

Chiefs take 2 from Hawks

Plymouth Canton won a softball doubleheader Thursday from Farmington Harrison to force a tie for the division championship.

Both teams finished 7-3 in the Western Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

The Chiefs won the first game in 10 innings, 3-1, and the nightcap in a regulation sweep, 4-2.

By virtue of its doubleheader sweep, Canton won the tiebreaker with Harrison and advanced to the WLAA championship game Friday.

The Chiefs scored two runs on wild pitches in the 10th inning of the opener. Kolly Taylor scored the Harrison run with two outs in the sixth as a result of two errors.

Canton pitcher Laura Stewart struck out 11 and walked two; Harrison's Lindsay Emmett fanned five and walked four.

The Chiefs had a 5-3 hits advantage. Canton's Jenna Perino had two hits and took a double away from Taylor with a diving catch in the outfield.

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Three times Stewart struck batters out for the third out, and each time they reached base twice on wild pitches and a third on a passed ball.

Which led to an odd statistic: Stewart, who totaled 13 strikeouts for the game, had four in that inning.

Russell produced the second run on her own, stealing third base and, when catcher Danielle Weber, subbing for starter Jonelle Brown, who left after four innings due to illness, threw the ball into left field, Russell scored.

Two strikeouts that reached on wild pitches were sandwiched around a Samantha McComb single, loading the bases for North. A passed ball and two more wild pitches scored runs, making it 5-0.

Which was more than enough of a cushion for North ace Beth Danielewicz.

"I can't say enough about her," Brubaker said. "She does it for us with her pitching and her hitting. Give me one run with her on the mound, and I feel pretty good about it."

Her pitching was more than enough in this contest. Danielewicz, a freshman, surrendered just one hit — a one-out single by Joann Perino in the sixth, who was later caught stealing at third. Danielewicz struck out five and walked one.

Stewart took the loss for Canton, going six innings and giving up seven runs (three earned) on five hits and two walks.

"We hit the ball," Arnold said. "We just didn't hit it with any authority."

After the fourth, the Raiders were hitting the ball hard, too, and with authority. They totaled seven hits in the game.

They added two runs in the sixth and two more in the seventh.

Lindsay Taub's groundout scored one run, and McComb's single brought home another in the sixth. In the seventh, Reinhardt singled in Danielewicz, who started the inning with a double, and a second run scored on Russell's grounder to short.

Reinhardt, Russell and McComb collected two hits apiece to pace the Raiders.

"(Stewart) struck out 17 of us the first time," Brubaker said, referring to North's 10-inning win over Canton in the regular season. "This time, they laid off that high pitch."

"The girls put the pressure on and kept coming."

And in so doing, they secured a league championship for North Farmington.

The Hawks, who played a scrimmage game Friday with Farmington, are 18-8-1 overall.

N. FARMINGTON 2, HARRISON 3. The Raiders failed to pull out a WLAA crossover victory in nine innings Wednesday.

Samantha McComb was on base five times and scored both runs for North. In the ninth, she walked, stole second and scored on Jasmine King's double.

Jonelle Walling scored the Harrison run on Lindsay Emmett's sacrifice fly.

North pitcher Beth Danielewicz allowed five hits and struck out five. Kristin Schrock gave up four hits and struck out five.

Schrock pitched well enough to win, coach Mike Teachman said. "We were ahead 1-0 going into the seventh and should've had it."

W.L. WESTERN 6, N. FARMINGTON 2. Laura Bell pitched a two-hitter for Walked Lake Western in a five-inning makeup game Thursday. She walked six, hit two and struck out two.

Christie Hendrickson scored the North run on a bases-loaded walk to Beth Danielewicz.

Christina Colombo was the losing pitcher, allowing nine hits and one walk.

WLAA TOURNEY

WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION BOYS TENNIS TOURNAMENT
May 24 at Livonia Stevenson
Team standings: 1. North Farmington, 27 points; 2. Northville, 21; 3. Farmington Harrison, 12; 4. Walked Lake Western, 11; 5. Livonia Stevenson, 9; 6. (tie) Farmington and Livonia Stevenson, 8; 7. Plymouth Salem, 7; 8. Walked Lake Western, 3; 10. Livonia Franklin, 2; 11. Westland John Glenn, 1; 12. Plymouth Canton, 0.

FINAL WLAA STANDINGS (Including dual meets)
1. North Farmington; 2. Northville; 3. Farmington Harrison; 4. W.L. Central; 5. Crutcher; 6. Salem; 7. Stevenson; 8. Farmington; 9. W.L. Western; 10. Franklin; 11. Canton; 12. John Glenn.

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS
No. 1: North Farmington (NF) def. (FH) def. Walked Lake Western (WL), 6-2, 6-1; semifinal: Shade def. Jerry Murray (LC), 6-1, 6-1; Crosby def. Chris Erickson (NF), 6-3, 7-6 (7-0).

No. 2: Jay Berman (NF) def. Mark Thomson (NF), 6-1, 6-3; semifinal: Berman def. Tim Muffler (FH), 6-4, 6-0; Thomson def. Chris Hill (FH), 6-2, 6-0.

No. 3: Dan Drake (N) def. Chris Copeland (NF), 6-3, 6-4; semifinal: Drake def. Brian Gray (WLC), 6-2, 6-1; Copeland def. Robert Simlow (LC), 6-3, 6-4.

