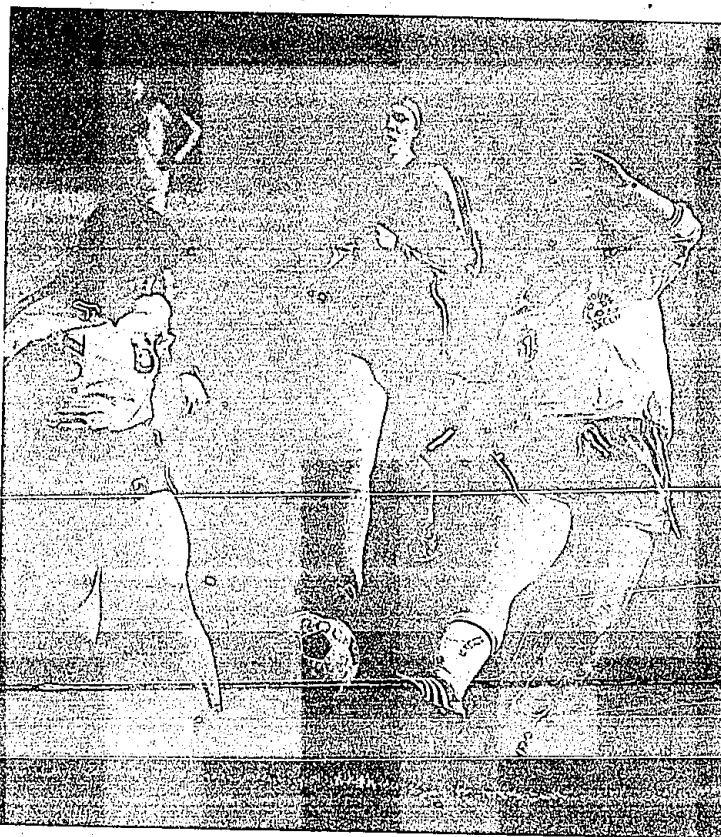




Salem kickers handle Raiders



North defender Joan Anzlovar (No. 8) tries to head off Plymouth Salem attacker Julia Tortora in Monday's 6-1 loss to the Rocks. The Raiders had a tough time containing Tortora who scored three goals. Stephanie Hockema (No. 20) is trailing the play.

Sophomore Julie Tortora, who scored 22 goals as a freshman, has picked up where she left off a year ago.

The talented forward scored three goals Monday leading the Plymouth Salem girls' soccer team to a 6-1 triumph against North Farmington in the Rocks' season opener.

"We beat ourselves, really," said first-year Raider coach Cathy Cole. "We let them get to the ball first and we had no defense. Two of our starting defensemen were injured."

Salem got production from its talented freshmen class. Pam Mayer and Kris Johnson scored goals, while Johnson and Kris Casler added assists.

Salem coach Ken Johnson also got production from his track refugees — Suzie Balconi and Fran Whitaker, who joined the soccer team this year after competing on the Salem track squad last year. Balconi registered a goal and an assist while Whitaker got an assist and played a strong game in the mid-field.

Ruthie Knoerl added two assists for the Rocks. Goalie Sara Wallman had a fairly easy time of it thanks to the fine work of mid-fielders Kathy Prochaska and Whitaker and defensemen Robin Brandt and Colleen O'Connor. Wallman made just five saves on the day.

"Our mid-fielders are very tall, both 5-foot-9, and very quick," Johnson said. "They got to the ball very fast and kept the ball in our attacking zone."

Heather McPhillips scored the lone Raider goal with just 30 seconds left in the game.

North (1-2) earned its first victory of the season last Friday, taking a 3-2 decision from Birmingham Seaboard.

The Raiders trailed 1-0 after a half, but two goals by Mary Burdett and Jodi Gerts lifted North to victory.

North got another strong performance from goalie Michelle Mackie.

"We had much better team cohesion," Cole said. "We got to the ball better and really controlled it."

Cole gave credit to mid-fielders Sandy Spahn, Mo O'Brien, and Jean Anzlovar for pushing them ahead to the forwards throughout the match.

"I'm real proud of these girls," Cole said of her team. "We've played two high caliber teams (Salem and Stevenson), and they didn't back down. I think toward the end of the season, we'll start giving some of these teams more of a battle."

