

Sports

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(F18)

Monday, April 14, 1986 O&E



file photo

Farmington's Amy Smith (No. 23) helped her team to a 6-1 win Anzlovor who helped her team defeat Walled Lake Central on Friday. No. 6 is North's Jean Wednesday.

Raiders begin season with win; Falcons crush and get crushed

Ah, that's better. The North Farmington soccer team typically opens its season against area power Livonia Stevenson. This season, the Raiders drew fledgling Walled Lake Western and enjoyed a 9-3 romp Wednesday.

Mo O'Brien led the Raider attack with three goals and an assist. Jean Anzlovor scored two goals and added an assist while Kris McMinn tallied twice.

Beth Chrisco and Terry Kaltz each scored once for North.

North raced to a 6-0 halftime lead but slowed up considerably in the second half.

"I was disappointed the way we let down in the second half," said third-year Raider coach Cathy Cole. "I think a lot of coaches fear those types of things when you go up 6-0. But Western had four shots in the second half and three of them scored. We made a lot of mental mistakes, we're inexperienced."

Sandy Spain played a strong de-

fensive match for North. Only one of the three Western goals were scored when Spain was in the center fullback position.

FARMINGTON opened its season with a 7-1 loss to powerful Livonia Churchill on Wednesday.

The Falcons played the Chargers even-up, 1-1, in the first half.

"We scored the first goal 15 minutes into the game, and I think old Ed Dudek (Churchill coach) was getting nervous," said Farmington coach Ed Bartram. "But I could tell he wasn't playing all his big guns and I told the girls they would have to play twice as hard in the second half."

The Chargers proved Bartram right as they exploded for five goals in the second half.

"The girls are young and they kind of lost their composure a little bit," Bartram said. "The more Churchill came on, the more defensive we became."

Jennifer Hueggl scored three

soccer

goals for Churchill, Jamie Kubacki two.

Laurie Dingle scored the lone Farmington goal. Bartram lauded the play of Jennifer Cunningham, who played extremely well defensively for the Falcons.

The win was Churchill's third straight this season.

The Falcons came back strong on Friday, whipping Walled Lake Central 6-1.

Laurie Dingle scored four of the Falcons goals, Denise Nyborg, a transfer from Livonia Bentley, and Stacy Schalm got the other two.

PLYMOUTH SALEM beat Northville in every category save one Wednesday night. The Rocks outshot the Mustangs 25-15 and had numerous scoring opportunities,

but the game ended in a 0-0 tie.

"We had the wind at our backs in the first half and we should've been up 3-0," said Salem coach Ken Johnson. "In the second half I was surprised because we were still getting good chances to score, against the wind."

But the difference in the game was Northville's all-state goalie "Trixie" Ducker. Ducker made 25 saves, many of which were spectacular.

"She's terrific," Johnson said. "She robbed Julie Tortora and Jill Estey — great plays."

Salem goalie, sophomore Ellen Schnackel, played well herself stopping all 15 of Northville's shots. Schnackel was making her first appearance in goal after playing fullback a year ago.

FARMINGTON HARRISON'S season began on an inauspicious note. The team lost to Livonia Stevenson 18-0 on Wednesday and to Livonia Franklin 7-0 on Friday.

Hawks rally tops Lakers

Guess who threw out the first pitch at Farmington Harrison's home opener Friday? Michigan Gov. James Blanchard — no kidding.

Apparently, the governor was on his way to a press conference and his police helicopter landed near the Harrison baseball field.

"I went over to see what this police helicopter was doing and there was the governor," said Harrison coach John Herrington. "He talked to the kids and said good luck. Then before he left he said, 'Thanks for sending John Miller to Michigan State.'"

— John Herrington
Harrison coach

As for the game itself, well, it wasn't very pretty, but Farmington Harrison isn't complaining.

The Hawks rallied for three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning Friday to overtake non-league foe West Bloomfield 10-9.

"It wasn't good baseball, but it's good to get the win," Herrington said. "Both teams made key errors and there was some erratic base running. But, it was a fun win. It's our only non-league game, though. We've got John Glenn on Monday."

WHICH MEANS that Friday's game was Harrison's last chance to work the kinks out before the Western Lakes campaign begins.

The Hawks trailed 3-7 going into the bottom of the sixth, but senior slugger Brian Smolinski smacked a home run to get the rally started. Ken George, Shawn Brennan and Jon Weisberg all singled. With one out, relief pitcher Jason Hicks, a sophomore, smacked a two-run double.

Hicks then retired the Lakers in the top of the seventh to post the victory. Hicks and Weisberg teamed to pitch 4 1/2 innings of scoreless relief for Harrison.

The Hawks' starting pitcher Mark Schmidt suffered the Jack Morris syndrome. West Bloomfield's Stan

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Sherman hit his very first pitch out of the park. Sherman also roped a double and a single in the game before Herrington finally just gave in and walked him intentionally.

Smolinski and Brennan each had a pair of hits to pace Harrison. Brennan knocked in two runs.

FARMINGTON 3, REDFORD UNION 2: The Falcons scored three runs in the top of the first and left the rest up to pitchers Bob Curtis and Steve Howell Friday.

Howell, the starter, gave up a run in each of the first two innings on one hit and five walks. Curtis took over with two outs in the third and threw no-hit ball the rest of the way. He walked two and fanned one to earn the win.

