

## Coach of the Year

# Holland gets Jim Crowley award

By Chris McCooley  
staff writer

In his final act as a head football coach, North Farmington's Ron Holland accepted the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association's Jim Crowley Award as the 1982 Coach of the Year last Saturday.

Holland was presented with the award during halftime of the annual Michigan High School All-Star football game at Spartan Stadium in East Lansing.

In June, Holland was named athletic director of the Farmington School District succeeding the retiring Jack Gotsch. Thus, he brought to a close 24 years of coaching high school football.

IN THE 21 years he coached at North Farmington High School, Holland compiled a 153-53-3 record. In 1970, he guided the Raiders to a 9-0 record and a mythical state championship. In 1978, North went 11-1, losing in the state championship game to Traverse City.

"This is the highest award the association gives. It's very prestigious. It's just a nice honor to get after retiring from 24 years of coaching," Holland said.

The award carries special significance for Holland. Holland and the award's namesake, Jim Crowley, were close friends. Crowley, head football coach for many years at Jackson Lumen-Christi, was shot and killed in the driveway of his home in 1981.

"Jim Crowley was a true friend of

mind," Holland told the crowd of 5,708 at Spartan Stadium last Saturday. "I am honored and proud to accept this award in his memory."

Holland and Crowley were active members of the coaches association, working together on the various All-State committees. When Holland served as vice president and then president of the association, Crowley was the association's regional director.

Holland is the third recipient of the Jim Crowley Award.



GARY CASKEY/staff photographer

Ron Holland, Farmington's athletic director, received the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Jim Crowley Award last Saturday in East Lansing. Holland was the head coach at North Farmington High School the past 21 years.

## Area little leaguers fall to Westland

Westland defeated North Farmington/West Bloomfield to win the Sandy Koufax State Little League Baseball Championship over the weekend.

In the eight-team tournament played at Westland's Civic Center, the host Westland team won the championship game, 3-1. Westland is now qualified for the national tournament to be held Aug. 18-21 in Knoxville, Tenn.

Westland scored two runs in the first inning and that was all the runs winning pitcher Billy Barber needed for the win. North Farmington/West Bloomfield countered with a run in the second inning on a walk to George Dar-

abln — the game's losing pitcher — a fielder's choice ground out and single by John Lobbia.

"We almost did it," said North Farmington/West Bloomfield coach John King. "The (championship) game was a beautiful defensive struggle all the way."

"The game was highlighted by a spectacular catch of John Ferguson (for North Farmington/West Bloomfield) who went to the center field fence and robbed (Westland) of a hit."

NORTH FARMINGTON/ West Bloomfield ended the four-day tourna-

ment with a 4-2 overall record.

The team opened the tourney with an 11-3 victory over Battle Creek as Gary Schwedt picked up the win. Todd Shepson was the offensive star of the game with three hits, three stolen bases and four RBI.

NFWB then defeated Riverside 6-1 as Jeff Hoskov chipped in with three singles and two RBI.

In its third game, NFWB was handed its first loss by Westland, 7-5. Pitchers Doug Fitzner and Tom Glouxx combined for a three hitter, but were hurt by numerous fielding errors.

NFWB then rebounded for two straight victories, defeating Jackson, 11-4, and Sterling Heights, 7-1. Schwedt was the winning pitcher against Jackson and Jason Wolf had three hits against Sterling Heights.

The latter victory gave NFWB one last shot at Westland then resulted in the one-run loss.

NFWB finished its Sandy Koufax Travel League season with a 17-4 league record, second only to Westland. NFWB lost four times this season to the talented Westland team.

NFWB finished with a 24-8 overall.

## sport shorts

### McFROCK'S WIN

The rain-delayed 15th annual Farmington Hills Founders Festival Softball Tournament was won last weekend by McFrock's/New York Life managed by Bob Rinko. The team was undefeated in its six games.

In the final game of the winners bracket, McFrock's beat Bosco's 6-5 in an eight-inning thriller. Winning pitcher Jim Outlaw won his own game with a bases-loaded single in the last inning.

Bosco's lost in the losers bracket to Jamies.

McFrock's then outlasted Jamies 14-11 to win the tourney. Jim Holton, Dan McGrath and Jim Eathorne had homers for Jamies, while Jim Sharpe homered for the winners.

Jim Sheehan of McFrock's was the tournament's Most Valuable Player. He went 13 for 17 for a .765 batting average and banged out three homers and three RBIs.

The tournament all-star team: Bob Hart, McFrock's; Bill Roberts, Bosco's; Bob Johnson, Jamies; Pat Miracle, Jamies; Jim Sharpe,

McFrock's; Gerry Hammon, Bosco's; Jim Eathorne, Jamies; Dan McGrath, Jamies; Jay Fitzsimmons, McFrock's; and Bob Bertrand, McFrock's.

The tourney was sponsored by the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department.

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## Angels win Brighton tourney again

The Farmington Angels women's soccer team successfully defended its Tournament of Champions Region II title over the weekend in Brighton.

The Angels ran up a 2-1 halftime lead and went on to defeat city rival Farmington Furies, 5-1.

Sue Vodicka and Liz Suttle led the Angels' goal scoring with two each. Lisa Leonard added the other goal.

"The defense played an outstanding game but the beat was really up," said Angels coach John Magee.

The Angels compete in the Great Lakes Women's Soccer League where they own a 6-2-1 record. Their next league game is 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at Schoolcraft College against the Flip Howdies.

Magee said the Angels will play a tournament on Aug. 27-28 in Madison, Wis.

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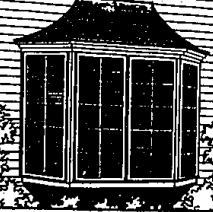
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