North will host another high-caliber opponent Friday — Livonia Bentley.

FARMINGTON HARRISON played what may have been its best half of the season Monday against powerful Northville, but it couldn't prevent the Hawks second straight defeat.

The Hawks, led by the fine defensive efforts of junior Alicia Kay, trailed just 2-0 after a half. The Mustangs, however, came out flying in the second half with a seven-goal barrage to bury Harrison 9-0.

"They had 20-some people and we had one substitute," said Hawk coach Harry Swystun. "But, that wasn't the whole story. They're a good team. I think they just wore us down in that second half. The girls are playing hard and giving a real good effort. If they keep it up, we'll be alright."

Please turn to Page 2



C.J. Risak

Sports footnote: a lowdown look

SO WHADDYA have to say for yourself? I feel like a heel.

Ha, ha. Very funny. Guess I can't expect much better from a gym shoe.

Okay, how about, 'My sole runseth over'?

Another gem. What a quick tongue you have.

Tongue — I get it. That's a hot one.

I don't know what I'm doing, talking to my gym shoes. What insight can you possibly add into the world of sports?

I could reveal many things to you, Mr. Smarty Sportswriter. You keep printing the same old stuff, over and over: 'We'll play them one at a time,' or 'On any given day, any given team can beat another.' What's your suggestion?

I print what they say. What's your suggestion? I join the National Enquirer and interview the alligator destined to be Jackie O's next suitcase?

I'm saying you're listening to the wrong end. Don't tell me no one in this business has ever said to you, 'Keep your ear to the ground.' That guy knew what he was talking about. There's a lot to learn down here.

Right. A lot to learn, from a gym shoe no less. For instance?

I hear all sorts of good gossip. Down to earth kind of stuff. While you're busy jotting down whatever comes out of that mouth, I'm getting the real scoop from those more directly responsible for whatever happened.

How do you figure?

When was the last time a mouth won a ball game? All a mouth ever does is get a guy in trouble. It says either too much or the wrong thing, or says it at the wrong time. Now, if you want to get to the heart of the matter, talk to the foot. I mean, without it a guy wouldn't have a leg to stand on, right?

In a manner of speaking, I suppose that's correct.

Tell you what. I'll give you some quotes I've collected from some fairly well-known local shoes, and you guess whose shoes said what.

Kind of a 'Who's Who in Shoe Business'?

Okay, go ahead. I hope you get your kicks out of this.

"I don't know why he keeps yelling at us. Step out and take the challenge. Step out and play defense. Step up and shoot the jumper. Geez, we gotta do everything around here."

That must be someone on one of Fred Thomann's Plymouth Salem basketball teams. Listen to Fred long enough and you understand why his teams step all over most of their opponents.

Righto. That was an easy one. How about this: 'Switch places? That sounds good — maybe too good. Wait a minute!'

You got me on this one.

That's how Matt Lowery's shoes recalled that incident in the Bloomfield Hills Lakes-Brother Rice district basketball game. Matt Dingen's shoes tricked him into what officials ruled a double-lane violation, but Lowery's shoes still swear Dingen's feet did all the shuffling.

How'd you hear that? We weren't even at that game.

Hey, I got my sources. Some shoes aren't as tongue-tied as others. Shoes talk. Word gets around. Here's another: 'Personally, I prefer the sun and sand over those long midwestern winters. But wherever I can get off my jump shot is alright with me.'

Hmmmm. All I can think of is Carlos Briggs, Schoolcraft College's scoring sensation. Am I right?

Yep.

Wait a minute. Did Carlos' shoes say where he was going? Is it Iowa or San Diego State? Are Baylor and Central Michigan still in the picture?

I don't know. One shoe tells me one thing, the other tells me something else. You'll have to find that out for yourself. But here's another in the same vein as that one: 'My God. Those are four of the biggest feet I've ever seen. And there identical Man, could I operate with those on my team.'

Ha! You gave this one away. You have to be talking about those Lanier twins, that pair of seven-foot eighth-graders from Troy. I'll bet that was Nick Conti's shoes you were speaking to. The Laniers are rumored to be going to Rice next year.

