

Sports

Dan O'Meara editor / 591-2312

Thursday, April 12, 1990 O&E

(F)10

Falcons signal change in status quo

By Brad Emons
Staff writer

The baseball season is just beginning, but Farmington High served notice Monday that things could be different this year in the Lakes Division race of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

The Falcons, perennial also-rans, knocked off host Westland John Glenn under blustery and cold conditions, 10-5.

"They took their lumps for two or three years when they brought up some freshman, but it's paying off for them now and I think they'll be right in the hunt," said Glenn coach Norm Hoenes, whose team has ruled the division for years. "Their pitcher (Chris Schmidt) is tough and they look like they can swing the bat. They made all the plays, considering the weather, and that's the best I've seen them look in four years."

Schmidt, a senior left-hander, worked seven innings to pick up the win. He scattered six hits and six walks to go along with eight strikeouts. He held the Rockets in check over the final four innings, allowing only one hit and one run.

"HE DOESN'T have the fastest



Farmington players exchange high-fives after Dave Wilson slammed a three-run double in the win over Glenn.

baseball

fastball," said Farmington coach Kevin Kamsman of his ace, "but he mixes it up with a knuckle ball and curve and that's what makes him effective."

Schmidt also proved potent with the bat, going 3-for-4. Through the first two games he is 6-for-7.

"He's hot right now and sometimes all it takes is that one guy who can carry you," Kamsman said. "He's a good hitter. He was on the varsity as a freshman and the last two years he hit the ball hard, but usually right at somebody."

Glenn, which opened its season Saturday with a loss to Plymouth Canton, scored a pair of runs in the first.

Eric Stover scored on a wild pitch and Lawrence Scheffer crossed home on an infield error.

But Farmington came back with four runs in the top of the second, sending 10 men to the plate. Gary Shep singled in one run, P.J. Green forced home another when he was

hit by a pitch. Kevin Young walked with bases loaded to ring up an other, while Kevin VanOrd scored the fourth run on a passed ball.

Glenn cut the deficit to 4-3 on Stover's RBI single in the bottom of the second, but the Falcons answered with five runs in the top of the third, highlighted by Dave Wilson's three-run double. Young and Eric Miller also knocked in runs as each singled.

THE ROCKETS closed to within four, 9-5, on an RBI single by Gary Pierce in the third, followed by Jerry Shippe's run batted in on fielders choice in the fourth.

Farmington added an insurance run in the sixth off Glenn reliever Brian Stephenson, who was the most successful of three Rocket pitchers on the day.

Mark Johnston, the starter, lasted only 1 1/2 innings before giving way to Stover. Stephenson worked the final three innings.

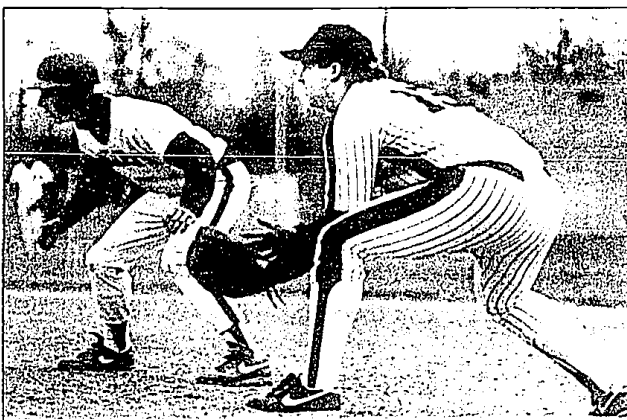
"We're really looking for somebody on our pitching staff to step up," said Hoenes, "but until that happens we're going to have to score runs to win. This is the worst shape we've been in our pitching in quite awhile and that's unfortunate."

"But we also gave up five unearned runs. Our catcher dropped a third strike, which cost us (in the second inning). Today with had enough on base to score some more runs. Not to take anything away from Farmington, but I thought we could have put more pressure on them."

For the time being, Kamsman is not feeling the pressure of being a contender. He's only seeking improvement with each outing.

"WE STILL MADE mistakes and we still have a lot of things to work on," he said. "I think our defense is good. It's solid, but we have to have a few more games to get it down. Each and every player has to work hard individually. There's a little bit of pressure, but we just have to work."

Pionso turn to Page 2



First baseman Scott Lakatos of Farmington close to the bag in Monday's game. The Falcons are 2-0 after beating the Rockets 10-5.

Raiders overcome Ferndale

Chris White hurled three solid innings of relief Monday and guided unbeaten North Farmington to a 10-8 victory over host Ferndale.

Trailing 7-4, the Raiders mustered five runs in the sixth inning, behind a two-run triple from White.

Andrew Margolick collected three hits and knocked in two runs for North, 2-0. Dave Rankin had two hits and scored three runs, and Jason Hamill had two hits and one RBI.

Chris Rivers added an RBI singles, and T.J. Orman and Jeff Reje had

baseball

successful suicide squeeze bunts for the winners.

White and starter Mike Powers scattered seven Ferndale hits.

JOE HALEY'S RBI single in the eighth inning Monday broke a 5-5 tie and gave visiting Northville a 6-5

victory over Farmington Hills Harrison.

Brian Ellison, who entered the game in the fifth inning to relieve starter Gary Devine, suffered the loss for Harrison. Devine struck out five and walked one.

Northville hurler Mike Lang went the distance, scattering five hits and striking out seven. He walked six.

Junior outfielder Andy Smith hit a two-run double to put Harrison ahead 5-3 in the top of the sixth inning. The Hawks drop to 0-2.

Goalkeeper joins soccer Pioneers

By C.J. Rieck
staff writer

There's little doubt which Michigan college consistently puts the best men's soccer team on the field, year after year: Oakland University.

