



High-five moment: T.S. Martin players (from left), Mike Vellucci, Mark Vellucci (background), Steve Woodard and Bill Hepworth celebrate a big inning.

Founders from page 1B

league championship team of 1990, joined brother, Pat, Frank and Mike on the temporary, oldest brother, was able to play.

Managing the team again was Frank Sr., who observed the tea, had always been called Vellucci's Inc. in the past. This was the first year for the name change.

"I'm very happy and proud of my sons and the team," he said. "They refused to lose and had that kind of attitude. When a team scored, we came back and went ahead with hitting and running. They kept their enthusiasm and remained aggressive."

The Martin's roster included the Woodard brothers of Plymouth — John, Paul and Steve — former Salem High baseball stars, as well as Milo Karhu (Farmington Hills), Bruce Hulscher (Farmington), Terry Conway and

Bill Hepworth. Steve and Paul Woodard, Karhu, Pat Vellucci and Hepworth were named to the all-tournament team along with Ken Hatch, Ron Leonetti and Ken Dirocco of Highland Merchants and Dan Zerito and Gordie Dawson of Shield's.

Going 8-1 in the tournament, Martin's lost its first game Saturday to Shield's but won its next 16, that day and avenged the loss with an 11-7 win Sunday morning, putting Martin's in the final spot at Highland.

Martin's stayed alive later Saturday by beating perennial challengers and 1992 finalists Copper Mug and Hot's Tavern.

In the 12th game, Frank Vellucci's home run tied the score in the bottom of the sixth and gave Martin's a chance to win it in the seventh.

The big win Saturday generated momentum and confidence for the stretch drive on Sunday, according to Frank Sr.

"They knew they had to play their game and stay focused and, in their minds, they had the edge," he said. "We got together Saturday night at a player's house, and all had a positive outlook about coming to play today."

In the final game, Martin's jumped on Highland for seven of its 15 hits and a 6-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning. The big blow was a three-run homer by John Woodard to make it 5-0, and Frank Vellucci added an RBI single.

"That showed we still had the momentum going, and that can only have a positive effect for you," Frank Sr. said.

"Everybody did his job, and we relied on everybody. Any time you score that many runs (37 in two games), it's everybody contributing."

Martin's added four more in the third with RBI from John Woodard, Hulscher, Frank Vellucci and Steve Woodard. Conway hit a two-run homer in the fourth. Mark Vellucci had a pair of RBI singles and Paul Woodard one RBI single to round out the scoring.

Pat Vellucci, Conway and John Woodard had three hits each. Steve and Paul Woodard, Hulscher and Hepworth chipped in two apiece.

Dennis Hanson had a two-run single for Highland, Leonetti and Dirocco two hits each. John Blacic and Hatch also had RBI.

Diamonds keep record perfect

The Farmington Hills Diamonds remained undefeated in the Incredible Girls Fast-Pitch Softball League, sweeping a doubleheader Tuesday from the Canton Cobras 7-4 and 11-3.

The Diamonds (10-0) trailed 3-0 after five innings of the first game but scored four runs to take the lead.

The Cobras (7-5) tied in the bottom of the sixth (and final inning because of a time limit), and the teams went to the International tiebreaker in extra innings.

In the seventh, Farmington Hills' Jennifer Cassidy took third

on a passed ball and scored the winning run on Wendy Roy's double. A wild pitch scored Roy and Allison Stein added an RBI single.

Stein had three hits and two runs, Roy two hits and one RBI. Winning pitcher Melanie Cheney had a two-run triple and Kate Mackie an RBI single. Cheney gave up six hits, struck out nine and walked three.

The second game was different as the Diamonds scored seven runs in the first inning.

Mackie hit a two-run homer, and Stein had two hits and scored

two runs. Cassidy had two RBI and Thursam one. Thursam allowed five hits, fanned four and walked one to get the victory.

Doubleheader split
The Farmington Hills Majestics helped the Diamonds by taking the first game from the second-place Farmington Hills Hornets (11-3) Tuesday.

The Majestics won the opener 8-5 and the Hornets the nightcap 11-5. Dana Dziak struck out seven and was the winning pitcher in the first game.

Aristeo wins women's tourney

Aristeo of Farmington Hills rolled to defeat Shot's Tavern twice Sunday and win the Second Annual Founders Festival Women's Softball Tournament.

Sparked by tournament most valuable player Laura Miller, Aristeo avenged a 6-2 loss to Shot's Tavern earlier Sunday at the Crackerbox in Farmington Hills.

"It was a total team effort," Aristeo manager Larry Miller said. "Everyone took turns contribut-

ing."

In the first game of the final series, Aristeo's Stacy Smith was 3-for-3 and scored two runs in the 7-3 victory. Miller, Becky Mason and Kay Mettlich had two hits and two RBI apiece. Tracy Tocalino also had two hits.

Aristeo broke a 3-3 tie with Mason's RBI sacrifice fly in the third inning. The team scored three more in the fourth on Miller's two-run single and Mettlich's

RBI double. Pam Hengesbach, Darlene Marx, Mary Hosmer and Cory Major had two hits each for Shot's Tavern, the runner-up last year, too.

Joining Miller on the all-tournament team were Aristeo teammates Debra Carver, Julie Ingalls and Smith; Marx and Wilma Major of Shot's Tavern and Alex Black of Crackerbox.

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