

Big inning clinches win for North against Salem

North Farmington cemented an 8-3 softball victory over host Plymouth Salem with a four-run fifth inning Monday.

The Raiders never trailed after scoring twice in the first inning. Salem tied the score in the second, but North went up 4-2 in the third.

Lynn Livernois led a seventh-inning attack for the Raiders by going 3-for-4 and scoring three runs.

Katie Devereux had three RBI with a bases-loaded walk and a two-run double. Randi Taub also knocked in two runs with a double.

Mickey Spiaz, who scored two runs, pitched a complete game for the Raiders, limiting the Rocks to four hits and three walks.

Salem hitting star Stefanie Volpe was hitless in three trips. Spiaz had five strikeouts. The Rocks made six errors.

The Raiders improved to 3-2 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association and to 7-3 overall.

In the Brandon tournament Saturday, North lost to Romeo (6-1) but defeated Redford Union (6-5) and Dearborn Divine Child (9-5).

Diana Gustkey doubled and scored the only run against Romeo on a groundout by Spiaz, who allowed five hits but wasn't helped by a defense that made four errors.

The Raiders were up 6-0 against RU, which rallied with five runs in the top of the seventh. Samantha McComb hit a two-run double and Randi Taub a two-run single. Lauren Ouellette added an RBI single.

North scored all nine runs in the second inning against Divine Child.

The Raiders had a pair of two-run homers by Devereux, who started the inning with a triple, and McComb. Ouellette and Taub also hit doubles and the Falcons made three errors in that inning.

Devereux went 3-for-3 and Ouellette 2-for-3. Freshman Chrissy King also got her first varsity hit. Spiaz was the winning pitcher in both wins.

HARRISON 8, FRANKLIN 3: The Hawks spotted the visiting Patriots a 2-0 lead in the first inning, then rallied to win the game with a four-run

SOFTBALL

fourth. Kaitina Vitanis (error) and Amy Routh, settling the stage for Becky Vosler's two-run double. A single by Ali Ault sent Vosler to the plate, and Ault later scored on a groundout by Britt any Masey.

Vosler added an insurance run in the sixth after Franklin got within 4-3 in the fifth. A single, two stolen bases and an error sent Vosler around the bases.

"We didn't make the plays today, but we survived," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said. "I told the girls this was a 'what-if' game. It's over and we snuck one out."

The Hawks committed four errors, but Ali Ault managed to pitch over the miscues. She struck out seven, walked one and hit one.

Franklin had a 6-5 edge in hits. Franklin pitcher Lori Jendrusk fanned five and walked one. She also had two hits and scored two runs.

Harrison improved to 4-1 in the WLLA Western Division and 7-3 overall. Franklin dropped to 1-4 and 5-8.

In the Mercy tournament Saturday, the Hawks opened with an 8-1 win over 1997 regional champion Lakeland. Lindsey Emmett hit a two-run double and Masey a two-run triple. Ault pitched a two-hitter.

Harrison scored in the bottom of the eighth inning to edge Allen Park 3-2. Using the international tie-breaker rule, Masey started at second base and scored on Ali Ault's bunt when the Lakeland pitcher threw wildly to third.

An error and an intentional walk loaded the bases in the Allen Park half of the eighth. Third baseman Megan Wild felled a ground ball and got the force at the plate.

Leslie Schrock went to 3-0 on the next batter but came back to end the threat with a strikeout. Vitanis and Ault had three hits each.

The Hawks lost 7-0 to Mercy, which had a five-run third inning. Mercy's Beth Ann Nowak went 3-for-4. Shayla O'Mara and Erin Carson 2-for-4. Nowak and Carson also had three RBI apiece.

MERCY 7, CABRINI 5-0: Leah Moeller and Tami Schroeder combined on a no-hitter in the nightcap of a Monday twin bill as the Marlins swept Allen Park Cabrini.

The no-hitter was capped when pinch-hitter Shayla O'Mara tripped home Kelly Moug with one out in the bottom of the seventh inning for the game's only run.

Schroeder, who struck out four and walked none, picked up the win with

four innings of relief work. Moeller tossed the first three innings, fanning five without a walk.

In the opener, junior Erin Howard made her varsity pitching debut one to remember as she hurled four innings of no-hit softball to record the win.

Howard struck out eight, including the first six batters of the game, while walking one and allowing no earned runs. Two errors by the Marlins (10-4) allowed two Cabrini runs to score in the third inning.

Schroeder pitched the final three innings and allowed two hits. Lauren Monterey and O'Mara went 2-for-4 to lead the 10-hit Mercy attack.

On Saturday, the Marlins looked impressive and won three of four games to win their own tournament. Mercy began the day with a 9-6 victory over a hot Farmington team.

Moeller pitched the complete five innings. The game was called early due to a time limit.

