

North still alive in NSL

Falcons, Hawks take double-header losses

It's not over yet for North Farmington's girls softball team.

The Raiders kept their hopes alive for a Northwest Suburban League title after splitting a double-header Tuesday with Redford Union.

North Farmington committed eight errors in its 7-5 opening-game loss to the Panthers, but came back strong to salvage the second game on Suzette Greenberg's three-hitter, 4-2.

In the meantime, Redford Thurston (6-3) got swept by Livonia Franklin Tuesday, leaving an opening for the Raiders (5-4), who are one game back with just one game left.

North Farmington meets Franklin today in the league finale for both teams, while Thurston plays Westland John Glenn.

"This tightens up the league race," North Farmington coach Donny Mikel said. "We've still got a shot. I just wish we could have taken two today."

In the opener, the score was tied 5-5 after five innings, but the Panthers scored the winning run in the sixth on Brenda Peck's lead-off triple and an RBI single by designated hitter Diane Resch.

"It was a close game, but errors definitely hurt us," Mikel said. "Our errors gave them four unearned runs. But

softball

their pitcher did a nice job."

Tray Toccoalino had two hits and an RBI for the Raiders.

Greenberg was masterful in the second game to give North Farmington the split.

"I was pleased with her pitching," Mikel said. "She didn't walk anybody and kept runners off the bases. That's what we need her to do to win."

Toccoalino was once again the hitting star for the Raiders. She had a solo homer in the third and scored twice.

The Raiders had just five hits in the game off starter and loser Resch, but they were important hits. Amy Austin, Michelle Rosen and Paul Kozicki each contributed RBI singles.

Both Payton had two hits to pace RU, which dropped to 4-5 in the league.

FARMINGTON HARRISON had to absorb a tough double-header loss to Livonia Churchill Tuesday, losing 9-6 in the opener and 6-5 in the nightcap.

The double loss left the Hawks with a 4-4 record in the Western Lakes Activi-

ties Association and 6-6 overall.

Leigh Ann Zaharia was the winning pitcher in both games. In the first game, she scattered nine hits as the Chargers erupted for six runs in the fifth to nail down the win.

The Hawks scored three in their top of the sixth, but it wasn't enough.

Kim George had three hits and Tee-na Hicks and Deane Kool two apiece to pace Harrison.

The Hawks almost pulled the second game out, tying the score in the seventh to send it into extra innings. Hicks singled to start the inning, stole second and third and scored on Laurie Ambrose's clutch single.

But Churchill ended it in the eighth on Teri Schmidt's sacrifice fly ball to right field.

Michelle Vogel, who pitched a fine game for Harrison scattering six hits, was charged with the loss.

Ambrose and Hicks had two hits each for Harrison.

FARMINGTON continues to struggle this season, losing both ends of a twin-bill Tuesday to Walpole Central, 6-4 and 11-9, as errors told the tale. The Falcons got fine pitching in the first game from Lisa Edwards, but she didn't have any defense to back her up.

"We made four errors and we made them at the wrong time," Farmington coach Richard Roy said. "Their first three runs were unearned."

Central scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning after trailing 4-3 to nail down the victory.

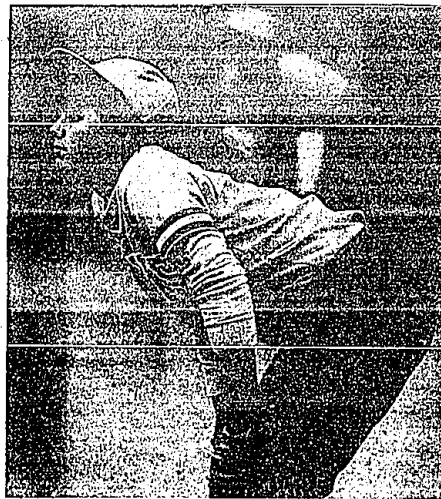
Farmington out-hit the Vikings 9-5, including two hits each by Karen Devine, Cathy Fear and Edwards.

In the nightcap, the Vikings came up with eight runs in the bottom of the seventh on four hits, five walks and two errors to escape with the win.

Once again, the Falcons hit the ball well, out-hitting the Vikings 10-5, but the errors were costly.

"It's the same old story — walks and errors," Roy said.

Devine had another fine game for Farmington, going 4-for-5 with three RBI. Jill Waterman contributed two hits and two RBI as the Falcons fell to 3-7 in W.L.A.A. play and 3-9 overall.



Teens Hicks went 2-for-4 in each of the two games against Livonia Churchill Monday. Hicks also stole four bases in the Hawks' double defeat.

Falcons best 15 teams to take RU relay meet

Continued from Page 1

Panthers won the mile relay with Melly Mogileski, Marie Becker, Janice Spayd and Denise Durrer teaming on a 4:15.76. Michelle Menchaca, Spayd, Durrer and Mogileski teamed on a 10:24.03 to win the 3-mile.

Bishop Borgess took a first in the high jump, with Andrea Jackson, Emily Emerick and Shari Johnson combining for 14.1.

The 4-mile relay belonged to Livonia Stevenson. Susan Taligian, Maggie Kary, Michele Economov and Sheila Taormina went 23:47.02.

Farmington Harrison's Jill Birsa, Renee Proszewski, Jamie Lyons and Jamie Holcomb got the Hawks 10 points with a 1:09.54 in the shuttle hurdle relays.

Plymouth Canton got 10 of its 17

points with a first in the distance medley. Ruthann Trout, Courtney Nagy, Jan Alvarado and Marie Jarosz went 14:04.48.

PLYMOUTH SALEM and Our Lady of Mercy weren't expected to score highly in the meet. Neither team was having much dual-meet success, neither team was ranked. But, Mercy scored in eight events and Salem in seven, including three second-place finishes.

The race of the day was the sprint medley. Pontiac Northern's Razahna Jones crossed the finish line in 3:03.0. At 3:05.09 came Mercy's Terri Ford. At 3:08.55 came Salem's Dawn Johnson.

But, when Farmington's shuttle-burgle team came across in 1:13.39 (just .03 seconds before Stevenson) they earned six third-place points.

Sports quiz

Who was the last team to win a Catholic League swim championship besides Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy?

Answer: St. Paul in 1966.

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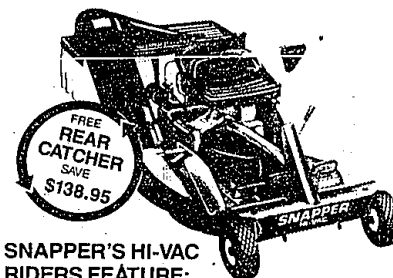


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