

OCC women hope to stay on roll

SOFTBALL

The Oakland Community College softball team kept its hot streak going through the end of March, winning four straight home games.

OCC, which had won eight of its last 10 games, improved to 10-4. The Raiders reached that mark with doubleheader sweeps of Kalamazoo Community College and Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

The Raiders won the first game over Kellogg, 12-1. OCC banged out 12 hits in the six-inning mercy. The rout was led by sophomore Amy Meldrum. The center fielder went 3-for-4 with two runs scored and two RBI.

Sophomore right fielder Jennifer Sarge and sophomore left fielder Melissa Ames added two hits apiece.

The big hit, however, was a grand slam by sophomore catcher Kelly Rosa. She slam capped a seven-run second inning that put the game away. Rose finished the weekend with nine hits in 14 at-bats and 11 RBI.

The recipient of the offensive explosion was Jamie Ban, who hurled the first four innings to record the win. Sophomore Cindy Richards pitched the final two innings of scoreless ball.

OCC also mercied Kellogg (1-6) in six innings in the nightcap 15-3. Rose again supplied the

power with a three-run homer in a five-run second inning. All the runs were scored after the first two batters were retired.

Sarge belted a three-run homer in the sixth to give the Raiders the mercy.

Rosa went 2-for-4 with two runs scored. Offense was also supplied by sophomore first baseman Dawn Lynn, who was 3-for-4 with three runs, and by sophomore second baseman Shawna Greene, who was 3-for-3 with two runs.

The win went to freshman Marcie Lintz, who surrendered three runs in her four innings of work. Freshman Jennifer Morgan tossed the final two scoreless innings.

The Raiders showed little compassion on Kalamazoo Valley (2-10), with an 8-5, 10-6 sweep.

In the first game, OCC rallied from a 4-3 deficit in the fourth inning to pull out the win. The game-winning hit was a two-run single by Lynn.

Rosa remained hot, knocking in three runs with three hits. Ames was 2-for-4 with two RBI. Ban (3-2) collected the victory. She went the distance, allowing only one earned run, walking one and striking out 11.

The Raiders earned the sweep

with a convincing five-inning mercy. Lintz hurled a two-hitter to improve to 6-2.

OCC put the game away with a seven-run third inning. The Raiders had six hits in the innings and took advantage of three Kalamazoo errors - including a bases-clearing miscue by the shortstop.

Rosa finished her amazing weekend by going 3-for-3 with two runs. Ames drove in three runs and Lintz helped her cause with two hits and two RBI. Sarge chipped in with two hits and two runs.

Kathleen Schneider, a freshman from Farmington Hills Harrison, caught three of the four games.

The Raiders are home for a four-game series this weekend. On Saturday, OCC will play St. Clair Community College, and the Raiders host Lake Michigan College on Sunday. The doubleheaders begin at 1 p.m.

Crusaders win 3 of 4 in series

BASEBALL

six Madonna hits.

Craig Benedict (Plymouth Canton) pitched a four-hit masterpiece in Friday's nightcap to record his first victory of the season after four losses. Benedict struck out two without a walk.

Eric Marcotte (Plymouth Canton), Tim Knsubowski and Kevin Foley had two hits apiece. Marcotte also knocked in a pair of runs. Knsubowski, Foley and Jeff Gutt (Dearborn/Redford Catholic Central) had the other RBI.

The Crusaders belted 15 hits to continue the onslaught of IUPUI on Saturday with a 10-2 victory. Lead-off batter Kurt Wilczynski was the hitting hero, as the third baseman went 3-for-4 with three RBI.

Quinn and Kasubowski also had a good game at the plate, each smacking two hits and knocking in a pair of runs. Marcotte added two hits and pinch hitter Edward Roman clipped in with a two-run single.

Jason Dubey evened his record at 1-1 by pitching the first six innings. Dubey threw the first six innings, surrendering only one unearned run on three hits. For his effort, Dubey was named the NAIA Grant Lakes Section Player of the Week.

The Crusaders led 2-1 in the fourth inning of the final game against IUPUI, and it appeared Madonna might even its record at 14-14. But IUPUI scored the final four runs of the game to escape with a 5-2 victory.

Mike LaPointe and Jason Renkiewicz (Livonia Churchill), each went 2-for-3 to lead the seven-hit Madonna attack.

Madonna sweeps softball pair

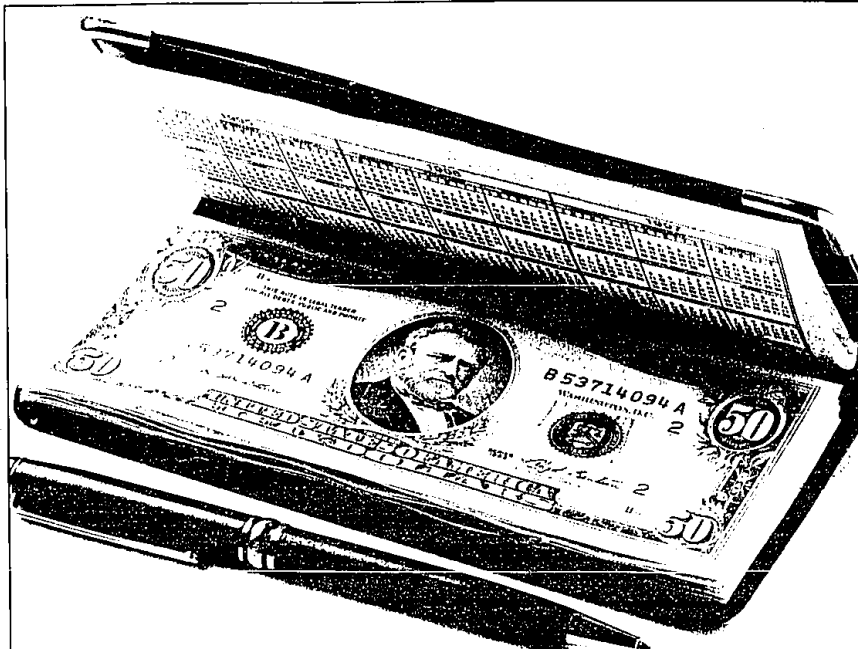
Madonna University third baseman Dawn Shaffer was rewarded for leading the Crusaders to a 9-0, 12-11 sweep of Albion College Saturday.

Shaffer was named the NAIA Grant Lakes East Section Player of the Week for batting .700 (7-10) with one double, one triple, one home run and five RBI. She also had one walk and stole four bases. She capped her week by going 2-for-5 with four RBI in the doubleheader at Ford Field.

In the nightcap, Madonna (14-7) spotted the Britons a 6-0 first-inning lead, before scoring nine unanswered runs. Shortstop Michelle Birchmeier (from Redford Thurston) belted a homer in addition to a single and knocked in four runs. Right fielder Jennie Baxter (Redford St. Agatha) was 3-for-4 with one RBI.

Catcher Stacey Piotrowski joined the 10-hit parade by going 2-for-2 with two runs scored and one RBI.

The Raiders earned the sweep



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