

SPORTS

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MONDAY, JULY 18, 1994

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Home run lifts Cobras

Aron Lawson's third home run in as many games led the North Farmington-West Bloomfield Cobras to a 5-2 victory over first-place Trenton in a Mickey Mantle baseball game Thursday.

The shot by Lawson was estimated to have traveled 350 feet and gave the Cobras a 3-2 lead in the fourth inning.

C.J. Ghatnam also homered for NFWB, which led 3-2 until the bottom of the sixth when Sterling Minter led the victory with a two-run double.

Justin Schultz pitched a three-hit, complete game for the Cobras, who raised their record to 9-5 with four games remaining in the regular season.

NFWB must win the rest of its games to have a chance at qualifying for post-season play.

Incredible softball

It was not a good night Thursday for Farmington softball teams in the incredible Girls Fast-Pitch League as the Diamonds and Fantastics dropped a pair of doubleheaders.

The Garden City Stingers defeated the Diamonds 12-1 and 15-7. The Diamonds made seven errors in the second game as 11-year-old pitcher Jessica Brubaker, who allowed nine hits and seven walks, took the loss.

Katy Devereux had three RBI with a bases-loaded double and Wendy Roy a pair of doubles for the Diamonds (5-5). Vanessa Johns, who was hit with a pitch while the bases were full, and Lindsey Wood (single) had one RBI apiece.

Kathy Collins was the losing pitcher in the first game in which the Diamonds were on the receiving end of a no-hitter.

The Fantastics lost to the Canton Cobras 10-3 and 13-5. The Cobras had nine hits in the two games, but 16 walks and nine errors hindered the Farmington cause.

The highlight for the Fantastics was the defensive play of outfielders Sara Fluter and Katie Lukasak.

OCC players commit

Three other members of the Oakland Community College men's basketball team will continue their playing careers at four-year schools next season.

Harold Golson, a 6-foot-1 guard and leading scorer for the Raiders, has accepted a scholarship offer from NCAA Division II power East Stroudsburg University in East Stroudsburg, Pa.

Golson, who attended Detroit Murray-Wright High School, averaged 17 points and nine rebounds for OCC. He was named to the All-Michigan Junior College Athletic Association team.

Craig Martin, 6-foot guard from Auburn Hills and Oakland Christian High School, will play for Division III Michigan Christian College in Holland. He averaged 14 points for the Raiders. Tony Green of Pontiac (Northern) was recruited by the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

They follow teammate Corey Young in making commitments. Young, a 6-foot-10 center from Detroit Mumford, signed with Division I Oral Roberts University after averaging seven points and three blocks at OCC.

Roadrunner Classic

Doug Kurtis' baby is having its 11th birthday party Saturday night in Northville.

His baby, of course, is the annual Redford Roadrunner Classic.

"It was born in my basement 11 years ago, so yeah, I have always considered this run to be my baby," said Kurtis, who owns national marathon records for most sub-2:20.0 runs (74) and wins (37).

Kurtis and the rest of the Redford Roadrunners will be on hand Saturday to help organize the funning and running.

The Classic is for all levels of runners. There is the junior classic one-mile fun run/walk and the Classic 5K race for runners, race-walkers and wheelers. The race-walkers will be timed for the first time.

The 5K race costs \$13, the others \$8. Proceeds will benefit the Northville High School Scholarship Fund.

The race will begin on Main Street in Northville and finish at the Community Center. A party featuring a disc jockey and dancing will commence after the race. To attend the party alone costs \$2. For registration information, call Running Fit, 347-4949.

Wanted: Female golfers

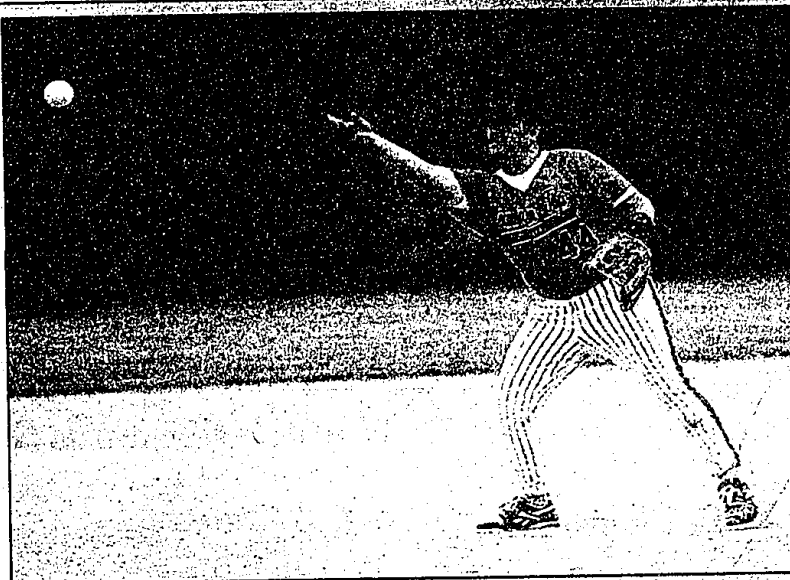
The Pory Lady Golf Classic is searching for women who want to tee off against breast cancer.

