

Raiders End Long Climb To Share Title

As long as there's life, there's hope. . . and the North Farmington High baseball team certainly will vouch for that old proverb.

As recent as two weeks ago, the Raiders didn't appear to have much of a chance to catch John Glenn for the

Northwest Suburban League title. But, suddenly, Glenn slumped and North Farmington exploded. It was uphill all the way for the North Farmington team, but when the league season ended Thursday, there were—the Raiders co-champs

with Glenn, each with 7-1 league records. Glenn fluffed a chance to clinch the title outright last Monday and it was the same way on Wednesday when Oak Park thumped Glenn, 11-5.

SO, THE WHOLE LOSS was placed on North Farmington's

shoulders Thursday when the Raiders squared off with Thurston in a game postponed by rain of the day before.

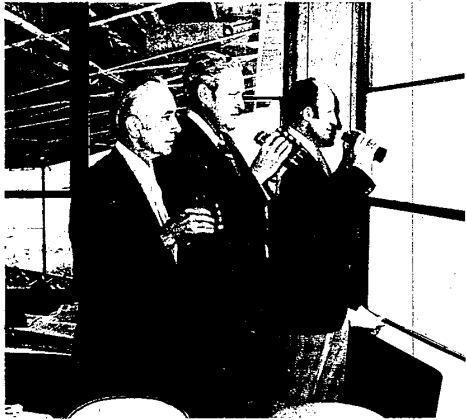
North Farmington had to beat Thurston in order to tie Glenn for the crown. . . and, by North Farmington did, 6-5, by cashing the deciding run in the seventh inning when Marty

Raymond doubled and Dave Nauman followed with a game-deciding three base walkoff.

John White, the Raiders' ace, emerged as the winning pitcher, working the final five innings. The loser was Thurston's Mark Miller.

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VISITING MAYOR Francis Hamilton, of Kalamazoo, had an afternoon at the races as one of the features of the Exchange Day program with the city of Livonia. Hamilton is shown with Council President Robert Nash (center) and Livonia Mayor Edward McNamara watching the horses come down the stretch.

East And Churchill Take Anders Openers

Garden City East and Livonia Churchill were the first winners in the Les Anders Invitational baseball tournament.

East rolled past Crestwood, 12-1, in a game called after five innings by the rule which prescribes if one team leads by at least seven runs after five innings, the game is to be stopped.

CHURCHILL went until the last of the seventh before rallying with two runs to down Wayne, 4-3, in a thriller.

In the seventh with Wayne ahead, 3-2, Churchill got going

when Bruce Van Wagener singled. After Mike Cron also singled, Steve Chlenko broke up the game with a two-run hit.

The blast enabled Chlenko to hike his RBI total for the game to four. Thus, he prescribes if one team leads by at least seven runs after five innings, the game is to be stopped.

In the third inning he had driven in Bob Phillips and Roy Hendrickson.

Wayne scored two runs in the first inning and another in the second of winning pitcher Phillips who fanned seven.

Jim Wisniewski with three hits led East which scored

eight runs in the fourth inning to sew up the game.

First round play is slated to end Saturday evening when Clarenceville plays Bentley at 6 p.m. and Stevenson engages Bishop Borgess at 8:30 p.m. at Ford Field in Livonia.

Churchill, by winning, advances to face Northville at 6 p.m. Monday at Ford Field. Play in the tourney then will resume Thursday with quarterfinal action.

The meet is being sponsored for the seventh year by the Livonia Optimist Club, the Livonia Recreation Department and the Observer Newspapers.

BUT THE SECOND night was even worse with less than 2,000 in the stands and only \$100,000 through the mutuel machines.

That should cause Michigan Racing Commissioner Leo Shirley to take another look at the effect of racing in Detroit on Windsor operations.

Remember last winter when the Commissioner was asked to continue the Jackson-at-Northville meeting through December and January to keep competition against Windsor?

Remember how he refused, closed down operations in Michigan from Dec. 1 to mid-February when the trotters and pacers raced at Northville Downs and found the 10-week blackout fatal to any hopes of a successful operation?

Perhaps it's about time the Commissioner takes a good, sound look at the situation and

Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

Perhaps it would have been just as well for Windsor Raceway officials if they hadn't reached an agreement with the mutuel clients' union and had canceled the thoroughbred racing meeting.

