked two. Sophomore third baseman Greg Konis was the batting star with three hits and two RBIs. He was on base five times and scored a run.

"Greg's hitting really well — .353 for the season," said Farmington coach Tony Wesson. "It's a good third baseman, too. He could be all-conference if he continues to do well."

Steve Rutkowski added to Farmington's offense with a homer and a single, and teammate Barry Williams clouted a three-run homer in the sixth inning. Sophomore infielder Joe Hamilton had two hits, including a double.

Farmington swept a twin bill from Birmingham Groves, 5-0 and 11-0, last Saturday.

Winning pitcher Jim Whitworth went the distance, allowing three hits and striking out five in the opening game. Dave Schultz and Dave Hall, Farmington co-captains, each had two hits.

Konis went three-for-three in the nightcap. Rutkowski, the winning pitcher, tossed a three-hitter and struck out six.

Brian Bruce pitched a two-hitter and fanned four as Farmington downed Livonia Stevenson, 3-1, Monday, in an

ILL. game. Schultz and Tom Heenan each provided two hits.

On Friday, Livonia Franklin plays at

North Farmington, and Farmington plays at Pontiac Northern. Both games begin at 4 p.m.

Raider netters whip DCDS

North Farmington won the decisive No. 1 doubles match Monday and edged Detroit Country Day School, 4-3, in a non-league tennis meet. North has a 6-1 overall record.

The winning doubles team, consisting of Kurt Lackey and Don VanCott, needed three sets to overcome Country Day's Tom Largo and Mike McNutt, 4-6, 6-4, 9-7. North also won the third doubles match, John Grisdale and Moe McBeth whipped Howard Krass and Kevin Edwards, 7-5, 6-4.

North Farmington won the Lake Orion Doubles Invitational last weekend. In the second flight championship

match, North's Evan Hughes and Mike Czeklik stopped Lake Orion's Spitalo and Wohlwend, 6-4, 1-5, 6-4.

North also won the third flight championship with Lackey and VanCott beating Davidson's Ellsworth and Carter, 6-2, 7-6.

In another recent tennis meet, Farmington Harrison raised its overall record to 6-1 and its Western Six League mark to 4-1 with a 6-1 win over Livonia Churchill.

In the No. 1 singles match, Harrison's Dave Brady beat Dean Nascimbene, 6-2, 6-0. Dave Hawthorne and Mark Miller, playing at No. 1 doubles

for Harrison, beat Craig Branhle and Paul Gothard, 6-0, 6-3.

Walled Lake Central beat Farmington High, 6-1, Monday in the Inter Lakes League. Farmington had beaten Central earlier this season. Farmington's only match win came in No. 3 doubles where Britton Rockafellow and Nader Mohtadi downed Jim McLeod and Andy Phelps, 6-2, 7-5.

In the No. 1 singles match, Farmington's Bill Knauer lost to Doug Gruber, 7-6, 6-1. The meet less left Farmington with a 4-2 record in the Inter Lakes League.

Mr. Joe's wins softball crown

Jim Hammer blasted a solo homer to clinch Mr. Joe's 4-2 victory over Carriage House on May 4 in the championship game of the third annual Men's Spring Training Slow-Pitch Softball Tournament.

Mr. Joe's, managed by Lance Pesci, grabbed a 1-0 lead as Dan McGrath singled home Bob Hart in the first inning. The winners picked up another run in the fourth only to see Carriage House come back in the top of the fifth to tie

it at two-all on run-producing singles by Tom Predhomme and McMahon.

Charlie Cracium was the winning pitcher. Paul Jingson was the loser.

Mr. Joe's advanced to the championship game with wins over Sall Inn (9-1). McGrath paced the winners with a double, two singles and four runs batted in.

Some 13 local teams entered the tournament. All games were played at Drake Park and Knights of Columbus Field.

OCC, now 16-10 under new coach Craig Mullen, heads for Cleveland on Friday, May 9, for the Region 3 tournament at Cuyahoga West Junior College.

OCC stickers sweep twin bill

Oakland Community College's baseball team tuned up for the upcoming regional tournament by sweeping a double-header from Highland Park Community College, 4-1 and 11-0, last Sunday.

Ed Lynch, who prepped at Birmingham Brother Rice, was the winning pitcher in the first game, tossing a

four-hitter, striking out eight and walking two. Mark MacDonald, a product of Farmington High, contributed two hits and scored a run.

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