But the Pioneers' success has rarely revolved around homegrown talent. Most of coach Gary Parsons' past successes can be attributed to his recruiting efforts in Ontario.

This year is different, though. There's a distinctly local flavor to Parsons' efforts.

"This year, I think, is probably the best year for recruiting in the state of Michigan," said Parsons. "It is a very good year. And it's not only the kids we're bringing in that are good. We lost out on some real good ones, too."

Losing players the caliber of Jeff Gold (from Plymouth Salem), whom Parsons recruited but couldn't sign because Gold is searching for a school with a top pre-med program, and Joel Russell (from Detroit Country Day), who plans to go NCAA Division I, belittled the OU coach.

But the guys he got case the pain.

THE THREE players inked Wednesday by Parsons were goalkeeper Mike Sheehy from Farmington, sweeper Chris Speen from Livonia Churchill and Schoolcraft College and sweeper Matt Walton from Flint Northern.

That trio is only a part of Parsons' recruiting campaign. Others are expected to sign when the OU coach returns from England, where he is currently coaching an under-16 age-

OU sports

group team from the midwestern Olympic Development program.

Of course, there's a lot to replace. OU reached the NCAA II tournament again last season, but five starters — keeper Ralph Torre, midfielders Simon Mayne and Erik Euseby and wingers Earl Parris and Alan Stewart — have graduated. Each of the new recruits will have a shot at playing next year, according to Parsons.

"OUR GOALKEEPER (position) is going to be up for grabs," he said. "We're looking for a sweeper be-

cause I'd like to move Emmanuel Charles up front (from sweeper). Walton is a possibility there."

And Speen could fill in as a marking defender. The former National Junior College Athletic Association All-American played sweeper most of last season at SC, but for the NJCAA Inter-regional tournament he was moved to forward.

"There's a lot of spots open," Parsons said. "Everyone we're recruiting has a shot at starting."

Walton landed a spot on the all-state dream team, while Sheehy was honorable mention all-Class A. Sheehy compiled a 1.00 goals-against average, finishing with six shutouts and 137 saves — three of which came on penalty kicks. He also scored a goal.

Speen will have junior eligibility

and, according to his former SC coach, he'll bring more than playing ability with him. "Chris is definitely a team leader," said Van Dimitriou. "He's also a 'door.' He always has a positive attitude."

Parsons is still shopping for a center midfielder, and he hopes to sign a pair of forwards when he returns.

SOCCER NOTES: The 17-member team Parsons has taken to England includes several local players: Mike Gentile, Travis Roy and Jeff Caspar of Livonia and Tom Baker of Plymouth. John O'Connor of East Lansing is the other state player.

The midwestern section of the Olympic Development program consists of 12 states: Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. The U.S. team will play against several British district all-star teams during its 11-day trip.



Mike Sheehy
Farmington goalkeeper

Maier-less Falcons fall to top-ranked Churchill

By Ray Setlock
staff writer

Farmington played without All-State forward Carrie Maier, and it was evident the Falcons missed her presence as they fell 2-1 to visiting Livonia Churchill in a key girls soccer match.

Maier, a three-time All-Observer selection, is presently on a 10-day European tour with the Midwest Olympic Development team.

Farmington coach Cathy Cole said the team could have used Maier's services, but it has to come together and overcome the loss.

"Soccer is a team sport," she said. "But having Carrie in our lineup against Churchill would have definitely helped our chances."

Churchill, which improves its record to 2-0-1, got on the scoreboard first as senior Nikki Johnson scored early in the game, giving the Chargers a 1-0 halftime advantage.

"IT WAS nice to see us score first," Churchill coach Nick O'Shea said. "We knew that we would have our hands full with Farmington and

soccer

Marlins defeat Foley, Page 5D

It was good to see us rise to the challenge."

Sophomore Dana Pososki's goal early in the second half boosted the Churchill lead to 2-0.

"Both Nikki and Dana worked hard for us today," O'Shea said. "They gave Farmington a lot of tough pressure. Even after we had the two-goal lead they kept attacking the Farmington defense."

The Falcons (1-1) closed the margin to 2-1 when junior forward Monika Kurzer booted the ball past Churchill goalie Dana Keller midway through the second half.

"I don't think that the Farmington goal was a good one to allow on our part," O'Shea said. "The last

thing we wanted to do was allow them to get back into the game."

Despite numerous opportunities, the Falcons couldn't muster another goal and surrendered to the Chargers.

"FRAN PRIEBE did a nice job for us," O'Shea said. "She shut down Amy Trunk today. In fact, Farmington moved Trunk to another position to avoid Fran. That is to Fran's credit."

Cole says her team could have maybe done more to score another goal and tie the score.

"Churchill has a good team," Cole said. "We could have maybe put more pressure on them at the end and tried to score another goal, but we didn't and therefore lost."

O'Shea says he was pleased with his team's performance, but they can't allow themselves to get too confident.

"I think we know were a good team," said the Churchill coach. "We had a good year last season and lost just a couple of girls. But if we let ourselves get too confident, things could go wrong. It's a long season and anything can happen."

MERCEDES-BENZ

FOR LESS **MUCH LESS** THAN YOU THINK

MERCEDES - BENZ Special Lease \$413⁴³



190 E 2.6

Plus 4% sales tax. Fully equipped including automatic transmission and sunroof. Based on a 60 month closed end lease. 1st payment and license fee in advance. 75,000 mile limitation. Total obligation is payment times 60, plus 4% tax. Buyer has option to purchase at lease end at guaranteed purchase price of \$15,720. No security deposit required.



Estate Motors Ltd.
464 S. Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Michigan 48011
(313) 644-8400

Open Monday and Thursday until 9 P.M.

