

# Sports

entertainment inside

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## Falcons advance in state

Laurie Dingle is quietly having an all-state caliber season.

The Farmington senior has kicked her team into the prerogative round of eight teams as she scored all three goals in the Falcons' 3-1 win at Dearborn Fordson Tuesday.

Farmington will travel to Dearborn Edsel Ford at 4 p.m. Friday in the next round of the tournament.

Dingle has 30 goals for the season. "She's really quite a player," said Ed Bartram. "My concern is that girls look for her too much. I even put her at fullback for 10 minutes Tuesday."

Karen Popky, Leslie Martin and Amy Smith each drew assists for the Falcons.

On Monday, Dingle scored four goals in the Falcons' 5-0 non-league win against Belleville. Smith had the other goal.

Farmington will take an a-7 record into Friday's contest.

**NORTHVILLE 3, MERCY 0:** Let's get the bad news out of the way first. Northville, for the second straight year, has ended Farmington Hills Mercy's run in the state soccer tournament. The Mustangs blanked Mercy on Monday and will play at Plymouth Canton Friday.

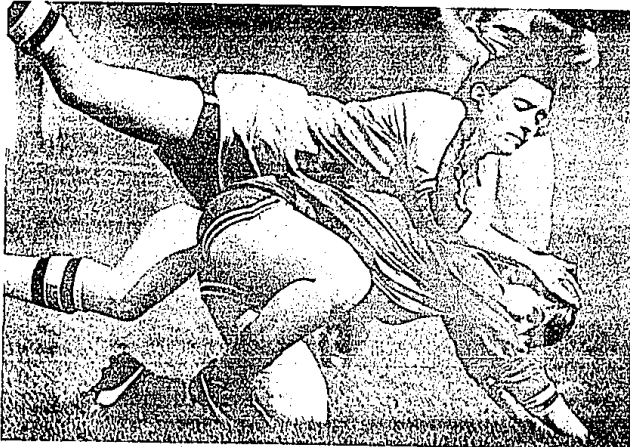
"The kids played a little tentative in the first half," said Mercy coach Gene Fogel. "Northville got two quick goals before we settled down. After that, it was pretty much a defensive game."

Northville outshot Mercy 15-3 in the first half. Mercy outshot Northville 14-8 in the second.

The loss dropped Mercy's record to 10-2-2. Northville is 11-1-1.

Things were much more cheerful for the Mustangs over the weekend as they won the four-team Detroit Country Day Invitational.

The Mustangs won both their



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Kris McMinn, shown toppling a Salem player earlier this season, scored a goal Monday in the Raiders' victory over Walled Lake Central.

The Raiders were eliminated from the state tournament by Stevenson on Saturday.

matches by 2-0 counts, beating Birmingham Marlin in the first game and Country Day in the finals. Kelly Beaudry was the goalie in the championship match; she and Stacy Nolte shared duty against Marlin. Margaret DeMatteis, voted the tournament's most valuable player, scored a goal in the finals and played tremendous defensively. She edged teammate Amy Stock and Leigh Clancy for the honor.

Colleen Baffery, Julie Hale and Maribeth Knight scored goals for the Marlin.

**N. FARMINGTON 9, W.L. CENTRAL 1:** Jean Anzovaro scored four goals on Monday to pace North in this Western Lakes match. She also had three assists.

Mo O'Brien had a pair of goals, while Kris McMinn had a goal and four assists.

Terry Kaitz and Missy Szlydowski also scored for North.

Suzie Schlott controlled the net for North.

The Raiders (4-7-1) were ousted from the state tournament on Saturday by No. 2 ranked Livonia Stevenson, 5-0.

It's doubtful that Plymouth Salem has put together back-to-back soccer games as well played as the two last week.

On Saturday, the Rocks advanced in the state tournament with a 3-0 victory against Livonia Ladywood. The Rocks will host Livonia Churchill Friday in the pre-regional match.

Monday, the Rocks played No. 2 ranked Livonia Stevenson to a 2-2 tie. It was the first time since 1983 that Rocks came away from a Stevenson match without a loss.

Freshman Jill Estey has been the driving force behind the Salem success. She has 18 goals, four shy of Julie Tortora's single-season scoring record.

