

# Eagles edge Falcons to win title, score points for Mega

By STEVE KOWALSKI  
STAFF WRITER  
skowalski@ecce.com

Redford Thurston senior forward Shawn Pressnell counts on footpads to beat opponents but in Saturday's Division II district championship game at Farmington it was quick thinking which helped the Eagles post a 1-0 win over the host Falcons.

Pressnell headed in a cross from teammate Tim Moxie for the game's only goal after a scoreless first half.

The district championship was the first in coach Jeff Neschich's three years as coach. The Eagles played Hearings in a regional semifinal on Wednesday at

## SOCCER

Bar after going past Grenan. Seniors Sean Murphy, Jon Kambouris, Justin Gerwatowski, Aaron Muncey and Jeff Frederick played their final high school game for the Falcons, who finished 13-8 overall.

Freshman Matt Konopinski, the Falcons' leading scorer with nine goals, played despite a sore ankle. Farmington coach Luke Juncaj wasn't sure Konopinski would have been effective playing at 100 percent as well as Thurston played defensively.

Thurston was pretty aggressive and played pretty hard," Juncaj said. "They put a lot of pressure on our midfielders and forwards, and we couldn't get

second in the White Division, which is considered second in terms of strength after the Red.

Pressnell and Moxie, who has 18 goals, aren't all the Eagles have going for them, according to Neschich.

"I've got some boys who can play," said Neschich, whose team is 16-2-1 with its losses to White Division champion Garden City. "I have a hard time convincing teams in our league that we can play."

Neschich said it was a good sign to be locked in a scoreless tie at halftime since Farmington had the wind at its back in the first half.

"We went in at halftime 0-0,

and our chances were great with the wind at our backs," Neschich said. "In fact, I thought we had better chances going against the wind, not that they didn't have opportunities. We dodged a bullet in the first minute."

"After watching them Wednesday (against North Farmington), we knew Farmington's strength was in the midfield," Neschich said. "We had to slow down their midfield from the quick transition, and we did a great job of doing that."

Farmington's best chance in the second half occurred late when Grenan went high in the air to stop a shot before the rebound got to Matt Okopyn.

rendered seven goals throughout their first 19 games, but quickly fell into a 1-0 hole just 1:13 into the game as Troy senior sweeper Matt Rozek headed in a long throw in from senior midfielder Eric Peterson on a flick that caught Rice sophomore keeper Mike Timlin off guard.

But that lead was short-lived as frequent mistakes kept Troy from sustaining any momentum. The Colts (10-8-3) were whistled for 21 fouls, four yellow cards and one soft red card.

"I think Brother Rice wanted this a little more than we did," Troy coach Carlos Wheatley said. "We came out strong, but we couldn't keep anything going. And Rice capitalized on our mistakes. We had a lot of stupid, mental mistakes."

Rice midfielder Kevin Oakley was credited with the first tally as his cross into the box was knocked into the net by Troy's Kevin Larkin, who was attempting to clear the ball out of the red zone just 3:55 into the game.

That mishap ignited Rice's offense, which added a goal by Matt Holcomb in the 17th minute and then the first of two goals by Ghafari 1:03 into the second half for a 3-1 lead.

"We went down early, but it was nice to see that we could keep our composure and slowly come back," said Louis-Preccott. "We did what we had to do in order to win this game."

"We didn't know all that much about Troy going in, except that they played a pretty tough

# Brother Rice turns to its offense to beat Troy in district final

By DANIEL STICKERD  
STAFF WRITER

With perhaps the state's best defense, Birmingham Brother Rice's boys soccer team has been leaving the opposition quite empty handed over the past two months.

But in the district finals on Saturday, the Warriors needed a large offensive output to offset an off day on the defensive end to remain alive.

Thanks to a pair of second-half

## SOCCER

goals by senior forward Amer Ghafari, top-ranked Brother Rice advanced to a Division I regional game Wednesday against Troy. Although Rice did not triumph over Troy at Birmingham Seaholm.

"This wasn't one of our better games," Rice coach Jay Louis-Preccott said. "But we overcame some mistakes to come out on top. Troy is a good team."

