

Dondero nips W. Bloomfield, 1-0

By DENNIS O'CONNOR
Opening-inning jitters and a costly base-running mistake in the final ruined West Bloomfield's chance to advance in the state softball tournament Saturday.

The Lakers battled defending Class A state champion Royal Oak Dondero to the limit, but fell, 1-0, in regional competition at Waterford's Herrington Park.

The Laker setback was a disappointing one for the Greater Oakland Activities League champion because Dondero's run came without the benefit of a hit in the first inning.

Laker starter and lester Gina Coury, who limited Dondero to two hits all day, opened the game by walking the Oaks' first two batters, both Dondero's, and then struck out the third, Vito Bonar. Bonar runners advanced to second and third when Mena Reymon bounced out to

second base.

Fisler then scored on a squeeze play — executed perfectly by Caren Chamberlain's bunt. Fisler broke for home plate after Chamberlain was thrown out at first and beat the relay throw by Laker first baseman Jeanne Freed.

"We score a lot on that (the squeeze bunt) — it's been a big play for us," said Dondero coach Gary Bryce. "We don't believe

in getting too greedy — only one run at a time — because sometimes you don't get too many."

AS IT TURNED OUT, that was the only run of the game — much to the dismay of teary-eyed Laker coach Sheila Charney.

"They (her team) played a very good game — they did a great job, and I couldn't be more proud of them," Charney

said.

"It was opening-game jitters — we have a lot of sophomores."

Actually, West Bloomfield had a chance to tie, and possibly go ahead, in the top of the seventh inning when it registered two of its three hits.

Third baseman Sandy DeSilvio led of the seventh with her second single of the game off winning pitcher Reymon.

Jana Baringer followed

with sacrifice bunt, but DeSilvio rounded second and headed for third — trying to get an extra base on the play.

Dondero alertly reacted after getting Baringer out and threw to third base where DeSilvio was a easy out for the double play.

Ironically, Stephanie Smith immediately followed with a double up the left-centerfield alley that would have easily

scored DeSilvio with the tying run. Smith was left stranded on second base, however, and Dondero found itself in the regional championship.

DONDERO, FACES Flint Carmen in the regional finale. That game will be played Monday at Herrington Park. It was originally scheduled for Saturday, but an afternoon shower postponed the championship. Carmen advanced to the final game with a solid 9-0 victory over regional host Waterford Township.

West Bloomfield, 18-5, advanced to the regional with a 5-4 victory over Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy to win the Farmington District. Dondero, 28-10, defeated arch-rival Royal Oak Kimball to win the Kimball District.

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Farmington-area softball standings

Following are the standings and results of recent games for the softball teams in the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department's summer leagues.

Associates, 3-1; E & M Collins, 3-1; Sherman Drugs, 3-1; Automatic Valve, 3-1; Diamond Manufacturing, 1-1; Motor Brothers, 3-1; Pura Boys, 2-1; RECENT GAMES — Farmington Merchants 31, Filia Systems 1; Sherman Drugs 17, E & M Collins 11; Bartlett & Associates 6, Automatic Valve 2; Motor Brothers 6, Diamond Manufacturing 4.

2-2; Roman Terrace, 2-2; Marks & Gorgans, 0-4; Perkins' Engines, 0-4; RECENT GAMES — Alexander Hamilton 8, JIC Electric 5; Roman Terrace 7, Dave Loh Construction 3; Marks & Gorgans 1, Cafe Flore 11; Perkins' Engines 3.

M.B.'s 7, General Automation 4; Automatic Valve 15, Marlin Construction 4; Automatic Valve 6, Firestone Book Store 6.

MEN'S INDUSTRIAL A
STANDINGS — Farmington Merchants, 4-0; Bartlett &

MEN'S INDUSTRIAL B
STANDINGS — Roman, 4-0; Cafe Flore, 3-1; Dave Loh Construction, 3-1; Alexander Hamilton, 2-2; JIC Electric,

MEN'S TUESDAY OPEN
STANDINGS — Miller Auto — Warren, 4-0; Pura Boys, 3-2; Central Air of Michigan, 2-2; Delta Construction, 2-2; Rialto's, 2-2; Aglio's, 0-2; Michigan National Bank, 0-2; Sunrise Sprinklers, 0-2; RECENT GAMES — Miller Auto — Warren 11, Sunrise Sprinklers 10; Central Air of Michigan 4, Aglio's 3; Pura Boys 9, Rialto's 8; Delta Construction 13, Michigan National Bank 11.

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