Holland from page D1

JoAnn Holland has an antique business, so her husband might find himself stripping and staining furniture some days, too. Holland, who was North Farmington's varsity football coach for 21 years, won't be absent from the scene, the plans to continue doing the play-by-lay for football telecasts on cable TV.

After graduating from Ionia

to continue doing the play-by-play for football tolecasts on cable TV.

After graduating from Ionia High School where he played football, basketball and baseball and then Western Michigan University in 1988; Holland's first job was at Nashville, southwest of Lansing, before coming to Farmington when North opened in 1961.

The Raidors had only a JV football program that first year. When coach Warren McKenzie went into administrative work the next year, Holland became North's first varsity coach, a position he held through the 1982 season. He also coached boys track while teaching physical education.

Football is a big part of my life, Holland said. That's why I went to college. My goal was to be a football coach, and I prepared myself to that end. I had fun all the time I was doing it.

Toaching football and track was just a joy for me. I enjoyed preparing and interacting with the coaches who worked with me. I missed the daily relationship with the kids, and game days were a lot of fur.

Holland's 1970 North football team finised the season as the No. 1 Class A team in the state. That was five years before the playoffs started. The 1978 team was the state runner-up to Traverse City.

You kinda get caught up in that (records), but after a while

you realize you're not here for that," Holland said, adding the day-to-day relationship with players is what means the most.
"You hope they had a great experience playing high school sports and you did everything possible to make it enjeyable."
The soft-spoken Holland is the opposite of the steroctypical gruff and rough-talking football coach but was just as effective using a storn but easy-going demeanor.

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"I probably yelled once in a white, maybe early in my carlet," he said, adding he got good advice from his WMU football coach, Buck Reed. He said you should always talk normal to kids and not yell, because you want them to be edging forward to hear you. If you're yelling, they're not going to be listening anymore.

"I never approved of swearing. I didn't want to do anything to hurt a playor's ego or self-estem. Instead, they might say "Here comes that look. Coach Holland is going to give you one of his nesty stares and you'd better do a better job."

When Jack Cotton retired in 1983, Holland joined the administration and became just the second athletic director Farmington Public Schools has had.
"Jack set's on many things in place," Helland said of Cotton, who eversaw the start of girls sports and the expansion from one to three high schools. "All I tried to do is refine it, develop it and continue the tradition Farmington had athletically as a district."

Besides doing the scheduling for all sports for Farmington's

trict."
Besides doing the scheduling
for all sports for Farmington's
three high schools and four middle schools and overseeing 182
coaches, he also heads the health

and physical education depart-

ment.
"It was a real adjustment com-"It was a real adjustment coming from one high school where I was the football and track cosch," Holland said. Many people think all an AD has to do is 'answer the phone, shuffle paper, go to meetings and drink coffee all day."

"Luckily, I'm a structured and organized guy. That helped when I came into this job. Fifteen years is enough, and it's time to do something else."

Barb Prince has served as athletic secretary in Holland's office for the last 13 years and deserves a large share of the credit for making a big operation function well, according to Holland.

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"There are so many things she can handle on a daily basis that makes this office so efficient," he said, adding Farmington has had just two athletic secretaries, too. Boverly Johnson preceded Prince is that iso.

just two athletic secretaries, too. Beverly Johnson preceded Prince in that Job. Nearly 3,000 students in Farmington competed in high school and middle school athletics and another 1,500-plus in intromurals last year. The district will install lights at its three football field, start a hockey program next school year and build auxiliary gyms at North Farmington and Farmington high schools. A feasibility study is being done on the outdoor facilities at Harrison to improve its softball complex, find space for a soccer field and improve the football practice sites. "I think in 15 years we've done a lot, and we've got a lot going," Holland said, "I think we're doing a lot of positive things for a lot of kida."

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Patriots earn first baseball victories of '98

Spring break has been good to the Livonia Franklin baseball

The Patriots (2-4) swept a dou-The Patriots (2-4) swept a double-header Wednesday from visiting University of Detroit-Jesuit (2-8) to earn their first two victories of the year, 7-8 and 9-8.

"It's the best defense we've played all year," Franklin assistant each Don Harris said. "If we do that, we'll be in a lot of ballgames."

first game. He struck out 10, walked seven and scattered six hits. Bryan Waldo came on to earn the save in the seventh.

The Patriots trailed 4-2 after five innings before exploding for five runs in the bottom of the sixth.

with a sixth. Waldo's three-run double keyed the surge. He went 2-for-4 with a pair of doubles and four RBI. Teammate Mike Franklin went 3-for-4.
In the nightcap, Mike Cochran went 2-for-3 with three RBI and

Tom Jones sparked a four-run single.

Jamie Proffer, the winning pitcher, scattered nine walk and six hits over six innings. He struck out six before giving way to Waldo, who pitched two score-less innings and fanned three to earn his second save of the day.

Franklin, a junior shortstop, went 2-for-5.

The Patriots scored three times in the fourth inning to

The Patriots scored three times in the fourth inning to break a six-all deadlock.



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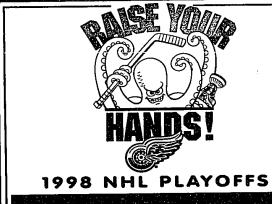
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