

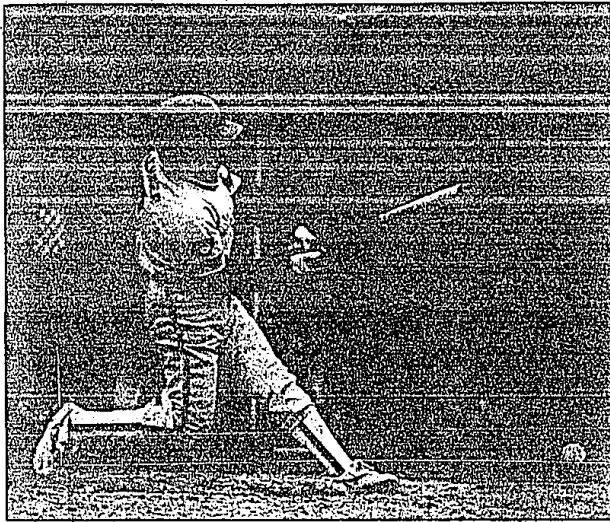
# Sports

Dan O'Meara editor/591-2312



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(F1C)



DOUG SUSALLA/staff photographer  
Rick Rachner puts the ball in play for NFWB, Chris White enough support Thursday. NFWB which failed to give pitchers Seth Petty and had one hit in a 10-9 loss to South Farmington.

## South tops North

Leo Devine's three-run homer keyed a six-run inning that lifted South Farmington to a 10-9 victory over North Farmington-West Bloomfield in a Connie Mack baseball game Thursday night.

NFWB had taken a 4-1 lead with a four-run third inning when South erupted in the top of the next inning. NFWB cut the margin to 7-4 in the bottom of the fourth, but Farmington responded with three more in the fifth.

Despite wet, slippery conditions caused by a day-long rain and the eventual onset of darkness, the teams managed to play a complete, five-inning game at Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

Chris Schmid was the winning pitcher in relief of Mark Murray,

baseball

who left after experiencing control problems. Seth Petty worked 3 1/2 innings and suffered the loss.

NFWB had only one hit but capitalized on 10 walks, nine of them and the lone safety coming off Murray. Schmid (3-2) faced five batters in the final 1 1/2 innings.

NFWB SCORED four runs in the third on three walks, an error and Chris White's infield single. Murray, who struck out five, gave way to Schmid after issuing walks to

five of the first six batters in the fourth.

"Petty was the victim of two fourth-inning errors that enabled South to keep its six-run rally going. Devine's homer chased Petty, and Adam Havey had an RBI single and scored on a wild pitch in that inning.

"Petty pitched a terrific game," NFWB coach Rick Rachner said. "He was throwing well, and it was a shame to let him down like that."

Havey, who was 2-for-3 and had two RBIs, hit a two-run triple in the fifth, and P.J. Green slipped in an RBI single for South, 12-8.

NFWB Jack Herberholz and Scott Roose had two RBIs apiece, one coming on a groundout and another on a bases-loaded walk in each case.

## NFWB's upset win boosts team morale

By Dan O'Meara staff writer

One game a season does not make.

Right? Well, that's what conventional wisdom says, but the North Farmington-West Bloomfield Mickey Mantle baseball team might want to debate that.

NFWB, experiencing a sub-par campaign this summer, knocked off cross-town rival South Farmington — one of the top teams in the Little Caesars Travel League — 8-6 and established its backyard bragging rights Friday night.

"This is the way we should have been playing all year," said Josh Cascade after he batted 3-for-4 and drove in three runs for NFWB.

"Coming into this season, we were supposed to be a great team and everybody knew it, but we had a bad season by my standards. We played one of the best teams tonight and we wanted to win it."

NFWB improved to 11-9 behind the pitching of Mark Temple, who turned in a complete game at Farmington High. The loss was more bad news for South, which lost its first league game Tuesday to once-beaten Taylor and slipped to 16-2 Friday.