The Warriors (16-0-4) only sur-

rendered seven goals throughout their first 19 games, but quickly fell into a 1-0 hole just 1:13 into the game as Troy senior sweeper Matt Rozek headed in a long throw in from senior midfielder Eric Peterson on a flick that caught Rice sophomore keeper Mike Timlin off guard.

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"We didn't know all that much about Troy going in, except that they played a pretty tough

schedule in the OAA. But we were able to score at the right times and capitalize on their mistakes."

Troy did close the gap to 3-2 with 36:43 remaining when Matt Rose outran his defender at the far post and knocked the shot into an open net.

"But the Colts squandered a few quality scoring opportunities down the stretch, and then Ghafari added a penalty kick in the 77th minute following a take-down in the box to tie the win.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

**FOOTBALL PLAYERS**  
Friday, Nov. 5  
Farmington at Garden City, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Nov. 6  
John Glenn at De. Henry Ford, 1 p.m.  
Woodward CC vs. W.L. Weston at RY's Field, 1 p.m.  
Trenton vs. St. Clair at East China Stadium, 7:30 p.m.  
**STATE SOCCER TOURNAMENT**  
SATURDAY, NOV. 6  
WESTERN LAKE DISTRICT  
Saturday, Nov. 6  
Grand Haven-Oakland winner, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the state semifinals)  
Wednesday, Nov. 10 at Jackson's Marshall Field vs. South Lyon (regional champion).  
**WISCONSIN**  
at HENRY LYON REGIONAL TOURNAMENT  
Friday, Nov. 5  
L'Angele Steveland vs. Novi, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the state semifinals)  
7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10 vs. Kalamazoo Central (regional winner).  
**DIVISION II-BOYS**  
at BAYON BLANDE  
Saturday, Nov. 6  
Championship final, 1 p.m. (Winner advances to the state semifinals)  
7 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10 at Richland Gull Lake vs. Portage Northern (regional champion).  
**DIVISION II-GIRLS**  
at KENTWOOD CHRISTIAN  
Saturday, Nov. 6  
Championship final, Noon. (Winner advances to the state semifinals)  
7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10 at Liv-

den vs. Sterling Heights Bethesda Christian (regional champion).  
**SOFTBALL**  
Thursday, Nov. 4  
Clemsonville at Liv. Wood, 6 p.m.  
Kuron Valley at Baptist Park, 7 p.m.  
Woodburn at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
W.L. Central at Farmington, 7 p.m.  
Churchill at W.L. Weston, 7 p.m.  
Franklin at East China, 7 p.m.  
Serravallo at N. Farmington, 7 p.m. (Western Lakes semifinal)  
Canton at Northville, 7 p.m.  
Friday, Nov. 5  
(Western Lakes semifinal)  
Harrison at Salem, 7 p.m.  
**WESTERN LAKE DISTRICT**  
Saturday, Nov. 6  
(NCAA District Playoffs at Seaholm)  
Schoolcraft vs. Central, 10:30 a.m.  
Bathory vs. Belleville (IL), 2:30 p.m.  
Sunday, Nov. 7  
NCAA District final at S'craft, noon.  
**WESTERN LAKE DISTRICT**  
Friday, Nov. 5  
(NCAA District Playoffs at Seaholm)  
Schoolcraft vs. DuPree (IL), 1 p.m.  
Roch. (Ill.) vs. Wadell (IL), 3 p.m.  
Saturday, Nov. 6  
NCAA District final at S'craft, 11:30 a.m.  
**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
Friday, Nov. 5  
Ply. Whalers at Oshawa, 7:35 p.m.  
Saturday, Nov. 6  
Ply. Whalers at Belleville, 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, Nov. 7  
Ply. Whalers at Toronto, 2 p.m.

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# Orthodontics

by Josephine Finazza, D.M.D.

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October is National Orthodontic Health Month. A beautiful, healthy, and most obvious benefit of orthodontic treatment. This campaign highlights the important role of orthodontics in overall physical, dental, and emotional well-being. For further information on today's options or to schedule a free initial consultation, call THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP, 19850 Middlebelt (442-8885). We have a computer imaging system that helps patients visualize what the end result of orthodontic treatment may look like.

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