



Lathrup's Jeff Watkins takes a tumble in a weedy outfield during a recent game

# Jays make district

By TOM BAER  
Southfield High's baseball district will have an unusual participant this season—Southfield High.

Southfield has hosted a Class A district for the past four years, but the Blue Jays have always been spectators because they lost the pre-district games. This spring, however, things will be different. The Jays, under first-year coach Greg Sliwka, defeated Farmington High, 5-2, in pre-district play May 25 and earned a shot at Livonia Bentley in the district on Saturday afternoon.

Southfield jumped on Farmington pitcher Don Hunt for three runs in the first inning after the game was delayed 45 minutes because the umpires were late. Ron Dunkel walked and was tripped home by Don Fisher. Fisher was erased on a fielder's choice, but Buck Kelmegian made first. Chris Myrnik then walked and both runners scored on Steve Loewy's double.

Farmington scored twice in the second inning. Bob Holton's triple knocked in Ken DiRocco. Holton scored on an infield single by Steve Kojins.

The winners added two more runs in the sixth when Fisher bled and scored on Kelmegian's home run over the left field fence. Southfield collected seven hits, four going for extra bases.

"We hit them pretty good," Sliwka said. "They had fastball pitchers—not much junk." Winning pitcher Rocky Davis gave up four hits, striking out one and walking three. The senior

righthander, who will probably start against Bentley, has a 5-3 pitching record this season.

In a Pontiac Invitational Tournament game last weekend, Cranbrook defeated Southfield, 5-4, despite a sharp pitching performance by Dunkel, who allowed just four hits and struck out seven.

"It was a mental letdown, I think," Sliwka said. "Everybody went to sleep. We had two walks and two throwing errors in one inning."

Southfield finished the regular season 41-4, good for second place in the Southeastern Michigan Association. Sliwka, 27, has been given much of the credit for the Blue Jays' baseball resurgence. "I think I can relate to the kids," he said. "They don't get too discouraged around me. But it's basically hard work. We worked hard for it, but I think we could have worked harder and done better."

Troy-Lathrup pitched ace Ron Silberstein for 12 hits and dumped the Chargers, 7-0, last Saturday in a pre-district game. Troy pitcher Dave Jones allowed just one hit, while fanning 10 and walking one.

"They put on a hitting display like I've never seen before," said Lathrup coach Don Shonta. "That's the best hitting team I've ever seen in high school ball."

Troy, which finished second behind Romeo in the Oakland A League, scored three runs in the first inning on three hits and two Lathrup errors. Phil Yockey had the key hit, a two-run single. Lance Dunn helped the winners

with three hits. Paul Quesada had two hit including a home run.

Lathrup's lone hit was a single by shortstop Artie Mexigan. The Chargers, now 7-9 overall, play city foe Southfield High this week.

## O.U. women win match

Oakland University's women's tennis team won its second spring match without a loss Monday, beating Grand Valley, 5-4.

Grand Valley took the first two singles matches, with Laurie Anderson beating Jenny Folkerts, 6-3, 7-5, and Lisa Van Ranst topping Kathy Schindler, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3.

O.U. won the next three. Kathy Stuk defeated Chris Law on straight 6-1 sets. Mary Lou Hayner stopped Martha Langdon, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1, and Nancy Gumtow defeated Barb Maass, 6-5, 6-2, 6-2.

Grand Valley's Colleen Mullane defeated Irene Ackerman, 6-3, 7-6. Grand Valley also won the first doubles match, as Anderson and Van Ranst defeated Schindler and Stuk, 7-5, 7-5.

Then Oakland's Folkerts and Gumtow defeated Law and Langdon, 6-4, 7-6, and Hayner and Halsey beat Maass and Mullane, 6-1, 6-2, for the match win.

The Pioneer women were also 6-4 in fall matches, for an overall 8-4 record.

## Bentley's No. 1 in ILL tennis

Farmington High's Miles Bentley finally proved that he is the best tennis player in the Inter-Lakes League last Wednesday by winning the No. 1 singles championship at the league meet.

He defeated Tom Beekley of Pontiac Northern, 7-5, 6-1. Farmington's doubles team of Dave Zalski and Mark Bray came in second, losing in the finals to Pat Daley and John Webberlin, 6-1, 2-6, 5-7. The Falcons finished second overall in the meet.

"We should have won it," said Farmington coach Hal Beardsley. "We still have a chance for second place in the league if we win the rest of our matches."

## O&E Relays on Monday

The rain-delayed seventh The Observer & Eccentric Relays, originally set for May 11, have been rescheduled for Monday at Southfield-Lathrup High School.

The Relays annually bring together many of Oakland County's premiere prep track powers.

This year's 10-team field for the Relays includes Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm, Birmingham Brother Rice and Bloomfield Hills Andover.

Other entries are Bloomfield Hills Lahser, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, West Bloomfield, Troy, Southfield and Southfield-Lathrup.

DETROIT COUNTRY Day has withdrawn its entry because it will be in the midst of semester-ending final examinations next week.

Pole vault competition will get underway at 4 p.m.; remaining field events will begin at 5 p.m. Running events will start at 7 p.m.

DEFENDING RELAYS champion is Groves; defending Relays runner-up is Southfield.

Tickets for the Relays will be sold at the gate. They will cost \$1.25 for adults and 7 cents for students.

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