

Lady of Mercy sweeps twin bill



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Bishop Gallagher's Nancy Pollack (11) was safe at first as the ball sailed past Colleen Ryan's glove, but Farmington Our Lady of Mercy swept the softball double-header Monday.

Winning pitcher Dawn McKenna helped her cause with a two-run double as Farmington Our Lady of Mercy stopped Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher, 7-6, in the first game of a Catholic League softball double-header Monday afternoon.

Mercy was the second game, 5-1. McKenna struck out seven and allowed just two hits but had control problems, with 10 walks. Teammate Virginia Minolli drove in two runs with a double.

In the nightcap, Tammy Ford pitched a four-hitter, and Colleen Ryan and Yvonne Regan provided hits. "Our defense looked great in that game," said first-year coach Doug Engler. "They came up with just about everything hit to them."

Mercy, now 2-1, plays next on Friday at home against Redford Bishop Borge. Game time is 4 p.m.

FARMINGTON HARRISON, capitalizing on a devastating offensive attack, recorded its first win of the season Monday with a 15-9 victory over Oak Park.

Kris Witte was the winning pitcher, with seven innings of work, which resulted in two strikeouts, eight walks and eight hits yielded.

The Hawks had plenty of hitting standouts, including Lori Winkel, who was three-for-three with six runs batted in. Dawn Lukowski, Harrison's lead-off hitter, who has reached base

softball

14 out of her first 15 trips, was three-for-four, including a triple.

Robin McCaskill had three hits, and Karen Sklar had two, including a solo home run.

Harrison is 1-2.

NORTH FARMINGTON fell to 1-1 overall Friday when the Raiders dropped a 7-5 game to Redford Union in Northwest Suburban League play.

The Panthers picked up one run in the first inning, two in the second, two in the third, and one each in the fourth and seventh. North scored one in the first and fifth innings, and three in the third.

North Farmington outlit Redford Union, 13-5, but the Raiders left 15 runners on base.

"We had all the stats, but we didn't win the ballgame," North coach Dennis Mikel said.

Margie Lee had four hits for the Raiders, Amy Austin had three, and Stacy Greenberg and Amy Mummert each collected two.

Michelle Rosen gave up just two earned runs, but still was the losing pitcher. Rosen struck out nine and walked eight.

North picks coach

North Farmington High School has a new varsity basketball coach. He is Tom Negoshian, a physical education teacher at Farmington's Warner Middle School.

Negoshian replaces Ken Dean, who resigned recently after 12 years as North's head basketball coach. For the past three years, Negoshian has been an assistant to Tim Domke at Orchard Lake St. Mary's College.

He was Dean's assistant at North for three years before that.

"He (Negoshian) is a very spirited person, and he has good rapport with the kids," said Jack Cotton, athletic director for the Farmington Public Schools, who helped select Negoshian from three applicants.

Also assisting in the selection were North Farmington principal Clayton Graham and assistant principal Don Cowan.



'I've found in newspaper writing, people think you're a brilliant writer when they agree with you. But if I write something anti-Detroit or something along that line, I instantly become the moron who moved in from Chicago.'

— Mike Downey
Free Press columnist



An issue to argue 'till doomsday

This was one of those gatherings where you walked away asking more questions than you had answered.

The issue — "Is the press fair?" — was the topic of discussion at the Detroit Chapter of Women in Communications' annual Freedom of Information meeting Monday at the Fairlane Manor in Dearborn.

No, I'm not a member, but I was in attendance. I was attracted to the meeting when I learned Detroit Tiger General Manager Jim Campbell, along with Detroit Free Press columnist Mike Downey, would be members of the panel.

Also on the panel were Gary Schuster, the Detroit News Washington bureau chief, and Olivia "Libby" Maynard of the Michigan Democratic Party.

Interesting? Yes. Conclusive? No. Not when you argue in semantics.

As Schuster pointed out as he repeated an old adage, "One man's art is another man's pornography."

Campbell added, "In all honesty, I think you have a subject that you can sit here until doomsday and you're never going to answer it or make heads or tails of it. What's fair for one is not fair for another."

However, though a universal answer or conclusion may never be attained, there were some fine points brought up by both sides. One of those points was derived from Maynard's direct response to the question — a question that seems more rhetorical than fact-finding — of "Is the press fair?"

"THE PART of me that has spent the last 15 years around politicians wants to respond somewhere between a resounding yes and an emphatic no,"



Jim Hughes

she said. "And then there's the part of me that wants to continue being in politics for some time, and so I want to say 'Well of course they're fair.'"

"Just as all of us in politics have had to defend our occupation after certain of us have committed excesses, so have good journalists suffered for the job bad journalists do. And it's been my experience that good journalists are the first to recognize and repudiate the work of bad journalists — just as hard-working and dedicated public servants deplore the abuses that they see in terms of power and influence that sometimes surfaces in our political world."

Maynard's long-winded reply simply was a reiteration of the one bad apple theory, and brought to the surface another issue: Use and/or misuse of power. Some people, regardless of their profession, cannot handle a position of power. They abuse it rather than use it.

When talking about fairness, you must look at both sides. So when you ask, "Is the press fair?" shouldn't you also ask, "Is the administration fair?"

While newspaper reporters — who live by the slogan, "The pen is mightier than the sword" — get caught up in an ego power trip, the same holds true for presidents, general managers, managers, etc.

CAMPBELL, WHO has dealt with the media for more than 20 years, has seen his share of reporters come through the ranks. He said his biggest problem with reporters is their lack of thoroughness.

"If I have one complaint about young writers or media types," Campbell said, "it's that I don't think they do their homework. If they would only ask more questions. There isn't one of them that doesn't have my home phone number, or Sparky Anderson's. I just ask that they ask more questions and get the facts straight before they write their story."

Looking at the other side, Downey said, "Even if you ask questions, sometimes you don't always get the right answers."

With some news sources, you can ask questions until you're blue in the face, but you won't get the answers you need. And while there may not be enough answers, there's always a deadline. And when deadline comes, you have to file a story.

Schuster summed it up best when he said, "The more you know, the fairer you can be."

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