

Monday, April 20, 1981

Pitchers shine in Raider-Hawk battle

Matt Ruud, the ace of North Farmington's pitching staff, and Harrison's Dale Sklar, better known for his bat and glove, linked up for a pitchers' duel last Thursday in the annual inter-city baseball battle.

North produced the winning run in the fourth inning and opened its season on a successful note with a 2-1 victory. The loss put Harrison at 2-3.

"I figured it'd be a good close game," said North coach Jerry Maxwell. "Harrison always gets up for us, just as we do for them."

Ruud, a senior lefthander, went the distance and pitched a five-hitter. He struck out eight and walked two.

"Matt deserves a lot of credit," Maxwell said. "His back was hurting, and the cold weather didn't help things. He didn't have his zinger so he had to get by on a lot of moxie."

North scored the winner when Chuck Kott walked, stole second and came home on John King's single. The Raiders' other run came in the first inning. Senior Greg Meggas, who had two of his team's three hits off Sklar, tripled home Mark Leonetti, who had walked and then stole second.

In addition to his excellent mound performance — eight strikeouts and six walks — Sklar scored Harrison's only run. He led off the game with a long triple and crossed the plate on Gary Kazanjian's single.

"This was Dale's first start," said Harrison coach John Herrington. "We pitched him out of desperation — we just didn't have anybody else — but now it looks like he's going to be in our rotation."

ONE DAY earlier, Herrington watched another pitchers' duel, this one between his own John Recker and Livonia Churchill's Bill Gavin.

Recker pitched a no-hitter. Harrison took advantage of a Churchill error to win, 1-0, in the Western Six League battle. Recker, a senior righthander, fanned 10 and passed two. Two Churchill runners made base on errors.

Churchill's Gavin gave up five hits,

including two bunt singles, struck out 10 and walked four.

Sklar, leading off in the first, walked, stole second and third and dashed home with the game's only run on a Churchill error.

North travels to Plymouth Salem for a double-header on March 22. The first game begins at noon. Harrison travels to Walled Lake Western for a WSL contest at 4 p.m. April 29.

STEVENSON 8 FARMINGTON 7

Livonia Stevenson scored seven first-inning runs and hung on for an 8-7 Inter Lakes League victory last week.

Farmington, winless in three games, had nine hits. Jeff O'Malley had three hits and one RBI, and Joe Hamilton and Derek Kerr each had two hits and an RBI.

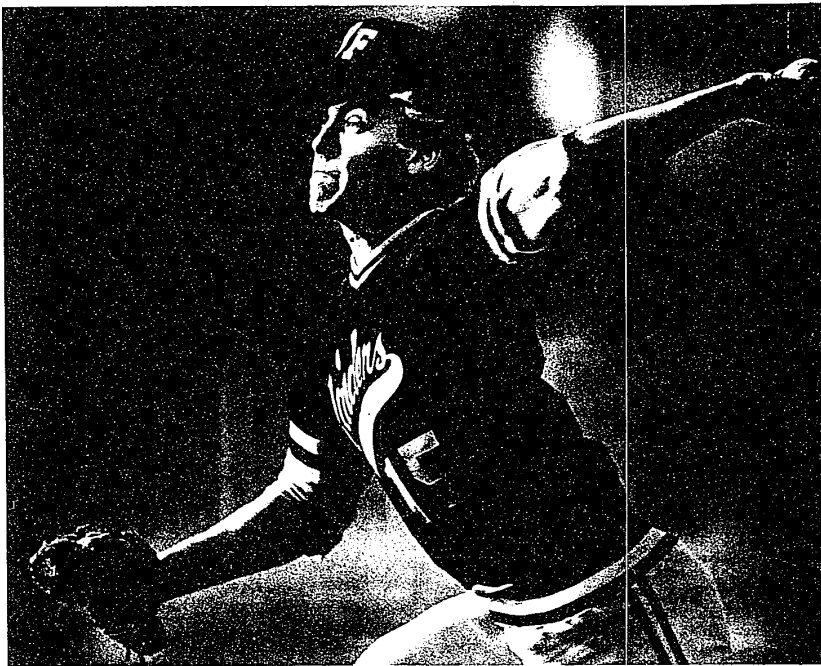
Carl Zatsick started for Farmington but lasted only one inning. Senior righthander Pat Vellucci finished the game and allowed seven hits while striking out seven.

Mercy triumphs

Senior righthander Meri Stockwell pitched a three-hitter last Thursday as Farmington Our Lady of Mercy stopped Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher, 5-0, in Catholic League softball. Stockwell struck out eight and walked four. "She only faced 28 batters in seven innings," said Mercy coach Linda Barber. "Her control was good and her walks were pretty well spread out."

