

Cass City girls undefeated in league

Hawks, Broncos headed for title showdown

It looks as if the Thumb B Association softball championship will be decided when Coach Dave Hoard's girls face North Branch May 21. The high flying Hawks are undefeated in 8 conference games and the Broncos have one defeat.

Standing between the Hawks and that big game are two league clashes. The Hawks were to have played at Bad Axe Tuesday and Lakers Thursday. The Hawks kept their conference record unblemished during the week with twin

bill victories over Marlette and Vassar. The Hawks posted a 13-2 pasting of the Raiders in the first game behind the six-hit pitching of Shirley Fleming. It was only a game for one inning. The Hawks and the Raiders traded runs in the

initial frame, but the Hawks salted the game away in the second. The girls combed Janet Gleason for 7 hits good for 10 runs as 15 players went to the plate. After that it was mop up time in the five-innings game.

Leading the attack were Padgett Randall, Nancy Tonti and Beth Sieradzki, with three hits each. Marlette fought to the wire before losing the second game, 11-7. Both teams had on their hitting togs as the Hawks rapped out 13 hits and the Raiders countered with 11 off Tammie Root and Fleming, in relief.

Cass City jumped out to an early 6-1 lead in the first five innings only to have Marlette rally in the bottom of the fifth for five big markers to tie the game. Threatened, Cass City came back with four runs in the sixth inning to win it. Libby Hartel cracked three hits in as many tries.

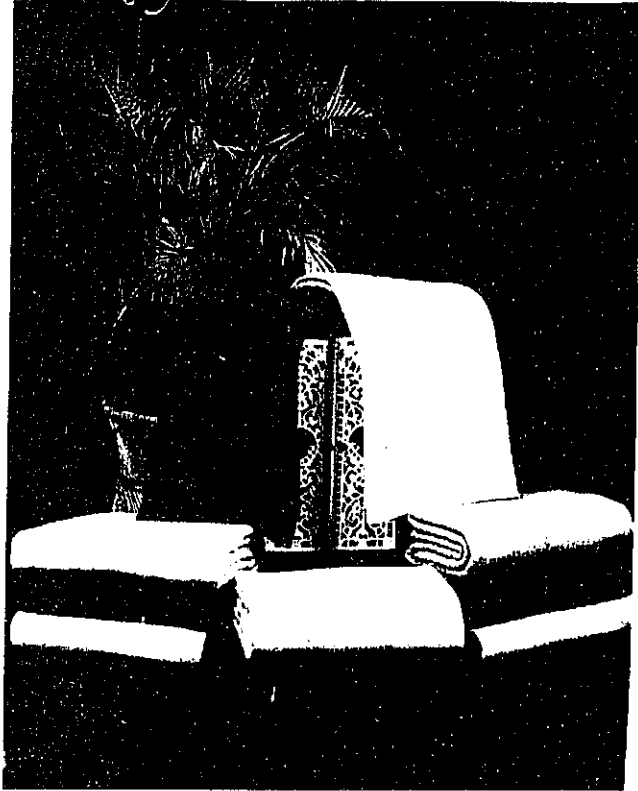
Cass City topped Vassar in the first of two games Thursday, 10-7. It looked as if it were going to be another laughing for the Hawks when the game started. The Hawks turned six hits into six runs in the first inning. But Vassar got tough after that to make a game of it. Four runs in the first two

innings moved the visitors to within four runs, 8-4, and another rally in the fourth cut the margin to three runs. But that was all for the Vulcans, who went out meekly in the final frame. Shirley Fleming, Shelley Lapeer, Tammie McKee and Tammie Root each collected two hits for Cass City. Root picked up the win as she allowed 7 hits. The nightcap wasn't much of a game at all as the Hawk girls must have got tired running around the bases. Every player scored in the 22-8 rout. Cass City ripped out 22 hits led by Fleming and Sieradzki with three hits, and Hartel, who walked three times and had two hits in five tries. Fleming pitched the win and was touched for 12 hits.

THUMB B SOFTBALL

Cass City.....	8	0
North Branch.....	9	1
Lakers.....	4	4
Vassar.....	3	3
Caro.....	3	5
Sandusky.....	3	7
Bad Axe.....	2	8
Marlette.....	0	4

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FEDERATED Cass City



GOOD DEFENSE helped to nail the runner on this play and defense has sparked the Cass City Red Hawk softball team to an undefeated record in the Thumb B Association this year.

Baseball team eyes tourney

Double loss ruins Hawk league championship hopes

Cass City Red Hawks turned their attention to the upcoming pre-district baseball competition this week after a double loss to Marlette ruined hopes for a share of the Thumb B Association championship. And the Hawks have their work cut out for them. Their opponent in the first round is none other (you guessed it) than Marlette, the only team to top the Hawks twice this spring.

Cass City lost to the Red Raiders at Marlette, 4-3, and 6-3, Tuesday, May 6. In the first game Cass City led all the way until Earney

Stoutenburg, Cass City's ace and one of the top hurlers in the league, weakened in the fifth and sixth innings. Cass City scored once in the first and twice in the fourth to lead 3-0 going into the fifth. The Red Raiders scored twice on two hits and two errors to close the gap to 3-2 and then won it in the last inning on a walk and two base knocks.

In the nightcap the winners won it with a three-run rally off Todd Comment in the third to take a 5-2 lead and then coasted in. The Hawks will undoubtedly have Stoutenburg ready

for the pre-district rematch and with the home diamond advantage the game rates as a toss-up.

VASSAR GAMES

The Hawks prepped for tournament competition with a double bill victory over Vassar Thursday at Cass City. The Hawks won the first game behind Stoutenburg's three-hit shutout, 1-0.

Stoutenburg and Vassar's Jim Evans were locked in a tight pitching duel with neither team able to score. In the last half of the last

inning, Cass City pushed across the winning marker Mike Stec rapped a single. Tim Johnson followed with a ground ball single and Ken Martin chased him home with a hit. Martin picked up two of Cass City's four hits in the win. It was easier for the Hawks in the nightcap. Cass City rapped out six hits good for six runs while Martin hurled a three-hitter in the 6-1 decision. The Hawks scored three times in the second and twice more in the fourth to wrap up the decision. Scott Murphy and Stec led the attack with two hits each.



MIKE STEC comes trotting home with the winning run in the last inning as the Hawks took a 1-0 decision over Vassar Thursday.



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