COACH LEN NORWAY'S NFWB squad benefited early in the game from South wildness and errors and combined that with Cascade's timely hitting to build a 4-1 lead.

NFWB's downfall in previous games has been a tendency to self-destruct in the late innings. But that didn't happen this time as NFWB produced a three-run sixth to all but clinch the victory.

"We've had our ups and downs," Norway said. "We hadn't won well



**'We've had our ups and downs. We hadn't played well at times, and we felt if we could beat these guys that would prove we're a good team after all.'**  
— Len Norway  
NFWB Mantle coach

at times, and we felt if we could beat these guys that would prove we're a good team after all.

"We had a couple games when we had a five- or six-run lead with a couple innings to go, and the defense fell apart," he said. "The defense played a lot better tonight, and Temple was throwing harder than he ever has."

The same could not be said of South's defense, which made four errors in the first four innings, and a pair of bad throws to first allowed two early runs to score.

The errors and 11 walks issued by starter Brian Viochio and long reliever Tyrone O'Neal did not bode well for South.

NFWB had only two hits through five innings, but both were key contributions by Cascade, who will be a senior at West Bloomfield High in the fall.

THE STOCKY center fielder

greeted O'Neal with a bases-loaded single that capped a three-run second and put NFWB in front 3-1. He smacked another RBI single in the fourth that extended his team's lead to 5-1.

"Cascade has really been coming on," Norway said. "He's starting to come through with runners on base. He's been on a tear the last couple weeks."

Viochio didn't allow a hit in 1 1/2 innings, but he walked six of the 12 batters he faced, including a bases-loaded pass to Matt Green before leaving in the second.

O'Neal scattered five hits over the next 4 1/2 innings, but he walked another five while striking out four.

"Viochio is either on or off," South coach Tom Pironello said. "If he's on, he's tough because he throws so hard. He walked two and struck out 15 in his last game."

"It's uncharacteristic of our team to play the way it played," he added, "but you can always expect a good game from North. I can't remember ever beating them in the regular season."

Leading 5-3 going into the sixth, NFWB made a decisive surge that Cascade started rolling with his third straight hit — an RBI double that followed a pair of walks. Jeff Reje laid down a squeeze bunt that resulted in an RBI hit, and Temple helped his own cause with a run-producing single.

SOUTH RALLIED with half of its eighth hits in the bottom of the sixth, doubling its score to stay within two, 8-6. Mike Campbell raced home on a Temple error, resulting from a pickoff attempt, and pinch-hitting

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## Final summer of youth spent toiling on gridiron

AH, SUMMERTIME. Hot and lazy and relaxed. No worries, no cares, no problems.

Just fun in the sun. That's how I remember summer. The rest of the year was always work, work, work. But summer that was vacation.

Who planted those thoughts in my mind? Summer's half gone and I'm working just like I do the rest of the year. (Really, I am.)

What makes us think of summer as described above is our youth, of course. In fall, winter and spring, we were forced to labor over books and learn such important things as the square root of 64 (I still know the answer to that one, ma).

But in summer we didn't have to learn anything, except how to absorb as much sun as possible, play as much baseball as possible, swim as much as possible, party as much as possible — and all on the same day. Every day.

When senior year in high school ended, it marked the end of such trouble-free times. Decisions had to be made, and none of the alternatives — go to college, go to work, or go to the army — were attractive. But in that final summer after high school, before being forced-fed adulthood, there was still time to enjoy. One last time.

ENJOYMENT COMES in many forms, of course. Movies, malls, mayhem . . . I can accept those as enjoyable pursuits. Sweating, straining, soaking . . . those I have trouble with.

And yet, 80 just-graduated athletes plan on spending 10 days of their precious last summer of total freedom in just such a manner. They are not doing it for money, they are not doing it for fame and recognition; they are not doing it because they were threatened.

They are doing it by choice. For fun.



