Hawks blank Vikes

Jason Hicks is considered a key to Farmington Harrisor's basebalt fortunes this year.

So his strong showing Monday in the season opener was regarded as a good sign for the Hawks, who blanked Walled Lake Central 8-0 behind Hicks' five-hip titching. The senior right-hander struck out 12 batters while working a complete, seven-inning game. Hicks walked only two.

only two.

He also was a key to Harrison's
10-bit attack. Hicks had two bits, two
RBIs and scored two runs. Leo Devine was another key player with
three bits and two runs for the
Hawks, who scored five times in the
first inning and capitalized on four
Viking errors.

CANTON 6, N. FARMINGTON 2: The Chiefs were swinging for the fences and reaching the opposite side Monday

Kevin Learned and Mike Sulak hit home runs, and three pitchers com-bined on a seven-hitter as Canton de-feated the Raiders.

North had taken a 2-0 lead in the tup of the third inning on Joe Sturtz' two-run homer, but only the Chiefs, 2-0, scored after that, coming from behind with the help of Learned and salah.

Sulak.
Learned bit a solo homer for Canton, which led 3-2 after four Innings, and Sulak, who pitched the last 1 % innings and got a save, hit a two-run shot to make it 6-2 in the sixth.
Canton's nin-pihi attack included a 3-for-4 day by Jeff Kugelman, who

baseball

also knocked in a run. Learned was 2-1or-3, and Sturtz and Vanoy Hill went 2-1or-4 for North, 9-2.

"We played a real good game, but they've got a real good leam," said Raiders coach Irv Horwitz, whose ballelub had seven hits but left eight more than the said of the sai

two innings.

NORTHYILLE 8, FARMINGTON
3: The Mustangs hit three home runs
off Farmington's starting pitcher,
sophomore Chris Schmid.
He helped the Falcons take a 3-0
lead in the top of the fourth with a
home runs of his own that brought in
two runs. Teammate Brian Townsley doubled home the third run of the
inning.
Northyille, 1-1, rallied to tie in the
bottom of the fourth, and the Mustangs got a three-run homer and an-

fifth. Farmington is 1-2.

TEMPLE 8-14, PLY. CHRISTIAN
7-5: The Eagles had 21 hits on the
day, but that wasn't enough to prevenent Temple Christian of Inkster
from sweeping a pair of non-league
games Monday.

The visitors went Plymouth Christian Academy one better in each
game, collecting 12 and 14 hits to 11
and 10, respectively, for the Eagles,
PCA scored five runs in the fourth
to whe out a 4-0 deficit, and the Eagles led 7-6 after five innings. But
temple scored twice in the seventh
to win it.

Manish Nandani was the loser in
relief of Kevin Breier, who worked
the first five innings. Nandani, 1-1,
gave up five hits and walked two in
two unnings.

PCA's Ben Odom was 3-for-4,

two lanings.

PCA's Ben Odom was 3-for-4, scored two runs and stole two bases. Scott Cox keyed the Eagle fourth with a two-run double and added an BBI single in the fifth.

Bryan Davies also had a run-producing double, and Jeff Vos was 2-for-3 with two RBI and two stolen bases.

bases.
Temple was in command of the second game after taking a 9-0 load in the second inning. Jeff Tharp was the starter and loser, giving up five runs in 1½ innings. Vos pitched in relief.

relief.
Nandani was 3-for-3 with one RBI.
Mike Pressley and Tharp had two
hits apiece, and Vos knocked in two
runs with a single and sacrifice fly.



Joe Sturtz is congratulated by teammates at home plate after belling a two-run homer to the initial lead. Canton came back to win 6-2.

