

Bulldogs put bite on Colts' title hopes

BY JIM TOTH
STAFF WRITER

In the end it was the number 14 that did the most damage on Friday the 13th.

Facing the unenviable task of trying to hit the virtually unhittable Jill DeRoche (wearing No. 13) of Brighton, the 'Bulldogs' weren't done in so much by her hard-throwing antics on the mound as they were by her battery-mate Marian Davis (wearing No. 14).

Davis, a senior, clocked doubles in her first two at-bats, driving in the game's first two runs, and then having her pinch-runner score a third, in the Bulldogs' 3-1 victory Friday over the Colts in Division I semifinal play in Battle Creek.

The defeat put an end to an outstanding tournament run by the Colts, which saw Tom Calnen's club win six straight contests without yielding a single run.

"I'm unbelievably proud of the way we fought," Calnen

said after the game. "Was it disappointing? Yes, but at the same time, they battled and I was so proud of the team."

"If you would have told me going in that we would be in Battle Creek, I certainly wouldn't have said we couldn't, I would have said we got a long way to go," Calnen went on. "Hopefully, this can become our building block."

Davis and the mound heroics of sophomore Jessie Granger were the components of the Colts' post-season success, but neither were at the top of their game against the determined Bulldogs.

Granger had been nearly untouchable in the six previous outings, shutting out the opponent each time, Brighton, which improved to 42-1 with the win and had a date Saturday afternoon with Escanaba for the Division I crown, produced base-runners

in all but two innings, including the decisive second.

After getting the first two Brighton hitters on a strike out and ground out, respectively, sophomore Maureen Makela sopped a grounder to shortstop Lianna Easterby, who mis-handled it and threw late to first.

Lisa DeRoche followed with an infield single and Davis brought home both runners with a one-hop shot off the leftfield fence. A pair of wild pitches later and Jill DeRoche (35-0) had a seemingly comfortable three-run lead to work with.

The Colts, however, were not about to go away quietly. Junior Kim Kochajda, one of the heroes in the team's quarterfinal win over Walled Lake Western earlier in the week, led off the fourth by sending a DeRoche offering over the leftfield fence.

An inning later, Troy had two on with one out, but couldn't score following two strikeouts. In the sixth, two

more K's kept them off the board.

"It was looking early like it was going to be a long day, but we had our shots, we really did," Calnen said.

"But you know, the big thing I said to my kids, because they are so young, was how you could just feel the energy from that side. That team was not going to be denied. At least that was the feeling, from their stands to the team on the field."

Troy managed four hits on the day, two by Kochajda and one each from senior Jenny Sutherland and junior Emily Turner.

Brighton collected five off Granger. "I'm so proud of these girls because in the first inning we were nervous and they hit Jess a little," Calnen said. "But when you got a warrior like Jess and you have the other kids who refuse to lose and play to the last out, you're going to win a lot of games and do a lot of good things."

SPORTS ROUNDUP

LACROSSE NEWS

The Michigan U.S. Lacrosse Michigan Chapter will host the Fourth Annual Great Lakes Games Tournament June 13-14. High school underclass lacrosse players interested in participating in the year's tournament should contact their high school coach for tryout information. Tryouts begin June 1. For information, contact JKenney@delts.edu on the internet.

NORTHVILLE RUN

The Galyan's Northville Solstice Run will be held Saturday, June 21. The event is designed to promote healthy lifestyles and fitness while pro-

viding amenities and entertainment within the Northville community. For more information, please call the Northville Parks and Recreation Department at (248) 449-9941 or race director Alan Whitehall at (248) 420-1376.

BASEBALL LESSONS

The Bernie Carbo Premier Baseball School will have individual and small-group winter skills sessions in velocity improvement, power hitting and field from minor league player Mark Rutherford. Video analysis and scouting reports are available. For more information, call Gordie Rutherford at (734) 421-4928.

Join the Detroit Tigers and Henry Ford Health System for

Women on Wednesdays

Sponsored by Fox 2 and The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Women on Wednesdays is a monthly program networking party celebrating the achievements of women in sports. Admission is FREE with a ticket to the game.

Wednesday, June 18 meet Lucinda K. Trast, Chief Legal Officer for New England Sports Ventures (Boston Red Sox)

Hosted by Fox 2's Sherry Margolis

6:30 p.m. Reception in the Upper Deck Lounge at Comerica Park

8:00 Program

7:05 Tigers vs. Indians

Meet Leneea Parikh, Detroit Tigers bullpen coach. *(tickets to attend any program networking, complimentary from 6:00 a.m. and last seats)*

Tickets start at \$5. To purchase tickets to the game, please call 248-25-TIGER, visit the Comerica Park Box Office or go online at detroitstigers.com. To RSVP or for more information, please call 313-471-2258. Group Discounts are available.