Good guess, Sherlock. Last one, then: 'Oh, no. Not another God-in-us-in God-in-us-in God-in-us-in town. Man, I'm worn through. Doesn't this recruiting stuff ever end?'

Well, it isn't Lee Frederick, that's for sure. What about Tim Domke, the Orchard Lake St. Mary's coach? He's forever in the recruiting trail.

Actually, both Domke's and Oakland University coach Greg Kampe's shoes said about the same thing. Walt Studinger, the OU assistant, had shoes that told me that, too. Geez, those college basketball coaches' shoes get to go everywhere.

Do I detect a note of jealousy?

Maybe some. All I know is, we're pretty amused. We're overused in summer and unused in winter. And someone's always complaining about us. They always like us in the back of the closet, like we got bad breath or something.

That description may be overly kind.

Well anyway, it's not my fault. I'm just tired of getting stepped on all the time.

And I think you got a kick out of life. Watch it, buster, or I'll be off to Hollywood. They're planning a sequel to that movie, and there's more than one pair of shoes around here that's Footloose. So just keep your feet on the ground.

Thanks for the advice.

North, Falcons lose in openers, Hawks winners

Nobody said winning the Northwest Suburban League softball title would be easy, but North Farmington may have made the task a little tougher.

The Raiders lost its league-season opener Tuesday night to Westland John Glenn 15-4.

"Walks really got us into trouble," said coach Dennis Mikel. Glenn was the recipient of 18 walks.

After falling behind 4-0 in the first inning, the Raiders battled back to take a 5-4 lead after two. Glenn tied it in the third and put the game away with a grand slam home run off the bat of shortstop Carol Hall in the fifth.

"Glenn's pitcher did a nice job. She threw strikes and their defense made the plays behind her. And that bases-loaded homer really hurt," Mikel said.

Suzette Greenberg was the starting and losing pitcher for the Raiders, giving up nine hits and 18 walks while striking out six. Greenberg is now 1-1 on the year.

North banged out nine hits off Salem pitching. Dona Konjarevich led the way going 3-4 with a double and two RBIs. Mo Paradis went 2-4, while Amy Austin belted a two-run home run.

Kelly Watts and Sally Lang had two hits apiece for the Raiders.

Kathy Garrett was the winning pitcher.

"It's a tough one to lose, because it was a league home game," Mikel said. "You like to win those. We feel bad, but there's still a long way to go yet."

North opened the season Monday whipping Ferndale 18-6. Austin led the hit parade going 2-4 with two doubles and four RBIs. Tracy Toccalino, Patli Kozicki, and Allie Munnert each

softball

banged out two hits. Greenberg was the winning pitcher.

The Raiders have another NSL test tomorrow when they travel to Garden City.

FARMINGTON HARRISON won its season opener Monday night, but it wasn't something coach Mike Teachman will cherish forever.

"The game lasted two hours and 45 minutes and went only five innings," Teachman said.

The reason: 30 walks by the Southfield pitchers.

It was ugly alright, but the Hawks will take the 26-10 win over the Blue Jays just the same.

"All the walks totally ruined the continuity of the game," Teachman said. "But, despite that, our kids took charge. They played real well."

Michelle Vogl was the winning pitcher for the Hawks yielding seven hits, six walks and only three earned runs over five innings.

Vogl also reached base six times on two hits and four walks. Anne Hesano went 2-3 and Collette Cashin walked five times and scored six runs.

Harrison only had 23 official at-bats yet scored 20 runs — it was that kind of game.

Harrison will host Milford on Friday.

Please turn to Page 3

Why it makes good sense to take your Mercedes-Benz to an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer.

Your Mercedes-Benz is a meticulously engineered machine. And Mercedes-Benz invests much time, effort, and money in continuously training technicians at authorized Mercedes-Benz dealerships such as ours—to make certain they can meticulously maintain it.

Doesn't it make sense to capitalize on this investment, by having your Mercedes-Benz automobile serviced at our authorized Mercedes-Benz dealership?



ESTATE MOTORS, LTD.
464 SOUTH WOODWARD AVENUE • DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM

644-8400

AUTHORIZED SALES • SERVICE • PARTS
OPEN MONDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS UNTIL 9 P.M.