

Hawks handcuffed by Canton, 3-1; C'ville wins

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The one-day delay didn't hurt Plymouth Canton ace Mark Hanson any.

Hanson has made a habit of handcuffing the best baseball teams in the Western Lakes Activities Association, and on Tuesday he added Farmington Harrison to his list, stopping the Hawks on two hits in claiming a 3-1 victory at Canton.

The game, scheduled for Monday but cancelled by inclement weather, allowed Hanson an extra day of rest after missing his start the previous Friday with illness. It certainly didn't do him any harm; he gave up one unearned run and two hits, both by Kevin Zerbo, and two walks with six strikeouts.

The loss went to Rob Whipple, who started and lasted 3 2/3 innings, allowing three runs. Drew Stanton relieved and worked the final 2 1/3 scoreless innings.

"Hanson's throwing very well," said Canton coach Scott Dickey. "He one-hit (division leader) Walled Lake Western and he two-hit Harrison."

Western is 6-0 in the WLA's Western Division; Harrison, the pre-season favorite in the conference, is now 4-2, 13-4 overall. Canton evened its record at 3-3 in the division, 12-6 overall.

The Chiefs scored in the opening inning on a two-out double by Hanson followed by a Nick Musselman double. The Hawks tied it with a run in the second, Zerbo starting it with a double and moving up a base when Jake Gannam reached on an error. A passed ball scored the run.

Canton's game-winning rally came in the fourth inning. With one out, Brent Kwiatkowski singled and Matt Staley was safe on an error. Matt Kay's single scored one run and with two out, Andy Howard singled in another.

Which was enough support for Hanson, who has not allowed an earned run in his last 14 innings. "This was obviously a very big (win)," said Dickey. "We'd need a lot of help right now to get back in (the race)." "This win could provide them with something to build on, however," "We hope so," agreed Dickey. "Obviously, (Harrison's) a very talented team that's going to do some damage in the division."

■ Farmington 6, Salem 4: Until Tuesday, Farmington's seniors had never beaten Plymouth Salem.

That changed as the Falcons scored in each of the first five innings to earn the win over the Rocks.

"It's the first time I've beaten them as a coach — even at Seaboard," said Farmington coach Pete Finn as his team improved to 6-7 overall and 4-2 in the Lakes Division. "Our seniors had never beaten them either."

Preston Picard set the tone for the day as he lead off the game with a homer. Mike Kish added a two-run homer in the second inning, while Chris Chesney had a double and scored a run, and Tim Mitchell had an RBI on a sacrifice fly. Tony Luttman and Bob Houchins added singles.

Luttman kept the Rocks (9-13) at bay until the fifth inning, when Andy Thackaborn tagged a bases-loaded double to chase Luttman in favor of Anthony Volpe. Luttman still struck out seven in 4 2/3 innings and had allowed three hits (the other two were singles from Steve Cox and Andy Boyer), while Volpe fanned two and didn't allow a hit.

Nat Kowalik went the distance for the Rocks, with eight hits, six runs (five earned), two walks and eight strikeouts. ■ Redford Union Tourney: On Saturday, Farmington managed six hits in both games of the Redford Union Tourney, but did more with them in the first game win, than they did in the second-game loss.

The Falcons came through with a 4-0 win over Garden City in the opener, helped in no small part to pitcher Joe James holding the Cougars to five hits. In the second game, Farmington spotted Redford Thurston a four-run lead in the first inning and wound up losing to the Eagles, 5-3.

"We played flat in the second game," said Finn. "We had the same hits in both games, just different results. After scoring 21 runs on Friday (against Livonia Stevenson), I was looking for a bit more offense."

Picard and Luttman led the way against the Cougars with both going 2-for-4 with an RBI, while James was also 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored and Jeff Fischer was 1-for-3. James (1-2) went the distance on the mound, giving up two hits and striking out three. Rick Wank doubled to lead Garden City, while Dominic Zoccolli, Brian Burton, Billy Coyle and Will Swift all singled.

Against Thurston, the Eagles also had six hits, but couldn't overcome the 4-0 deficit.

"We left too many guys on base," said Finn as his team stranded 11 runners on

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base. "We just didn't score. We had the bases loaded in the third and the sixth, had second and third in the second and first and second in the seventh. We had a lot of guys on."

Mitchell (0-1) took the loss for the Falcons (7-7), leaving after 2/3 of an inning. Fischer went the rest of the way, pitching no-hit ball, giving up just a run and striking out five. Joe Evans took the win for the Eagles, with seven strikeouts, six

walks and three runs in the complete game.

Luttman was 2-for-3 for the Falcons, while Fischer had an RBI. Kish and Chesney doubled.

■ Catholic Central 7-11, Warren DeLaSalle 2-0: The Shamrocks rolled into their key Wednesday doubleheader with Birmingham Brother Rice with a Catholic League sweep of Warren DeLaSalle Saturday.

Results of the CC-Rice twinbill were not available at press time, but the Shamrocks did pick up 7-2 and 11-0 wins

over the Pilots Saturday afternoon. CC improved to 15-4 overall and 11-3 in the CHSL with the win.

Don Wilkes came into the game in the first inning on the mound and cruised to the win. He struck out 10 batters while allowing just two hits. Todd Tindall went 2-for-3 with two walks and a run scored. Eric Volkofsky added two hits and 2 RBIs for the Shamrocks.

In game two, Ed Conz delivered a gem in his first varsity start, throwing a one-hitter with seven strikeouts and only one walk. Coach John Selter said the key for him was getting his breaking ball over the

plate. "His control was great," Selter said. "Our top two pitchers were out with injuries, so we had some guys step up for us."

Volkofsky slammed two doubles in the nightcap, while J.T. Haelterman had two bases-loaded hits. Every CC starter picked up at least one hit in game two.

■ Clarenceville 8, Lutheran East 8: The balls were flying out of the yard for the Trojans Monday afternoon, who used the long ball to pick up their third win of the season.

Livonia Clarenceville downed Harp Woods Lutheran East to run its record to 3-6 overall and 2-2 in the Metro Conference.

Josh Young was the winning pitcher in the game, going six innings with three strikeouts and two walks. He also belted a home run and two singles in the game.

Charles Bolander hammered two home runs and drove in three for the game. Jason Price also went 2-for-3 in the victory.

(C.J. Risak contributed to this story.)

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