Against Ladywood, she scored two goals and assisted on the third. Jennifer Belhart got the third goal. Ellen Schnackel stopped 10 shots in that game to earn her seventh shutout of the season. That ties Sarah Wallman's record for most shutouts in a season.

In the Stevenson match, Estey set up Salem's first goal; her corner kick was banged in by Belhart. That goal evened the match at 1-1.

Later in the first half, Estey scored a brilliant goal. After taking a pass from Missy Smith, she dribbled through the Spartan fullbacks and drilled a shot past Stevenson goalie Elaine Zager from 20 yards out.

## No. 1, No. 2 play 0-0 tie

By Brad Emons  
staff writer

A tie is like kissing your sister, but in Livonia Churchill's case it guaranteed the Chargers a Western Lakes Soccer League title.

The state's No. 1 and 2 ranked girls teams, Churchill and Livonia rival Stevenson, battled last night to a scoreless draw before a larger than normal crowd at Churchill.

It was the regular season finale for both teams. Churchill finished with a 12-0-2 league record, while Stevenson, tied Monday 2-2 by Plymouth Salem, settled for second place, one point behind at 11-0-3.

Although Churchill succeeds Stevenson as Western Lakes champions, there was little jumping for joy by the Charger camp after the match.

"I'm very pleased we won the league championship and our division," said Churchill coach Ed Dudek, whose team is 17-0-2 overall. "This tie is going to get us more hungry the second time around. We didn't lose anything."

"I don't think our girls realize what they accomplished."

IT WAS A DEFENSIVE battle nearly all the way.

Churchill, led by dangerous frontliners Jennifer Huegli and Amy Weber, made a number of dashes at Stevenson goalie Elaine Zager, but were turned back by the Spartans' defensive trio of Tina Gelmini, Sue Zatorski and Marcel Jamrog.

"A lot of people thought we'd get blown off the field," said Stevenson coach Norene Divens, whose team is 15-0-3 overall. "I'm so impressed with our girls. They all played their hearts out."

In the first half, Stevenson had its way territorially for the most part, but Churchill had the best scoring opportunity when Zager, using her left hand, punched away a low-hard drive by Huegli.

"Zager has just been fantastic this year and she has no high school experience," Divens said. "A lot of the credit should go to my assistant coach Rick Galindo. He spends all his time with her and he's the one totally responsible for her performance."

IN THE SECOND HALF, each team threatened on a couple of occasions, but to no avail. The game's only anxious moment came with Stevenson's Lori Green fouled by a Charger defender just 10 yards in front of the net.

The Spartans' Paula Divens tried the indirect free kick, but a Charger wall, led by Chris Paclero, stopped the last-gasp attempt.

"I felt coming in that they wouldn't score much against us," Dudek said. "Defensively we shut them down. I figured it would be a low scoring game because we've been winning a lot lately with defense."

Dudek admitted that he altered his strategy for Stevenson. "We played more defense," he said. "We changed our formation and some of our kids were a little confused. We had trouble breaking out offensively. We were sending the ball in two against three. We wanted to get our halfbacks more in the game. We'll work on that the next couple of weeks."

WITH THE LEAGUE title in his hip pocket, Dudek can now turn his attention to Friday's pre-regional battle against a formidable Salem team.

"I'm more concerned about the game Friday," Dudek said. "That game means a lot more than this one."

Stevenson, meanwhile, travels tomorrow to Dearborn for another state tournament match. If both teams win their next two matches, they'll meet again at 2 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Canton for the regional championship.

## Hollywood errs on rally

THE IMMEDIATE visualization of extended road rally racing is more cinematic than realistic.

Blame Hal Needham and Burt Reynolds. They're the ones who romanticized the concept on film. Crazy cars and characters racing end-to-end for a pile of loot big enough to fill a swimming pool.

No doubt, the climatic scene of the movie would feature just that: nitwits nosediving into a pool of dollars.

Go, what fun.

Sorry to burst the bubble, but that's not too accurate a picture. It's really not even close.

ASK ANY of the participants in last week's One Lap of America, the longest, most grueling road rally around. They'll tell you just how crazy things got.

