

Harrison Edges Churchill, 2-1; Captures Western Six Title

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

It hasn't taken Farmington Harrison long to make waves in the Western Six baseball conference. The Hawk baseballers have captured the league crown in only their second year and first with a senior class, and Coach Dick Tyler has to be beaming with the "older" Farmington schools struggling in their respective leagues.

Harrison edged Walled Lake Western in a nine inning affair, 5-4, and topped Livonia Churchill, 2-1, to seal the first position.

The Hawks stand 6-1 in league action and 9-3 overall. "The kids have really put it together," said Coach Tyler. "They played nine innings against Western and came

right back the next day to beat Churchill and wrap up the championship."

Churchill was still in contention with a Harrison victory a must but the Chargers ran out of pitching and out of contention.

"I believe we have a better team than Harrison," said Tyler. "But we lost twice to them, both by one run, so they deserve the championship."

It was a winning combination of Gary Morrison and Tom Young that set down the Charger bats with only four hits. The same duo worked the day before against Western with Morrison getting the win in relief.

This time it was Young who came in to relieve Morrison

and it was Young who picked up the victory, his fourth against one loss.

GORDY MILLER and Mike Keller went the distance for Churchill with Miller taking the loss. Harrison collected only six hits but 10 walks might as well have made it 16 hits.

The ball just wasn't going over for Miller and Keller and hopes of a Churchill crown vanished with the flash of a "ball signal."

Harrison scored its first run in the bottom of the second. Gary Morrison singled and Brian Collins followed suit. Morrison was thrown out, and with two outs, second baseman Steve Morrison lined a single to right to score Collins and the Hawks were up, 1-0.

Churchill came back in the top of the fourth with a scoring opportunity but could only muster one run with seven Chargers stepping up to the plate.

RICK DREHER singled and stole second and with two outs, Al Leirstein singled. A passed ball allowed Dreher to score with Leirstein moving to second. Bruce Van Wagener was safe on an error and Jim Foster walked to load the bases.

Coach Tyler replaced Morrison with Young and Miller grounded out, pitcher to first to retire the side with the score notched at one all.

Harrison came right back in the bottom of the inning to score what proved to be the winning run.

With two outs, Steve Morrison walked and moved to second on a wild pitch. Tim Golich walked and by that time, Coach Frayer had enough.

He sent in Keller and Jeff Kallgren drew a base on balls to fill the bases. Dave Manns then came up with his biggest run batted in of the season. He walked and Steve Morrison trotted in with the tie breaking run.

KELLER struck out Young to end the inning but the damage was done, and all after two were out.

Churchill rallied in the top of the sixth with Mick Cron slinging and Leirstein getting a walk with only one out. But Young got tough and got VanWagoner to pop out and Foster to ground out to end the threat.

Churchill did have one bright note in the week's action with a 5-4 triumph over Waterford Mott, but at the expense of hurler Ken Wood.



Falcons Shut Out Waterford, 4-0; Stand At .500

Farmington scored its fourth Inter-Lakes baseball win over Waterford with Jim Hartle hurling a five hitter and the Falcons boasting the necessary margin in a 40 shutout.

It was Hartle's second victory against one defeat. He fanned five and walked one.

FARMINGTON picked up one run in the top of the second. Bob Holton walked and Bill Platko singled. Dennis Dorsch sacrificed the runners to second and third and Holton scampered home on a Dennis Hagen infield.

The Falcons rounded out their scoring with three runs in the fifth inning.

Mike Flynn singled and Tony Wenson walked. Hartle singled driving in Flynn and Rick Pauline walked to load the bases. Bob Holton singled in Wenson and Dorsch drew a base on balls to force in Hartle.

Bob Kennedy took the Waterford loss and Farmington improved its overall mark to 4-1.



WIDE THROW - FLYING HELMET — Farmington's Dennis Dorsch legs it into second with the Waterford second baseman reaching in vain for a wide throw. Farmington toppled Waterford, 4-0. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

WOOD WAS BEANED in the third inning and was taken to Pontiac General, with a concussion. He was released later that night but his absence was felt in the Harrison game.

Churchill scored three times in the third inning. Skender ran for Wood and followed four singles by Bob Blais, Brian Kelly, Roy Henriksson and Rick Dreher and it was the Chargers, 3-0.

Mott came back with two in the inning on two errors and a walk.

Churchill made it 5-2 in the top of the fifth on a double by Kelly, an error, and singles by Dreher and VanWagoner. Mott sent seven batters to the plate in the fifth but could only come up with one run, making it 5-3 going into the bottom of the seventh.

Mott scored a quick run in the final inning on a double and error but Panzoff bore down and retired the next two batters. With two outs, and runners on second and third, Mike Grace lined a hot grounder up the middle. Kelly went to his left and the game seemed imminent.

But the Mott runner chopped his steps hoping to confuse Kelly. After a heated discussion, the umpires ruled that the run did not count and the runner was out with Churchill the one run victor.

Wood received the win and Jim Zimmerman the loss.

Stevenson Falls Victim To Lathrup Charge, 3-0

Southfield Lathrup continued its reign in the Inter-Lakes baseball race with a 3-0 victory over Stevenson.

It was Jeff Kessner's day to shine for the Chargers with a two hit pitching performance. Stevenson hurler Bob Bialy was the lone Spartan to break into the hit column with singles in the first and fourth innings.

Lathrup scored once in the first inning on a walk to Bruce Ruhl, a single by Dave Kay and another one base hit by Milt Thackaberry to score Ruhl.

The Chargers made it 2-0 in the third on a single by Barry Brodsky, a Mark Flynn sacrifice and a run producing single by Kay.

Back to back doubles by Ruhl and Thackaberry scored the third and final run for Lathrup in the fifth.

LATHRUP plays at Pontiac Northern Monday with Stevenson entertaining Waterford.

Netters Fall To Kettering

Kesmer struck out seven and walked none in the seven inning contest.

Bialy allowed seven hits, struck out six and walked five in taking his second loss. Stevenson dropped to an overall mark of 3-1.

Waterford Kettering handed unbeaten streak to eight with a first singles triumph over Oakland tennis loss, 3-2, and the Trojan netters fell to a 4-4 mark.

Bob LaForest stretched his 4 and 7-5.

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CHURCHILL				
Blais	2b	ab	r	h
Kelly	ss	2	1	0
Henriksson	2b	4	2	1
Dreher	cf	1	1	2
Van Wagener	c	4	0	0
Leirstein	1b	4	0	0
Combs	rf	2	0	0
Foster	lf	3	1	0
Wood	p	0	0	0
Skender	pr	3	1	0
Panzoff	p	1	0	0
Keller	p	0	0	0
Totals		31	5	9

WATERFORD MOTT				
Earl	cf	ab	r	h
McKay	1b	2	1	0
Miller	ss	3	2	1
Tracy	2b	3	0	0
Anderson	cf	3	0	0
Grace	3b	3	0	0
Cook	c	3	0	0
Persegar	c	3	0	0
Zimmerman	p	3	1	0
O'Neil	p	0	0	0
Totals		28	4	1

CHURCHILL				
Blais	2b	ab	r	h
Kelly	ss	2	1	0
Henriksson	2b	4	2	1
Dreher	cf	1	1	2
Van Wagener	c	4	0	0
Leirstein	1b	4	0	0
Combs	rf	2	0	0
Foster	lf	3	1	0
Wood	p	0	0	0
Skender	pr	3	1	0
Panzoff	p	1	0	0
Keller	p	0	0	0
Totals		31	5	9

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