There was some indication a week ago that Windsor might cancel out. That was when officials were negotiating with the union and getting nowhere.

There also was a thought behind it all that it might be wise to duck out. There was a shortage of horses, fewer jockeys turned up than expected, there were the harassments that go with the opening of a brand new meeting and all of the last minute preparations that bring so many problems.

That's why the announcement that the meeting would be held caused quite a few eyebrows to go up.

But attendance and wagering for the two nights of the runners are anything but indicative of a successful meeting.

On opening night (Wednesday), there were only 4,490 in the stands and as it turned out, most were popcorn and peanut customers who sat and watch and never try to find their ways to the betting windows. The handle was less than \$200,000, which is anything but a roaring success.

THE LARGEST number of horses to enter the starting gate in recent years will go postward Saturday, when the Detroit Race Course presents the sixth running of the \$25,000-added Frontier Handicap at 1:15 miles for 3-year-olds and upward.

The nominations closed with 38 names and 15 decided to contest one another for the winner's share of the purse.

Highlighted is D.W. Myers' Port Digger and Clover "S" Farm's Bon Bon with 121 pounds. These two have to be considered a top

threat on past performances over a distance of ground.

Port Digger, winner of the Livonian Handicap, a six-furlong sprint was also declared the winner of the Good Neighbor "cap" through a disqualification. The Good Neighbor was run at a distance of one mile and 70 yards.

Another horse that has been improving steadily is D.A. MacDonald and R.T. Barnard's Dashing Dan who won the Frontier prep just last Saturday, edging Long Road and Jack Gum's French Steak in a grueling stretch battle.

WATCH FOR THESE horses at the DRC. . . they're all fit and ready. Jet Glitter, Princess Comet, Lucius O'Trigger, Errullah, Cherion Lark, Court Song, Foul Tip, Mr. Cedar, Port Digger and Bajon.

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Panthers Wind Up Second In Suburban Six Track

Although Redford Union swept unbeaten through dual meets in the Suburban Six League's track competition, the team had to settle for second place in the overall league meet held in the rain at Belleville.

Allen Park came up with 58 points to take top honors, followed by Redford Union with 62 points, Belleville 48, Trenton 39, Bentley 22 and Plymouth 17.

"It was just a case of Allen Park having more quality performers than us," said Coach John McKenzie of Redford Union.

Here's the way Redford Union, Plymouth and Bentley placed in the meet.

SHOT PUT: 2-Tullock (RU).
HIGH JUMP: 2-School (RU).
LONG JUMP: 1-Everitt (RU).
Distance: 21 feet, 8 inches.
POLE VAULT: 1-Blanchard (RU).
2-Watman (Ply). 3-Ward (Bent).
Height: 13 feet, 8 inches.
800-YARD RELAY: 2-Redford Union.
5-6-Plymouth.
800-YARD: 1-Munday (Bent). 4-Grover (RU). Time 2:00.

Plymouth Golfers Gain State Finals

Now it's on to the state finals for Plymouth High's golf team.

They'll be facing such area teams as Farmington and Birmingham Groves in the Class A state tournament at Fort Huron Monday, and the Rocks will be going as the newly crowned Suburban Six League champs.

Plymouth won the title at Sylvan Glen with a four-man team total of 324.

Trenton was second with 331, followed by Redford Union 337, Bentley 338, Allen Park 351 and Belleville 357.

BILL JOHNSON with a 78 peed Plymouth. He was the tourney's medalist, beating out teammate Bill Travers and also Jim Pastine and Jerry Davis, both of Redford Union, who came in with 79. Roy Gaddley had an 81 while Tim Quinn and Jim Sialaly each had 86 for Plymouth. Only the top four scores from

each team were used in determining the league winner.

Alex Pollin with an 86 and Pat Wikle with a 92 rounded out the Redford Union scoring while Tom Sheldon shot an 80 and Mark Zelazny an 87 to top Bentley.

Farmington and Plymouth won their ways to the state meet by qualifying at Glen Oaks a week ago. Groves qualified at Romeo and looms as a major threat for the crown.

GROVES MISSED out by a stroke, winning the "A" title last year when Saginaw MacArthur came through.

Farmington's Lady of Sorrows has qualified for the state Class C-D finals. Sorrows won the crown two years ago and was among the leaders last season. This will be Sorrows' last shot at state honors, since the school's senior high is closing down at the close of the current semester.

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