

# In varsity baseball Groves slugs Eisenhower

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By ROBERT A. SKLAR  
Buoyed by scrappy Gregg Iffinger, Birmingham Groves has become an imposing power to be reckoned with in the Metro Suburban Association (MSA) varsity baseball loop.  
Coach Dave Gottschalk's surging Falcons underlined that Wednesday when they visited Utica Eisenhower and emerged triumphant, 6-2.  
A junior southpaw, Iffinger scattered six hits while whiffing six and walking three. He now fashions a season mark of 4-0.  
What's more, Iffinger has saddled Eisenhower with its only two defeats in 12 starts this spring.

**POWERING GROVES'** punch at the plate against Eisenhower were Bob Fregotte and Don Henderson.  
A junior, Fregotte drove across a couple of runs on a double and a single plus stole a base. A senior, Henderson drilled in a two-run double.  
In supportive parts with the bat for the Falcons, sophomore Dean Turner doubled and singled, while Iffinger lashed a pair of one-baggers. Altogether, Groves sprayed 12 hits.  
The triumph brought Groves' records this spring to 6-2 overall and to 4-1 in MSA play.

ON SATURDAY, the Falcons visited Farmington Harrison for a non-league twinbill. A resumption of MSA play follows.  
On Monday, the Falcons will host Southfield-Lathrup. On Wednesday, they will host Bloomfield Hills Lahser. Game time each day is 4 p.m.

Groves Eisenhower 1 022 400 8-3 000 020 0-2

### CRANBROOK

Jay Purcell's magic on the mound Wednesday brought still more good times to Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Varsity Baseball Coach Dominic Morinelli.

A senior southpaw, Purcell tossed a two-hitter while whiffing 12 and walking one to propel the hosting Cranes past Auburn Heights Avondale in a nonleague, 3-0.  
That shiny showing by Purcell marked his sixth victory in a row without a defeat and fourth shutout this spring.

Cranbrook broke a scoreless deadlock in the third inning when junior Bill Conn doubled home a run.

The Cranes completed their scoring in the next inning on successive singles by senior Marc Ruben, junior Art Ferrell and senior Jim Kopke.  
Conn and Ferrell each finished with two hits; their other safeties were one-baggers.

By winning, Cranbrook pushed its overall record this spring to 1-1. In the Interstate Preparatory League race, the Cranes remain 2-0.

At 4 p.m. Tuesday, Cranbrook will try to further enhance its fortunes against visiting Detroit Country Day. Cranbrook 001 200 3-3 Avondale 000 000 0-0

### ANDOVER

Caught in a tailspin, Bloomfield Hills Andover bowed to Waterford Kettering Thursday in Wayne-Oakland League (WOL) varsity baseball action.

After the first inning, the score was knotted, 3-3. But then the skies darkened quickly for Coach Hal Henderson's hosting Barons.

During the second inning, Kettering outplayed ahead to stay, 7-3.

Starlet Jeff Pierce suffered the setback. A senior southpaw, he was touched for four hits while fanning two and walking four in one inning of work.

**RELIEVER RANDY** Turner didn't fare any better. A junior righthander, he allowed eight hits while striking out one.

Andover experienced a cold spell offensively, managing just four singles. The loss plummeted Andover's overall record this spring to 2-6. It also leveled Andover's WOL record, this spring at 1-1.

On Monday, the Barons will get an

opportunity to raise their WOL hopes when they visit West Bloomfield. On Wednesday, they will host Troy in a nonleague.  
Game time each day is 4 p.m.

Kettering 341 000 8-10 Andover 300 000 0-3

### LAHSER

Disappointment in Metro Suburban Association (MSA) varsity baseball competition struck Bloomfield Hills Lahser twice last week.

On Friday, Coach Bob Veatch's visiting Knights were outgunned by Rochester Adams, 14-10.

Mike Devlin took the defeat. A senior righthander, he surrendered 11 hits while fanning six and walking five.

Devlin did punctuate his hitting prowess, however. He tripled and singled to knock home four runs.

ALSO DISPLAYING their proficiency at the plate for Lahser were Jodi Muir and Tom Deery.

A senior, Muir poked a pair of singles to bring in two runs. A junior, Deery tripled and singled to send in one run.

Collectively, the Knights notched eight hits.  
Last Wednesday, Lahser was nipped by Royal Oak Dondoro, 4-3.

**JEFF KNUDSON** went the distance on the mound for the hosting Knights. He yielded eight hits while getting five opponents on strikes and issuing two free passes.

Senior Scott Palmer doubled and singled to pace Lahser's nine-hit offensive attack.

The week's results dipped Lahser's records this spring to 3-6 overall and to 1-4 in MSA encounters.

On Saturday, the Knights visited Troy for a nonleague twin-bill.

ON MONDAY, the Knights will try to improve their MSA bid when they host Utica Eisenhower.

On Tuesday, they will host Clawson in a nonleague. On Wednesday, they will host Birmingham Groves in another MSA encounter.

Game time each day is 4 p.m.

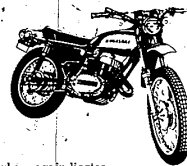
Adams 531 050 8-14 Lahser 233 200 0-10

Dondoro 011 150 0-4 Lahser 000 002 1-3

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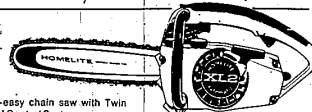


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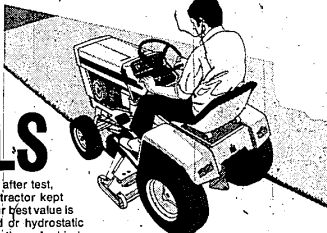
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