

Sports

PREPS • RECREATION • OUTDOORS



Fight aging
Botox is the hot new trend for those who want to turn back the clock. Health, C7

Sidelines

Helping Hand gives Falcons 1st league title since 1996

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

BASEBALL

Mike Hand pitched a complete game Wednesday and North Farmington defeated host Waterford Mott, 4-3, to win the Oakland Activities Association Division II baseball championship.

The North victory coupled with Farmington's loss to Birmingham Groves gave the Raiders sole claim to first place

in the division by a one game margin. It's the first title for the Raiders since 1996, when they won the Lakes Division and Western Lakes Activities Association championships.

North finished 9-3 in the OAA Division II and was 17-8 heading into a four-team tournament Saturday in

Ypsilanti. The Raiders scored a run in the top of the fifth inning to take a 3-2 lead and got the winning run in the seventh. The Corsairs added a run in the bottom of the last inning.

Hand pitched a three-hitter, striking out seven and refusing to issue a walk. He boosted his record to 6-3.

North's Chris Clark (double, triple) and Bryan Smith had two hits and two RBI apiece; Scott Hegstrom hit a dou-

ble, walked twice and scored two runs. "Hand pitched a whale of a ballgame," North coach Jim Ferguson said. "The kids were just elated. Everybody played well. They were really happy. It was a pretty nice bus ride home."

"When we lost to Farmington, (the Raiders) were in the dumper. They had to fight back and win all the rest of these

PLEASE SEE FALCONS, C2



Farmington's Erica Rose (19) wheels up field during Thursday's game against Redford Union. Amelia Richardson (11) and Jessica Petliches (24) give chase. The Falcons breezed to a mercy-shortened 10-0 victory over the Panthers.

Falcons take city title

With districts approaching this week, there is hardware out there for teams to win. But the Farmington Falcons clinched an unofficial, but still noteworthy, title Friday night.

The Falcons, thanks to their 4-0 win over Harrison, won the city's public school championship. The

PREP SOCCER

team defeated North Farmington 5-0 earlier this season to earn city bragging rights for a year.

Joyce Rose scored the first and third goals of the game, while Lindsey Evans notched the second and fourth to account for all the offense in the game.

Kay Kelly recorded three saves in goal for the victorious Falcons.

Coach Steve Montgomery gave credit to the team's defensive unit for its solid play all season.

"Malory McGee, Katie Johnson,

PLEASE SEE SOCCER, C2

Shamrocks hang shutout on Blue Devils

Jeff Schulz hurled a three-hitter and his teammates had some timely hitting on Wednesday as Catholic Central blanked host Grosse Pointe South, 4-0.

"Jeff probably pitched his best game of the year," said CC coach John Salter. "His control was excellent and a couple of times he got in trouble, but got out of it. It gave us a lift, because we just came off our worst game of the year against Ann Arbor Pioneer."

Schulz (6-2) walked one and struck out seven in the contest, while South's Jeff Mackinnon held CC to five hits with three walks and five strikeouts.

Nate Rzeppa helped CC (19-6)

BASEBALL

with a single, double and three RBI. Derek Brooks was 2-for-3 with a double, scored twice and stole two bases. Jason Gingell had a sacrifice fly for one RBI and Alex Wejick doubled. Nick Andrew led South (20-12) by going 2-for-3.

Rice upset by Falcons

Birmingham Brother Rice hadn't lost to a team from the state of Michigan this season. But in its biggest game of the season on the biggest stage, the Warriors stumbled.

Rice dropped a 1-0 decision to Dearborn Divine Child Thursday afternoon at Comerica Park in the Catholic League A-B Championship Game. The Falcons improved to 23-6 on the season,

PLEASE SEE BASEBALL, C5

Area schools finish strong in league track meets

A pair of girls track teams at Farmington schools wrapped up successful rookie seasons in the Oakland Activities Association in their league meets Tuesday.

Farmington won the OAA Division III meet, although details and event winners weren't made available before weekend deadlines.

North Farmington, who went 6-1 in dual meets, took second in the OAA II meet at Birmingham Groves, behind league champ Southfield.

The Division II meet was highlighted first by Southfield's dominance — the Blue Jays scored nearly 100 more points than the Raiders in the meet — but also by five teams being separated by just

three points, with North coming out on top of that group.

Southfield was first with 147 points, followed by North's 67. Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm and Waterford Mott each scored 55, while Auburn Hills Avondale was fifth with 54

PLEASE SEE TRACK, C3

Farmington enjoys rare softball sweep

Farmington High hasn't had a lot of success during the 2003 softball season; however, Wednesday was a special day for the Falcons.

They had double the reason to celebrate after sweeping an Oakland Activities Association doubleheader from visiting Royal Oak Kimball, 5-3 and 9-4.

Farmington has five wins overall and improved its Division II record to 3-13. "We played really well as a team,"

SOFTBALL

Falcons coach Michaelene Ruhl said. "It's finally kicking in, all their hard work. They're playing some good ball right now, and it's good timing since the district is a week away. I knew they had it in them."

Karen Turkovich pitched all but the last inning of the nightcap and was the winner in both games.

She allowed 10 hits in each game and a total of seven walks, but she had plenty of offensive support from her teammates, who produced 19 hits on the day.

PLEASE SEE SOFTBALL, C4



Harrison infielder Beth Leeb (24) tags Rochester's Maria Evans (1) on a squeeze play at first base in OAA action Wednesday. Rochester edged the Hawks in both ends of the doubleheader, 3-2 and 3-1.

DETROIT Tigers

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