Joe Bob Wenson ripped an RBI double in the first (one of only three Falcon hits) and two other runs scored thanks to RU errors.

Farmington outfielders guinea down two RU runners at the plate, one in the fifth inning and another in the sixth.

Mark Thlery was the loser for RU (0-1-1). It was the season opener for the Falcons.

Farmington bats rip up Southfield

The Farmington softball team won its season-opener Friday but don't expect coach Rich Roy to be jumping for joy.

"It gets harder," was Roy's response after his team blasted Southfield 14-2 in a non-league contest.

"Southfield isn't that strong a team, but I was happy with Becky Philip," he said.

Philip started on the mound in place of Lisa Edwards and allowed four hits over seven innings. She walked seven.

Edwards is recovering from injuries sustained in a car accident.

Julie Gallagher led Farmington's 11-hit attack with three hits and three RBI. Freshman Melissa Tisdale went 3-for-3 with two RBI. Michelle Edwards knocked in a pair of runs with two hits.

Farmington scored in every inning. Scouted scored both its runs in the first inning.

SHRINE 6-3, BORGESS 4-8: Chris Kranski scattered eight hits and three walks, surrendering just one earned run, to lift Redford Bishop Borgess to victory and a split of a double-header at Royal

softball

Oak Shrine Friday. Shrine won opener 6-4.

Borgess, which evened its record at 3-3, watched its 2-0 lead when the Knights struck for a run in the third and two more in the fourth. But Borgess answered with two runs in the fifth and a three-run sixth to claim the win. Teresa Brown drove in the game-winner with a single in the fifth.

Cheryl Livingston had two hits and scored three runs for the Spartans. Karen Suarez collected two hits and Brown also walked three times.

In the opener, Katie Foley allowed nine hits, six walks and six earned runs in absorbing the loss for Borgess. The Spartans managed just three hits off Shrine hurler Laurie Harbour.

After the Knights scored four runs in the bottom of the first, Borgess tied it with a four-run surge in the second, three scoring on Jenny Zabyszynski's bases-loaded double. But Shrine got a run in the bottom of the second and added another in the bottom of the fourth.

U-M has high hopes for Salem mat champ

By Chris McCosky
staff writer

"You know, you see all the tears, you see the sweat, and you wonder if I'll all pay off. Looking at it now, I guess it all paid off."

The payoff for Nora Morrell and her son, Dave Dameron, was a full-ride wrestling scholarship from the University of Michigan.

The scholarship was hand delivered to the Morrell household Wednesday morning by U-M head coach Dale Barr — tough to figure, though, who was happier, Dameron or Barr.

"It's great," Dameron said. "I've wanted to go to Michigan since I was a little kid."

Said Barr: "The three biggest things we look for in a recruit, given

that he has a good track record, are a good work ethic, a big heart and excellent strength. Those are the things that stand out about Dave."

THERE ARE other things that stand out about Dameron. Like the fact he won the state Class A championship at 126 pounds for Ron Krueger's Plymouth Salem team this winter. Or his 148-34 high school record (50-1 last year). Or his 986 career points. Or his 79 career pins (41 last season).

"Of course his track record was good," Barr said. "We normally go after kids who are three- and four-time state champions. We don't usually pursue someone with just one. But his determination is so strong, we think he'll work himself into an excellent collegiate wrestler because he wants it so bad."

people in sports

Dameron is one of several blue-chip recruits Barr is after. Zac Pease, 150-pounder from Bay City Western, and Sam Amine, two-time state champ from Warren Lincoln, have already signed with the Wolverines. Mike Murdoch, four-time state champ from Montross "was 95 percent sure" he was coming to Michigan according to Barr, and Livonia Churchill's Salem Yaffal was also offered a scholarship.

THE REASON U-M is attracting the blue-chippers is Barr's recent success. Last year, competing without top scorer John Fisher, U-M was

ranked No. 10 in the nation and third in the Big 10. Two years ago, the Wolverines were fifth in the nation.

"I expect by the end of next season to have three or four NCAA championships, and I'd put Dave in that category," Barr said. "If he wants it bad enough he could do it. He has the physical strength, the ability and the ability to be that good. We look at Dave as just starting his rise. He has great potential."

Barr had the best freshman 126-pounder in the country, Doug Wyland, on his team this season. Wyland was 35-14. But Barr expects

Dameron to move Wyland down to the 118-pound class.

"Doug is shorter than Dave and would probably be better suited at 118," Barr said. "We're looking for Dave to force Doug down."

BUT DAMERON still has a lot of work to do before he can fulfill Barr's expectations.

"He has got to learn how to attack the legs," Barr said. "Andy McNaughton was a kid who knew how to stay on his feet, and because of that he was able to pick Dave apart (handing Dameron his only defeat last season). We'll be working with him to develop a better leg attack."

Last Tuesday, Barr visited Dameron at his house. It was the first time he had met with Nora Morrell and the first time he talked seriously

'The three biggest things we look for in a recruit . . . are a good work ethic, a big heart and excellent strength. Those are the things that stand out about Dave (Dameron).'

— Dale Barr
U-M wrestling coach

about a scholarship offer. Barr left that night knowing he'd return the next morning to sign his man.

After Barr left, Dave Dameron went into his bedroom and lit a candle — a U-M candle he had had for many years. When Nora asked what he was doing, Dave replied: "I'm a Wolverine. Mom, I'm celebrating."