The third annual Classic, sponsored by the Detroit chapter of Eastern Airline Silverliners, will be at Tanglewood Golf and Country Club in South Lyon Thursday, Aug. 11. Proceeds support the Michigan Cancer Foundation's breast cancer research, education and prosthetic development programs.

Cost for the Classic is \$80 per person, and it includes golf and cart, breakfast, lunch and golfing contests throughout the day. Golfers may register with or without partners for the four-woman scramble; the first tee time is 8 a.m.

The Pory Lady Golf Classic is one of six charity golf events aimed at benefiting cancer research scheduled for southeastern Michigan in the next few weeks.

24 finals:
Mark MacDonald of Farmington Hills, a veteran of many Founders Festival softball tournaments, pitched Rustic Pub into the finals Sunday, but Boardwalk Construction walked away with the championship trophy. Boardwalk beat Rustic Pub 10-5 after losing the first game of the finals 7-4.



STAFF PHOTO BY ANH HEALY

Boardwalk earns Founders trophy

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Boardwalk Construction hit a home run its first time up Sunday in the 24th Annual Farmington Founders Festival men's softball tournament.

A first-time entry, Boardwalk defeated defending champ Rustic Pub a repeat and claimed the 1994 title with a 10-5 victory at Pioneer Park.

Rustic Pub, with the same lineup that won last year as T.S. Martin, forced a deciding second game by giving Boardwalk its first defeat 7-4 in the first game of the finals.

"To be honest, I thought we were just a little too strong for the tournament," Boardwalk coach John Sims said, "but I think it was good we lost a game, too. It showed the guys they can't just throw their mitts on the field and win the game."

Rustic Pub got within 3-2 in the top of the fifth inning, but Boardwalk scored three runs in the bottom half and four times in the sixth to break it open.

Two runs scored on Kurt Coburn's sacrifice fly in the fifth and Jim Williams drove in two with a single in the sixth.

Art Harvey, Mike Rosenthal, Ron Beverin, Chris Matte and Williams had two hits apiece for Boardwalk.

Beverin, Dan Sells and Matte got the team started with three straight RBI in the second inning.

"The whole key was holding them in the first inning," Sims said. "We thought, if we could throw an egg at them and score first, we could put a little pressure on them. It's a little harder to swing a bat when you're losing."

Rustic Pub got two hits from Jeff Wika, including a two-run triple, and Paul Woodard. Frank Vellucci and John Grimshaw added one RBI each. Beverin pitched a seven-hitter for Boardwalk while tournament veteran Mark MacDonald took the loss.

Wika, Vellucci and Woodard, who was 3-for-3 and scored two runs in the win over Boardwalk, were named tournament all-stars. The honor roll included Boardwalk's Art and Jim Harvey, Jim Martin, Beverin, Matte and John Jones and third-place JW's Saloon's Mickey Wilson and Kurt Parry.

Despite a bad day at the plate Sunday, Jones was named the most valuable player. He finished the tournament 15-for-23 but was 14-of-16 the first two days.

"It's a team thing; it's not an individual game by any means," Jones said. "Sometimes you have a good weekend and sometimes you don't."

Any one of the other 15 guys could have won it."

Rustic Pub won the first game with a three-run fourth after Boardwalk had rallied from a 4-0 deficit to tie. MacDonald held Boardwalk scoreless over the last four innings, catching a line drive with the bases loaded for the final out of the game.

Mark Vellucci, last year's MVP, added two hits and one RBI. Bruce Hulcher hit a two-run triple and Frank Vellucci a two-run double. Hulcher and John Woodard added one RBI each with a pair of sacrifice flies.

"We played very well and fielded an equally strong team this year, but we ran into a team that had a little more than we did in the final game," Rustic Pub coach Frank Vellucci Sr. said.

"We felt good about winning the first game, and that put us on a competitive high. We looked forward to playing a little tighter second game, but we didn't have quite the bats we did last year and maybe that was due to the fact we were playing a good team."

Boardwalk was a formidable opponent. Some of its players also play for AM — the top-rated team in the state in USSSA Class C. Coburn and Matte had two hits and one RBI apiece for Boardwalk in the first game.



All-star: Tourney MVP John Jones scores a second-game run.