Mid-Michigan Bucks shave West Michigan in PDL divisional victory, 3-2

The Mid-Michigan Bucks got back on the winning side, discovering some offensive en route to a 3-2 victory over the West Michigan Edge in a Premier Development League Great Lakes Division match Wednesday at Berkley's Hurley Field.

The victory allowed the Bucks to improve their record to 6-1-1, first in the Great Lakes. The Edge slipped to 3-3-2.

Mid-Michigan never trailed in the game, getting a goal from Mychal Turpin just five minutes in with a set-up by Paul Snape (Oakland University). The Edge, however, knotted it at 1-1 five minutes later when St. Nicholas Benjamin converted a penalty kick.

The Bucks regained the lead for good in the 27th minute, Erik Nelson getting the ball to Kevin Taylor for the finish and a 2-1 advantage. They increased their advantage to two goals at the 60-minute mark, Tino Scieluna (Redford/Detroit Country Day) dropped a perfect cross into the box to Snape for the header into the net.

Mid-Michigan remained ahead 3-1 until the 75th

SOCCER

minute, when the Edge's Johnny Leonard found the net with an assist from Brady Bryant. However, West Michigan could not get the equalizer in the final 15 minutes.

Jeff Wiese was in goal for the Bucks; he made one save, as Mid-Michigan limited the Edge to three shots. The Bucks had 11 shots, with West Michigan keeper Oliver Sanders making five saves.

The Bucks are on the road against West Michigan at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Holland Municipal Stadium, then they return home to host Columbus at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Canton HS.

Winner plays MetroStars

Pairings for the third round in the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup were announced by the United States Soccer Federation last Thursday, indicating the winner of the June 25 second-round match between the PDL's Mid-Michigan Bucks and the defending Division III champion Long Island (N.Y.) Rough Riders will play the Division I

N.Y./N.J. MetroStars in a third-round game July 16.

In previous Open Cup matches, the Bucks have played four MLS teams and have posted a 1-2-1 record. Although the location of the match has not yet been determined, in the past the Bucks have hosted MLS teams twice — in 1999 and 2000, when their home base was in Saginaw.

"One of our team's major objectives each year is to play our way into the Open Cup, with the hopes of playing and even hosting an MLS team," Bucks co-owner Dan Duggan said.

"If we are fortunate enough to get the opportunity, we would host the first-ever MLS game at Hurley Field."

Jim Duggan, the Bucks' other co-owner and the team's general manager, thought it best not to start thinking about playing the MetroStars just yet.

"Before we get caught up in the possibility of playing the MetroStars, we have a monumental task ahead of us with Long Island," he said. "The Rough Riders are full-time professionals who would love to play a game against their

neighbor and big brother in New York.

"We are going to need a completely healthy team, an outstanding performance from all of our players and possibly a little luck to upset the Rough Riders."

Tickets for the June 25 match against the Rough Riders at Hurley Field may be reserved by calling (989) 781-6888 or by e-mailing the Bucks at info@mmbucks.com. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$5 for kids under 19 dressed in soccer uniforms; children under the age of 5 years are free.

Jim Duggan noted a good crowd for the June 25 match could be a factor in the Bucks' getting a home date against the MetroStars — if they can beat the Rough Riders.

coming to a field near you this summer!

2003 Camp Dates/Locations/Costs

| Camp # | Location | City | Date | Cost |
|--------|------------------------------|-------------|------------------|----------|
| 1 | Sarah Banks Middle School | Walled Lake | June 16 - 20 | \$139.00 |
| 2 | Independence Park | Canton | June 23 - 27 | \$139.00 |
| 3 | Bicentennial Park | Livonia | June 23 - 27 | \$139.00 |
| 4 | Vistcon Fields | Plymouth | July 7 - 11 | \$139.00 |
| 5 | Pioneer Park | Farmington | July 14 - 18 | \$139.00 |
| 6 | Malby Field | Brighton | July 14 - 18 | \$139.00 |
| 7 | Clifford Smart Middle School | Walled Lake | July 21 - 25 | \$139.00 |
| 8 | Bicentennial Park | Livonia | July 21 - 25 | \$139.00 |
| 9 | Independence Park | Canton | July 28 - Aug. 1 | \$139.00 |
| 10 | Independence Park | Canton | July 28 - Aug. 1 | \$179.00 |
| 11 | Vistcon Fields | Plymouth | August 4 - 8 | \$139.00 |
| 12 | Firefighters Park | Troy | August 4 - 8 | \$139.00 |
| 13 | Pioneer Park | Farmington | August 11 - 15 | \$139.00 |

All camps run 9:30 am - 12:00 pm except #5 which runs 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. GS = Goalkeeper/Striker camp and is for advanced players and taught at an accelerated pace.

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