C.J. Risak

**'You hear and read in the paper about these guys all during the season. Now I get a chance to see the paper on the field.'**

— Marc Milla  
Brother Rice all-star

"I'm really looking forward to it," said Eric Ruth, a 6-foot-2, 223-pounder from Livonia Stevenson who will line up with 79 others at 1:20 p.m. Saturday at Michigan State's Spartan Stadium for the sixth annual Michigan High School East-West All-Star Football Game. "This is the biggest thing in my life so far."

I know what you're thinking: This kid must not have had much of a life so far, if working his tail off for 10 days to play a meaningless football game is the highlight.

"THINK AGAIN. And listen to what a few of his teammates have to say."

Eric Beatty, linebacker, Detroit Country Day: "I wouldn't miss this for anything."

Mike Ostrander, guard, Troy: "It's a chance to be one of 80 players from all over the state to be playing in this game."

Mike Boyle, guard, Redford St. Agatha: "This is something to be proud of. It's something I'll remember all my life."

Mingham Brother Rice: "I'm excited to see the competition. I'm glad I'm doing this. It should get me ready for those seasons at (University of) Michigan."

And last but certainly not least, Leo Krueger, defensive lineman, Redford Catholic Central: "I just wanted to come here and hit."

"Uh, thanks Leo."

ACTUALLY, THERE were some good reasons given when the players were asked why give up your summer for this . . . Beatty, a top prospect headed for Purdue, had visions of grandeur. "You get to see the crowd yelling and stuff, and then walking down that tunnel (to the locker rooms) . . ."

"I'll get me in better shape for Eastern (Michigan). I'll get me started for college," was Ostrander's reasoning, while Milla said, "You hear and read in the paper about these guys all during the season. Now I get a chance to see the paper on the field."

Boyle (also headed to EMU) was looking forward to the week of hard training . . . which, incidentally, includes a few days of double sessions in pads — because, finally, he'd "get to hit against guys my own size."

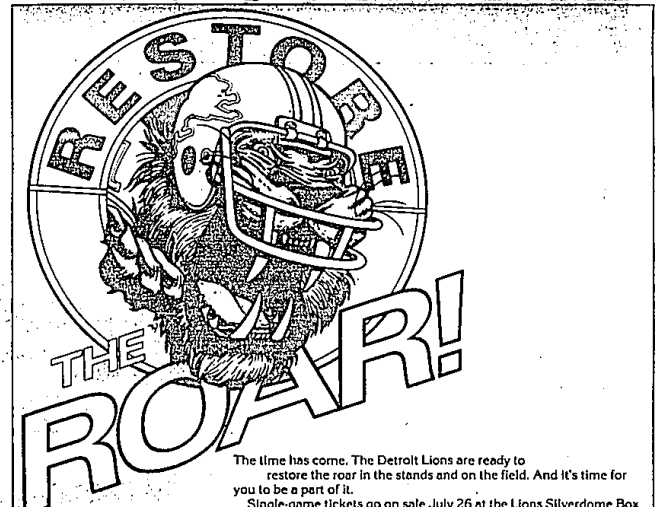
Ruth's reasons were more personally focused because he's headed to Wayne State and Division II football. "This is the only chance I'll get to play against guys who will be playing at Michigan State and Michigan."

And the Wisconsin-bound Krueger? "I love football. And I just wanted to come here and hit."

JUST KIDDING: Krueger only mentioned hitting once. Maybe twice.

Meeting, and getting the opportunity to play with and against the other top-rated players in the state, . . .

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The time has come. The Detroit Lions are ready to restore the roar in the stands and on the field. And it's time for you to be a part of it.

Single-game tickets go on sale July 26 at the Lions Silverdome Box Office and all Ticketmaster locations.

Phone orders accepted beginning July 26 at (313) 645-6666. A small service fee is added to tickets purchased through Ticketmaster outlets or by phone.

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