Post 346 pulls out 7th-inning win

Jimmy Rose and Ron Salomonson were the heroes Friday night as Farmington Post 346 rallied for a thrilling, 7-6 win over visiting Southfield in an American Legion baseball game.

Farmington, trailing 6-5 in the bottom of the seventh inning, won the game when Rose hit a two-out, bases-loaded single.

Dale Domas and Salomonson opened the Farmington half of the seventh with a pair of singles and were sacrificed to third and second by Joe Pesci.

Jack Lawson, the winning pitcher in relief, walked to fill the bases and set the stage for Rose to produce a game-winning, two-run single.

Post 346 wouldn't have been in a position to win the game, however, if not for Salomonson, who tied the score (4-4) with a grand slam in the third inning.

Southfield scored two runs in the fifth to regain the lead. Farmington got within 6-5 in the bottom half of that inning when Aaron Cagnon doubled and scored as the result of an error.

Ed Kennedy doubled and pitched five innings, settling down after a near forfeit by Post 346 and a four-run first by Southfield. Farmington (13-3) averted a forfeit when a ninth player arrived just minutes before game time.

Lawson entered in the sixth and pitched two scoreless hitless innings. He struck out four of the six batters he faced.

Salomonson and Rose had two hits each. Domas, who had three walks for the second game in a row, and Salomonson scored two runs apiece.

On Thursday, Salomonson pitched a complete game and earned Post 346's post visiting Auburn Hills, 12-9. He struck out 13 but walked nine while tossing a seven-hitter.

Five players had two hits apiece for Post 346: Matt Woolf, Cagnon, John Wroe, Lawson and Rose.

Wroe had four RBI, including a two-run single,

and Lawson three, including a two-run homer. Their other hits were RBI doubles.

Cagnon also had a double that plated two runs. Woolf scored three runs and Pesci two, and Domas and Rose had one RBI apiece.

Woolf, Pesci, Bryon Groom, Salomonson and Jeff Rospierski were selected for the American Legion all-star team that played Saturday at the Berkley Community Center.

BARONS KEEP WINNING

The South Farmington Barons won two more Little Caesars Baseball Federation games last week to raise their season record to 27-6 as of Thursday.

After a 17-5, mercy-rule win over visiting Southgate on Wednesday, the Mickey Mantle ball club defeated the host Ann Arbor Braves 8-2 Thursday.

Ryan McGrath pitched 5 1/2 innings against the Braves, allowing four hits and striking out seven, to earn the victory.

Barons catcher Joe Kalcynski picked off a runner at second again for the final out. Garret Burch had three hits and Dan McLaughlin two; both players had two RBI.

South Farmington is 13-3 in league play going into a key game with Trenton at Farmington High School at 6:30 tonight.

"Tonight we left a lot of runners at second and third," Barons coach Dick Miller said. "So we were on the edge of breaking it open every inning but couldn't quite do it."

The Barons had no trouble doing that in the Southgate game, which was stopped after six innings with South Farmington ahead by 13 runs.

Nick Letra went the distance on the mound,

holding the opposition to four hits while striking out five and walking four.

Mike Dagnanno was 4-for-4 and Marty Wilk 3-for-3. Kalcynski added two hits and led the Barons with four RBI. McLaughlin drove in three runs, Wilk and Dagnanno two each.

COBRAS STAY UNBEATEN

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield Cobras of the Michigan Baseball Federation's 13-year-old division raised their record to 14-0 by defeating Northville 17-6 Wednesday.

The Cobras collected a total of 23 hits in support of starting pitcher Joe Morris and relievers John Dresser, Sean Quay and Mike Sopo.

Morris assisted his cause with a grand slam over the center-field fence in the third inning when the NFWB lineup erupted for eight runs.

In addition, Mike Gleeson cleared the left-field fence with a two-run homer in the sixth.

Adam Fazio and Gleeson had three hits each, Sopo and Josh Gad-Hart two. Mark Trapp, Jim Miller, Jason Malvin, Dresser and Dave Lusky added timely singles in the third-inning rally.

In a pair of non-league games July 9, the Cobras beat the Toronto Thornhill Reds 17-0 and Commerce Township 8-7.

Pitchers Marc Boggio, Morris, Sopo and Malvin combined for a two-hitter in the Toronto game. Boggio and Malvin also led the hitting attack with three hits each, and Sopo, Gleeson, Gad-Hart, Fazio and Miller chipped in two apiece.

Boggio pitched five scoreless innings before Commerce rallied to make the game close against relief pitching.

In the fifth inning, Sopo's second double drove in two runs that proved to be the deciding runs. Gad-Hart had two singles and two RBI, and Quay, who made several key defensive plays at shortstop, had a double and a single.

BASEBALL