No. 4: Kyle Dehne (N) def. Steve Jaffe (NF), 6-1, 6-4; semifinal: Dehne def. Dan Turkovich (FH), 6-1, 6-4; Jaffe def. Adam Brown (WLC), 6-0, 6-4.

No. 5: double: Brady Dwyer-Geoff Strait (NF) def. Scott Eller-Brendan Green (N), 6-2, 7-6; semifinal: Dwyer-Strait def. Jason Maringer-Todd Schmalquist (PS), 6-1, 5-7, 6-3; Eller-Green def. Mike Kuhn-Tom Wallis (LC), 6-2, 7-5.

No. 6: Josh Wool-Andy Golaszewski (NF) def. Nathan Gudritz Kyle Wargo (N), 6-1, 6-1; semifinal: Wool-Golaszewski def. Zach Tobias-Chris Singleton (LC), 6-0, 6-3; Gudritz-Wargo def. Eric Lammer-Mike Horcock (LS), 6-1, 6-0.

No. 7: Rob Frankel-Greg Boothroyd (NF) def. Brian Aman-Divan Wilson (N), 7-5, 6-1; semifinal: Frankel-Boothroyd def. Rob Taylor-Matt Pelletier (FH), 6-2, 6-1; Aman-Wilson def. Steve Lashovsk-Mike Caran (WLC), 5-6, 6-4, 6-3.

No. 8: Mike Levy-Dan Carlson (NF) def. Jon Neal-Mark Coates (PS), 6-6, 6-3, 6-3; semifinal: Levy-Carlson def. Dave Riley-Pat Henzie (WLC), 6-4, 6-1; Neal-Coates def. Aaron Muncey-Rajit Paricha (FH), 6-2, 6-0.

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previous week, 3-6, 6-4, 1-6. "They beat them in straight sets and played a very strong match," Shenton said. "They made sure they played together and stayed focused the entire match."

"As long as they work together and utilize each other's skills, they could do very well in the state tournament."

North's No. 4 doubles team of senior Mike Levy and freshman Dan Carlson dropped the first set in the finals to Plymouth Salem, 6-4, but rallied to win the next two by 6-3 scores.

"They got settled down and started to play their game," Shenton said. "They were paired together late in the season and have played very well together."

"The neat thing about this is both are freshmen which can wreak a little havoc for opponents."

Berman swept through the No. 2 singles competition in straight sets. He surrendered just nine points in three matches and beat Thomson in the finals, 6-1, 6-3.

Since losing a match in a dual with Saline in late April, Berman has won 16 consecutive matches and owns a 19-1 overall record.

"He's been on fire ever since," Shenton said. "He definitely has the potential to do some damage at the state tournament. His tennis game right now is very tough."

North juniors Chris Copeland and Steve Jaffe were WLAA runners-up at Nos. 3 and 4 singles, respectively. Both lost in two sets to Northville players.

"It seems when Chris plays the kid from Northville, (Dan Drake) has his number this year," Shenton said. "That's not a bad loss, because the Northville kid has only lost one time all year."

Jaffe had beaten Northville's Kyle Dehne in two earlier matches, but Dehne managed to snap Jaffe's 16-match winning streak.

"Steve is another one who was left out of the seeds for the state tournament, but he can prove he should be there," Shenton said.

North senior Chris Erickson reached the semifinals at No. 1 singles but lost a close, two-set match to Livonia Stevenson's

Brady Crosby. "He ran into a very good upstart freshman," Shenton said, "but I know Chris is looking to do some big things for us at the state tournament. He's been an outstanding senior leader for us."

STATE TOURNAMENT: The Raiders, who are ranked No. 5 in Division 2, have one more competition, and that will be the state tournament June 2-3 in East Lansing.

North's No. 1 doubles team of Brady Dwyer and Geoff Strait (21-1) and the No. 2 tandem of Josh Wool and Andy Golaszewski (25-1) have received No. 3 seeds. Rob Frankel and Greg Boothroyd are seeded No. 4 at third doubles.

Coch Mark Shenton was disappointed Jay Berman (19-1) and Steve Jaffe (19-1) were "somewhat left off the list" and not seeded at Nos. 3 and 4 singles, respectively.

Sometimes I don't understand what's being done when the draw is made," Shenton said. "The bottom line is, no matter whether we're seeded or not, we have to go up there and do our job and beat our opponents. If you're not seeded, you have to prove you should have been."

North's Chris Erickson is 15-7 and Chris Copeland 14-8 in singles competition, and the No. 4 doubles team of Mike Levy and Dan Carlson is 11-0.

The Raiders were runners-up in last year's state meet behind Okemos.

"This team has a lot of potential to do extremely well in the state tournament," Shenton said.

"I think, with people winning matches they're supposed to win and raising their games to beat some other opponents who are ranked a little higher, we could be in contention for top five and maybe top two."

In the latest statewide rankings, the Nos. 1-4 teams are Okemos, Bloomfield Hills Lancers, Forest Hills Northern and Portage Central.

STATE FINALS

BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK
Saturday, June 3: Division I, Rockford; Division II, Grandville; Division III, Comstock Park; Division IV, Grand Rapids; Forest Hills Northern.

BOYS TENNIS
Friday and Saturday, June 3-4: Division I, Midland Community Tennis Center; Division II, Michigan State University, East Lansing; Division III, Hope College, Holland; Division IV, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo.

GIRLS GOLF
Friday and Saturday, June 3-4: Division I, Forest Akers East, Michigan State University; Division II, Forest Akers West, MSU; Division III, Forest Akers East, MSU.

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