The big hit off the bat of senior Beth Ann Nowak, who broke up a 5-5 tie in the fifth inning with a two-out single. Moug went 2-for-3 with three RBI.

The Marlins were sloppy in their next game, losing 5-1 to Berkley. They committed four errors in Berkley's five-run fifth inning. Jen Simpson deserved a better fate but picked up the loss.

Mercy, which finished second in its pool to Berkley, faced Farmington Harrison, the other pool winner. Schroeder tossed the shutout as the Marlins won, 7-0. She scattered six hits, struck out five and walked none in six innings.

Erin Carson drove in three runs with a double and triple to spark the Mercy offense. Nowak and Paige Egan each went 3-for-4 with one RBI. Schroeder helped herself with a pair of hits and one RBI.

The Marlins won the championship and avenged their earlier loss by beating Berkley, 10-6. Moeller allowed seven hits in seven innings while walking one and striking out one.

Carson completed a productive day with two hits and three RBI. O'Mara drove in a pair with two hits. Egan and Katie Homant chipped in a pair of singles.

"We had hoped to win the tournament but were in a tough pool with Berkley and Farmington," Mercy statistician Mary Lou Nowak said.

"We're starting to hit the ball well, and things are coming together for us. The players are getting re-focused after missing a couple weeks in spring break and with some big league games coming up."

Raiders, Hawks remain undefeated in division

North Farmington supported senior pitcher Jeff Trzosa with all the runs he needed in the first inning Monday, and the host Raiders made the early lead stand for a 2-0 baseball victory over Plymouth Salem.

Trzosa went the distance for his first victory in two decisions, scattering five hits, striking out five and walking two.

"He didn't get behind on batters and he threw strikes," North coach Irv Horwitz said. "He got the ball over the plate, and we played pretty good defense."

Jason Cox also pitched a complete game for the Rocks, holding North to six hits and no walks. He struck out two and hit one batter.

"He threw a lot of junk and wasn't very fast," Horwitz said, "but he kept us off balance and pitched a heckuva game."

The Raiders finished the first half of the Lakes Division (Western Lakes Activities Association) round-robin schedule with a 5-0 record. North is 8-1 overall.

North's Evan Feldman and Salem's Joe Rizzoli were 2-for-3. Feldman's hits included a double.

In the first inning, Tom Ouellette reached base on an error

BASEBALL

and advanced on Mike Gleeson's bunt single. After a double steal, Ouellette scored on a balk and Gleeson on a single by Trzosa.

The only time Salem threatened to score was in the seventh inning when it put runners at second and third with nobody out. Trzosa struck out the side to end the game.

HARRISON 17, FRANKLIN 0: The Hawks had their hitting shoes on Monday in a road thrashing of Livonia Franklin.

Harrison pounded out 13 hits in a game called after three innings due to the mercy rule. The Hawks scored seven runs in the first inning and never looked back.

"We've been hitting the ball well," Harrison coach John Herrington said. Bobby Austin led the attack with three hits and five RBI. Mike Fisher added three hits, including a home run, and three RBI. Zack Cornwell smacked two hits and knocked in three.

Zach Burton pitched all three innings for Harrison and allowed just one hit. Harrison improved to 7-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association, 5-0 in the Western Division and 9-2 overall.

The Hawks split a doubleheader with Birmingham Brother Rice on Saturday. Brother Rice took the opener, 4-3. According to Herrington, Harrison had

its chances to win.

With the game tied 3-3 in the sixth, the Hawks had the bases loaded but failed to score when a baserunner was picked off first.

Harrison loaded the bases again in the seventh, but the rally was squelched when a wild pitch bounced off the backstop right to the Rice catcher, who threw the runner out at third.

Joe Ghanam was the hard luck Joker for Harrison, pitching all seven innings. The Hawks managed just four hits. Cornwell knocked in two runs with a single and a sacrifice fly.

Matt Derocier played the story of the nightcap, leading Harrison to a 2-1 win on a four-hitter.

"He had them off stride," Herrington said. "He threw an assortment of off-speed pitches."

Derocier (4-0) walked one and struck out one. The Hawks got all the runs they needed by scoring twice in the first inning.

Four walks and a wild pitch accounted for the runs. Harrison added single runs in the second and fifth innings.

Fisher blasted a solo homer in the fifth. W.L. CENTRAL 10, FARMINGTON 8: Kyle Burcar went 3-for-4 and had three RBI in a losing cause Monday against the visiting Vikings. Dave Vane added two hits for the Falcons, 0-5 in the WLLA Lakes Division and 2-12 overall.

Derocier Fox was the losing pitcher, surrendering seven runs on eight hits and one walk. He struck out five and pitched two. Central had an 11-10 edge in hits. Both teams made three errors.

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