

# Farmington gets better of city rivals

A four-run fifth inning gave Farmington a 7-4 softball victory over host North Farmington and the city championship for public school teams Monday.

The Falcons swept their regular-season series with the Raiders and defeated Farmington Harrison in a Western Lakes Activities Association crossover game.

North (7-3) finished second in the WLLA Lakes Division, and Farmington (6-5) tied Plymouth Salem for third place.

Melissa Mytty pitched a four-hitter for the Falcons, striking out six and walked four in seven innings. Mickey Spitz allowed seven Farmington hits.

"When Melissa is on the mound, we're a much better team, because we can play people where they belong," Farmington coach Jerry Osborne said.

The Falcons (12-14) scored three runs in the third and led 7-2 after five innings. Danielle Lewis had two hits and two RBI. Heather Martin also had two hits, and Becky DePotter scored two runs.

Samantha McComb had two hits and one RBI for the Raiders. Diana Gustkey hit a two-run double in the sixth inning.

"Every hit went up in the air; the wind held it up," North coach Marissa Melchiorri said, referring to a strong wind. "But the bottom line is they played a better ball game than us."

**N. FARMINGTON 2, CLARKSTON 0:** Katie DeWitt scored the lone run on Randi Taub's single in the bottom of the second inning Monday.

DeWitt had walked and advanced on a pair of fielder's choices. The Raiders (20-7) had five hits, including a double by Christy King.

Mickey Spitz allowed four hits by Clarkston (22-11). Rachel Fuller was the losing pitcher.

Three double plays helped the Raiders overcome four errors. In the first inning, Kellee Fournier made a putout in center field and doubled a runner off first.

In the third, shortstop Samantha McComb caught a line drive and tagged a runner. The Wolves loaded the bases with two out in the fifth. Third baseman Jodi Siskind fielded a ground ball, stepped on the base and put the tag on a runner from second.

"We played one of our better ball games," Drubaker said. "Except for a few errors, we played a real heads-up game."

**CHURCHILL 1, HARRISON 0:** The visiting Chargers scored the only run in the top of the first inning Monday and made it stand for a Western Division victory.

The Hawks (7-3, 18-7) finished second in the division, two games behind Plymouth Canton; the Chargers (6-4, 13-10) were third.

Churchill scored its runs with the help of two wind-blown singles. Ann Senne lined a pitch over second base and went to second on a groundout; she scored on Sarah Sillis' single to the outfield.

The Chargers had just one other hit off All Aull, who recorded 12 strikeouts and walked just one.

Churchill sophomore Tara Muchow allowed five hits as a replacement for Adrienne Doyle, who arrived late for the game because she was taking a test.

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"She kept them in the ball game, and a lot of them were not easy catches to make," Laffey said.

"When they brought her in to pitch, I thought 'Oh, great.' Then the other kid (Lauren Monterey) makes a great catch (to end the seventh)."

"Terri probably played the game of her life," Falvo said. "All I can say is Terri came up big as a player."

Schroeder retired the Sadleirites in order in the eighth, but Amy Shubnell started the

Regina ninth with a single and scored the winning run on Marissa Melchiorri's one-out triple.

In a controversial play that ended the seventh inning, Mercy (20-9) had the potential winning run thrown out at home plate.

With runners at first and second with two out, Falvo sent Schroeder home in attempt to win the game on Monterey's outfield single.

Falvo, who argued the call vehemently but to no avail, said replays later showed Schroeder

was safe.

"My catcher said the girl didn't get there," Laffey said. "She said (Schroeder) hit her arm; she never got to the plate."

Regina pitcher Kristin Bultinek (13-1) went the distance, striking out 21 while walking only two, but wasn't overpowering as the Marlins recorded eight hits. Two of Regina's three errors proved costly, too.

Mercy scored twice in the fourth with three hits on an error. Erin Carson hit a leadoff single and took third when the

Regina second baseman, who was covering first on Kelly Moug's grounder, dropped the ball. A passed ball scored Carson, and Monterey singled home Moug.

The Marlins made it 3-0 in the fifth when Schroeder walked, advanced on an error, was sacrificed to third and scored on Moug's suicide-squeeze bunt.

Mercy's Carson, Monterey and Paige Even had two hits each. Moeller allowed nine of Regina's 11 hits, struck out five and walked none in 5 1/2 innings.

## Baseball from page C1

Austin and Chris Ghannam had the only Harrison hits.

Burton recorded eight strikeouts, allowed six of North's eight hits, walked three and hit one batter in 6 1/2 innings.

In winning the WLLA championship, the Raiders accomplished what many thought they might have last year when they failed to win the Lakes Division.

"Our goal was to win the conference and improve upon last season," Taylor said. "With seven or eight seniors, everyone has a year to a year and a half of experience under his belt and it's starting to pay off."

"We're at a high point now and we hope to continue in the tour-

namment. We're getting hits when we need them and playing good defense."

The regular season also prepared the Raiders well for a tight championship game in which one run made the difference again.

"We haven't been putting teams away, but it taught us a lot," Trzos said. "We don't get nervous when we're down. I'd prefer to be putting teams away by ripping the ball. But close games — that's when you learn to come together and produce runs at the end."

**N. FARMINGTON 14, FARMINGTON 8:** The Raiders smashed four home runs en route to the victory over host Farming-

ton Monday.

Tom Ouellette, Bryan Glazer, Gerry Penta and Jason Melvin went deep for the Raiders, who finished first (9-1) in the WLLA Lakes Division.

The Raiders trailed 8-7 heading into the top of the fifth inning. Nord tied it with a single run in that frame and scored three runs in both the seventh and eighth innings.

Melvin got the win in relief of starter Matt Keimigian. He pitched three shutout innings, allowing just one hit.

Bremen Conley started for Farmington and worked into the fifth. Derek Fox pitched the rest of the way and took the loss.

Ouellette and Glazer paced the Raiders with three hits each. Glazer and Penta had three RBI each. Ouellette and Keimigian (2-for-3) two pieces.

For the Falcons, Fox had an awesome day with four hits, including a double, and three RBI. Charlie Avery added two hits and two RBI; Dave Viane had a hit and two RBI.

**HARRISON 6, W.L. CENTRAL 7:** The Hawks scored four times in the top of the seventh inning Monday to overcome a 7-4 deficit and win the non-league contest.

Junior Joe Ghannam was the winning pitcher in relief of senior starter Matt Deocher. Ghannam pitched the last 3 1/2 innings, holding Central to one hit and one run.

Andy Gutierrez and Mike Fisher had two hits and scored two runs apiece. Gutierrez also had two RBI; his single in the seventh scored Dave Peaci with the tying run, and he later scored the winning run on a wild pitch.

Stawn Morrison hit a two-run homer for the Vikings, who led 6-1.

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