

the week ahead

PREP BASEBALL Monday, April 18 Ply. Salem at Liv. Franklin, 4 p.m. ... GIRLS SOFTBALL Monday, April 18 Liv. Franklin at Ply. Salem, 4 p.m.

Marion hurls no-hitter in Salem victory, 10-0

If the rest of the 1988 baseball season is anything like it was Friday for Plymouth Salem's Todd Marion, the senior pitcher should have quite a year.

baseball

'(Todd Marion) didn't mess around. He went right after every single hitter. It was a work of art. It was, without a doubt, the finest game I've seen pitched by a high school kid.'

—John Gravin Salem baseball coach

Marion and the Rocks kicked off the new season in perfect style with Marion pitching a no-hitter in Salem's 10-0 victory over Northville.

In throwing the first no-hit game of his high school career, Marion faced just two batters over the mil-

lions. He struck out 13 and walked two.

The Mustangs hit only one ball out of the infield, and Marion went to a 3-2 count each time before issuing his only walks.

"He didn't mess around," Salem coach John Gravin said. "He went right after every single hitter."

"It was a work of art. It was, without a doubt, the finest game I've seen pitched by a high school kid."

"It wasn't that he was throwing that hard, but he had excellent control of every pitch he added."

Gravin said the plan was to let Marion throw only four or five innings because of the cold weather, but he didn't want to deny his ace the chance at the no-hitter.

"When he reached his 60th pitch, it was already the sixth inning, and I just let him finish it," said Gravin, adding Marion threw only 21 more pitches.

Northville had three baserunners, but one who had reached on an error was picked off first by Marion. Chris Adams, making his first start at third base, held a ball that went over the bag and made the putout to prevent another runner from getting aboard.

The Rocks also had a big day at the plate, and Marion was a part of that, too. He was 2-for-3 with two singles and three runs and scored twice.

Salem pounded out 10 hits, which included home runs by Mike Stout and Steve Woodard. Stout had three hits and three RBIs, and Adams was 2-for-3 with three RBIs.

"I have to be pleased with the way the kids were swinging the bat for opening day and it being a chilly day," Gravin said.

CANTON 13, STEVENSON 5: The Chiefs also enjoyed a successful debut, but they had to overcome a rocky start to turn back Stevenson.

The Spartans jumped in front 4-1

er, "but any time you win on the road and come back from a deficit you're pleased."

"There were some bright spots. I thought we bunted the ball well; we put the ball in play."

Covered was 2-for-4 for Stevenson, and Dave Houghtby doubled and scored the last run. Houghtby also was the losing pitcher. He lasted three innings, gave up five hits and walked four.

PLY. CHRISTIAN 10, HURON VALLEY 1: The Eagles had an impressive victory Friday, but it was not without its cost.

Plymouth Christian, 2-1 overall, lost its top player, pitcher and first baseman Jeff Leach, for the rest of the season, according to coach Sam Galnes, with two broken bones in his left, throwing hand.

Leach, who hit a three-run homer for the second straight game, was injured during a collision while playing first base.

"Jeff is my strongest pitcher and my best hitter," PCA coach Sam Galnes said. "It's a terrible loss, but this early in the season we'll try to go on."

The Eagles did their work prior to that, however, when they scored six times in the first inning.

Bryan Davies was 2-for-4, including a two-run homer, stole two bases and had three RBIs, and Ben Odum was 2-for-4 with two RBIs.

Freshman pitcher Maniah Nandan turned in a strong performance to get the win. He went the distance, allowing only three hits and no walks. He struck out three.

BETHESA 16, PLY. CHRISTIAN 15: Bethesda Christian rallied twice in the late innings to overcome the Eagles in a key Michigan Independent Athletic Association game Thursday.

PCA led 12-10 and 14-13 at the end of five and six innings, but Bethesda battled from behind each time, its three runs in the top of the seventh being the difference.

In the sixth, the Eagles intentionally walked a batter who had hit two home runs earlier. That loaded the bases with two out, but the next batter cleared them with a triple.

The game-winning hit was a three-run homer in the seventh.

Mercy continues softball skid, 5-2

Continued from Page 1

to see action for Farmington. She walked seven and had no strikeouts.

Kelli Koss had two off the Falcons' four hits, including a double for their only extra-base hit of the day.

KLATTERING 18, HARRISON 0: The Hawke ran into a buzz saw in their season opener and were dealt a decisive setback Wednesday.

"They're probably one of the top two or three Class A teams in the

softball

state," said Harrison coach Mike Teachman of the Waterford opponent. "They play fast-pitch from the fourth grade up to here."

The Capitals have two outstanding pitchers, both of whom pitched against the Hawks. Senior Julie Vacon, who was 14-3 last year, was the

starter, and junior Heather Van Dyke, coming off a 17-3 season, worked the last two innings. The latter struck out five and walked one.

"And they have a pretty fair bunch of country hitters to go with them," Teachman said.

Kettering had nine hits, and Danielle Clerivi had Harrison's lone take-

out hit (5-2) and making one more error (4-3).

Rhonda Kibitko and Stacey Arnold had Canton's hits, both singles. Kim Prokes was 2-for-4 for the Spartans, 1-1.

With the score tied in the bottom of the seventh inning, Arnold scored the winning run with two outs. She was the first of two batters to draw a walk, both moved up on a passed ball, and Arnold scored on a wild pitch.

SALEM 5, NORTHVILLE 4: The Rocks defeated one of the best pitchers in the Western Lakes Activities Association, Amy Friendum, to begin the new season on a successful note.

Salem's ace pitcher, Kim Berrie,

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Canton, Salem open with victories

Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem received welcome news Friday in their softball season opener.

It appears the Chiefs will be a much-improved team with the addition of sophomore pitcher Stacey Thompson, and it looks as if the Rocks will have another quality team despite the loss of some heavy hitters.

CANTON 6, STEVENSON 5: Thompson pitched a five-hit, complete game to start the Chiefs off on the right foot. She walked only five and struck out two in seven innings.

That Thompson didn't give the Spartans any additional help via the free pass was the key factor. Stevenson pitcher Trish Koslowski walked 12 Canton batters, and the Chiefs won despite being

went the distance for the win. She held the Mustangs to five hits and, despite being a control pitcher, walked 11. Coach Bob Willette attributed that to unusually high humidity for the extremely cold conditions, however.

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