Stockwell also carried a big bat. Her fifth-inning triple drove in one run, and

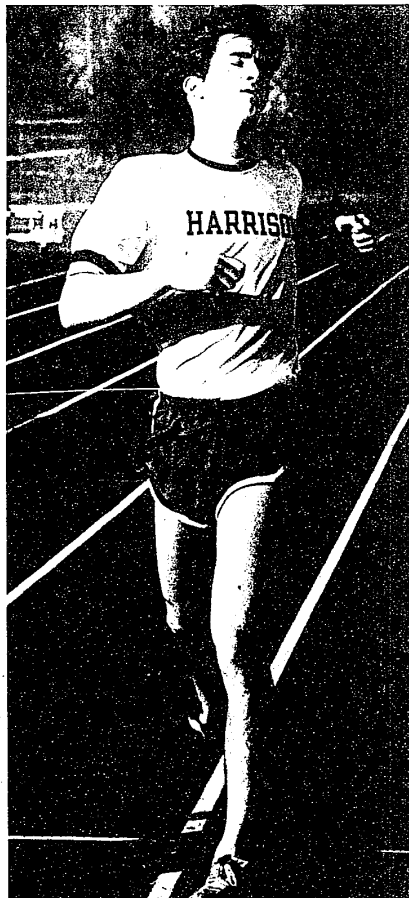
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RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Matt Ruud relied on "lots of moxie" to pitch his way past Farmington Harrison last Thursday.

Sophomores help FHS trackmen



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Dave Tremonti won two events for Farmington Harrison, but Livonia Churchill won the meet.

Three sophomores — Pete Brown, Steve Boykin and Paul Polus — paced Farmington High's 94-38 boys' track victory over Livonia Stevenson in the Inter Lakes League Wednesday.

Brown won the shot put with a toss of 46 feet, 5 inches. Boykin won the 40-yard dash with a time of 52.3, and Polus took the 220 dash in 24.1, and linked up with Jeff Beard, Craig Kielty and Kevin Davis to win the 880 relay with a 1:34.9 clocking.

The same crew posted a winning time of 46.0 in the 440 relay. Kielty was a double winner, taking the long jump (20-4) and the high jump (6-2), and Davis won the 100 dash in 10.6.

Three more Farmington winners: Tom Foten (4:47.0 in the mile), Bill Atkinson (10:20.0 in the two mile) and Dave Eiswerth (15.9 in the 120 high hurdles).

Stevenson's Bob Miller won the pole vault (11-9) and the discus (136-0), and teammate Bob Probst won the discus (136-0).

The victory left Farmington with a 2-1 overall record and a 2-0 mark in the Inter Lakes League.

NORTH FARMINGTON 75 FRANKLIN 58

Mark Bowditch and John Winterbottom were double winners in North Farmington's 75-58 win over Livonia Franklin in Northwest Suburban League boys' track Wednesday.

N. Farmington girls log victory

Sharon Shifra, a freshman at North Farmington, won two events to help her school down Livonia Franklin, 77-46, in Northwest Suburban League girls' track Wednesday. Coach Ralph Temby's Raiders are 2-0-1.

Shifra shattered her old record in the high jump with a 15-foot, 10-inch effort, and then won the high jump at 4-8. Teammate Julie Laatsch won the distances, going 5:41.3 in the 1,600-meter run and 12:41.8 in the 3,200 run.

North's 400 relay (Laura Kolodziej, Jill Schaler, Patti O'Brien, and Kim Mandell) won in 54.6. Mandell won the 100 dash (13.4) and the 200 meter (28.1), and Sue Hedfield won the 100 hurdles (17.5).

Other North firsts included Ann Lamotte (82-6 in the discus), Sara Hoop (33.8 in the 200 hurdles) and Sheri Salkeld (2:35.5 in the 800 run).

Bowditch made 6-feet to win the high jump and recorded a time of 42.5 in the 300-yard low hurdles. Winterbottom won the 440 dash (55.3) and the 880 run (2:07.0). Jamie Leon of North won the long jump in 19-11.

Franklin's Paul Coburn ran a wind-restricted 10:12.0 to win the two mile.

Coach Ron Holland's North Farmington team is 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the NSL.

CHURCHILL 100 HARRISON 32

Farmington Harrison's boys' track team's win strag came to an abrupt halt Wednesday at the hands of Livonia Churchill.

Churchill, with Jeff Olmanson winning three individuals, humbled Harrison, 100-32, in the Western Six League contest. The Hawks are 2-1 overall and 0-1 in the conference.

Harrison won only four events. Dave Tremonti won the mile (4:46.0) and the two mile (10:29.0), and Ed Mohr won the pole vault at 12 feet. The Hawks' 440 relay (Steve Sweeney, Flen Baker, Brian Sandler and Mohr) finished second with a time of 47.8, but ended up first because of a Churchill disqualification.

Olmanson won the high jump (6-0), the long jump (19-14) and the 110 high hurdles (15.4). Teammate Dave Luch won the shot put (46.0) and the discus (119-9).

N. Farmington girls log victory

Franklin's Stacy Green won the 400 dash in 63.5, and teammate Nahid Awad won the shot put at 33-6.

CHURCHILL 101 HARRISON 31

Farmington Harrison finished first in only one event last week in a 101-31 loss to Livonia Churchill in the Western Six League.

Jenny Thompson gave the Hawks their lone first by finishing the 200-meter dash in 29.0. Renee Faulkner gave Harrison a second in the discus (85-6), and teammate Janine Claus finished third (82-6). Kim Mitchell landed second in the long jump (14-10), and Linda Waak took third in the mile (6:21.0).

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