Patriot pitcher stars in 4-2 upset of Salem

By Steve Kowsieki staff writer

A year ago, Ed Gruenwald's after-school activity involved washing

A year ago. Ed Gruenwald's afterschool activity involved washing
cars.
This spring, Gruenwald, a senior
pitcher at Livonia Franklin, would
rather mop up on opposing hitters.
He got off to a good start Monday,
tossing a four-hitter at visting Plymouth Salem as the Patriots upset the
Rocks, 4:2.
Franklin evened its overall record
at 2:2 and Salem fell to 1:1. Both
teams are 1:1 in the Western Lakes
Activities Association.
Gruenwald played on Franklin's
tunior varsity team in 1988, but as a
junior decided to wash cars parttime. On the mound, he doesn't consider himself an overpowering pitcher.
In fact, Gruenwald might have
trouble breaking a car's windshletd.
"I don't have much speed on the

ball," said Gruenwald, "I have a curve ball that drops, a curve that sildes to the side and kind of a fast ball, if you want to call it that."

Rocks' hitters, including standout Todd Marion, might have called some of Gruenwald's junk a four-letter word. Marion, who has verbally committed to play next year at the University of Michigan, reached base once in three trips to the plate. Gruenwald struck out seven Salem batters and walked one.

"I WAS SIX feet ahead of the ball," said Marion, who hit the ball on the ground all three appearances. Said Franklin coach Gerry Cullin." Ed keeps that 'dcuce' around the plate all day, and the batters will beat it in the ground or popi it up."

Salem starter Fidel Cashero also pitched well, allowing only three hits before leaving with two outs in the sixth inning.

The hard-throwing senior left-

ball," said Gruenwald. "I have a curve ball that drops, a curve that lack of control and poor fielding cost slides to the side and kind of a fast ball. If you want to call it that."

lin scored three runs to take a 3-2 lead.
Cashero walked the first two Franklin batters, Mick Minard and Steve Olson in the fifth Minard and Steve Olson in the fifth Minard scored the Patriots first run and Ole Farther Minard Steven Standard Steven Standard Steven Standard Steven Standard Steven Standard Could not handle Cashero's throw to first.

Tim Napier, who had three RBI, Tought home both Olson and Ransley with a line drive single to left iteid. All 10d, Franklin manufactured three fifth-inning runs on two walks, two bils, two sacrifice bunts and two Salem errors. Napier

knocked in an insurance run in the sixth, driving home Olson, who had walked.

Salem coach John Graviin compared Cashero's performance to Marion's no-hitter he threw last Priday in a win over Northville.

"I HAILED Marion on Friday for doing such a good job and he (Cashero'd did an almost comparable job," said Graviin. "Cashero pitched well enough today to beat anyone in the state. We just didn't come to play behind him and that was a shame for this kid. We had some opportunities but nobody stepped to the forefront. Notbedy."

Some fielding blunders by Frank-

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lin gave Salem a 2-0 lead after 4½ innings.

In the third, Brad Wright, who reached base safely on an error by Minard, scored when he slote third base and the throw from Franklin catcher J.J. Swindall sailed into left field.

Bob Nilos who reallowed Carberg in

field.

Bob Files, who relieved Cashero in the sixth, scored Salem's second run on a wild pitch by Gruenwale.

But it was a case of missed opportunities for Salem, which stranded live runners. Chris Adams and Mike Stout were left in scoring position for the Rocks in the second inning. and Files was stranded on second to end the game.

'Cashero pitched well enough today to beat anyone in the state. We just didn't come to play behind him, and that was a shame for this kid. We had some opportunities but nobody stepped to the forefront. Nobody."

— John Gravlin Salem baseball coach

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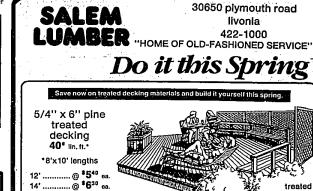
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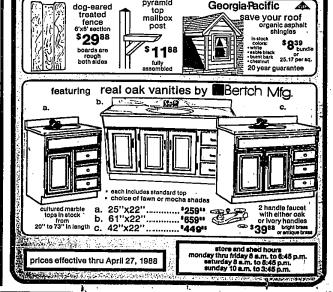
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