"Any mishaps along the way?" was the question. "Out-of-the-ordinary type stuff, like hitchhiking Martians or a run-in with rampaging bikers?"

"No, not at all," was Janice Telega's answer. "Everything went very well, which is why we did so well."

Perhaps some people go on these things — an eight-day, 8,000-mile rally — searching for adventure. Those that do better take along a fair supply of Groucho glasses and exploding cigars, because if they plan on doing even reasonably well they won't have time for pranks. The competitors that filled the 120-car field had the same attitude as Telega, from Rochester: stick to business and do as well as possible.

That goal does not include streaking through the countryside at 130-mph. As Jeff Simpson, a Rochester Hills resident, explained quite simply, "I have to quit calling this a race. It was a rally."

Simpson and his co-drivers — Paul Dryzga and Jon Lowell — piloted their 1986 Toronado to an 80th-place finish in the One Lap. Not too good, really, but were it not for one missed direction.

"We made one mistake," explained Simpson Monday, a day after arriving back in Detroit. One Lap's start and finish line. "We made a wrong turn just before the Pennsylvania section and it cost us."

WHAT THAT MISJUDGMENT was time and points. Speed is not essential in the One Lap. The drivers must navigate a tricky course at the proper speeds. All along the route are checkpoints. Drivers must reach them at a specified time. For each second they are early or late, they are penalized a point.

The drivers don't know where the checkpoints will be, just like they don't know what roads they'll be turning on. The directions they receive say merely "Turn left at the stop sign" or "Go 10 miles and turn right."

Does that sound like fun? Adventurous? Loads of laughs?

Personally, I have enough problems with directions in my own neighborhood. Eight days of this stuff, and I'd probably end up somewhere near Chernobyl, glowing like a lightning bug.

Forget the romance of those lightweight movies. What the One Lap is to both boring and tense, total fatigue tearing at minds that must stay alert.

Simpson's team found out after their wrong turn. "There's no way to catch up, to make up time," he said. "We were late getting to the Pennsylvania section, and we got penalized for that over and over and over."



C.J. Risak

"It's an unforgiving type of race — I mean, rally."

THE WRONG TURN cost the team about 2,000 points and ruined their chance to finish perhaps as high as 55th. Telega and her teammates — Louise Olson of Westland and Dennis Millinoff — didn't make a wrong turn. They didn't have a breakdown, either. That's why they placed 14th.

"We're novices at it, really," said Telega. "The first 12 to finish were almost all professional teams."

What's that advice about women drivers? Telega and Olson proved that to be hokey.

It's difficult to practice for something as enduring as the One Lap, but Millinoff, the experienced team member — he drove in last year's rally — entered the threesome in a few SCCA-sponsored road rallies.

"We always got lost," said Telega of the practice sessions. "We never did very well. But we got our act together for the One Lap."

Indeed they did. Their point total was a mere 138. Translated, that means they were within 138 seconds of the exact times they were supposed to check in throughout the eight-day event.

How far did they finish out of first? Quite a bit, surprisingly. The winners had just 34 points.

ALMOST EVERY car had computers to help in navigation and timing. Some had back-up computers, and back-ups to back-ups. Rand McNally sponsored a car with a navigation system that included a satellite dish on top of the car.

Such sophisticated devices didn't help much, though. As Telega astutely pointed out, "A satellite hook-up won't tell you where the picket fence you have to turn at is."

Like in the movies, there were some unusual vehicles among the 123 entries: a motorcycle, motor homes, a stretch limousine, even a turbo-powered Checker cab.

None of the specialists fared too well, which says something about the no-nonsense attitude common to One Lap participants: most importantly, to finish the race (120 of the 123 entries did just that), and secondly, to do as well as possible.

There were stories to tell, to be sure. Simpson's team had a buzzard hit the windshield. There was no damage, which means they fared better than the car that had a crow strike and shatter the driver's-side window.

But mainly One Lap was a long, grueling test measuring sapped endurance on a very long, timed obstacle course.

If you think that sounds like a fun way to spend your vacation, then I know of a summer camp in Libya that might interest you. And yet, Simpson and Telega shared the same feeling for One Lap: They'd do it again, without hesitation.

Personally, I'll wait for the movie.

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