caught up in recruising scenics a senior.

Still, he was drafted in the fourth round by the NBA's San Antonio Spurs. He did not make the team, so he will play in the Continental Basketball Association this year.

"I HAD some friends go off to

"I HAD some friends go off to four-year schools and they didn'd to too well, either playing or in school," said Briggs. "It's a lot of responsibility for a guy corning right out of high school." But going to a JC did more for Briggs than just allow him to get his grades in order. He was recruited by several schools for basket-ball when he graduated from high school, "but not by as many swhen I came out of Schooleraft." Still, Briggs faced the same prejudice other JC athletes are confronted with. "Some guys look down at a guy for going to a JC instead of a four-year school," but kids shouldn't be influenced by freinds. Ted tell them there's nothing wrong with going to a JC. Briggs' athletic career blossomed at SC. Academically, he's 17 hours short of a degree in communications. He plans to attend sum-incutions. He plans to attend sum-incutions.

rsday, October 23, 1986 O&E



C.J. հ Risak

JUCO athletes battle unjust negative image two-year stint at Baylor University after his two years at SC. "I think sports in a JC helps guys. It helped me mature, to get used to a college atmosphere and get my goals to-gether, to find out what I want." Briggs was the top NJCAA scorer during his stay at SC. He went on to enjoy a productive junior year at Baylor before running afoul of a new coach and getting caught up in recruiting scandals as a senior.

Second of two parts.

HE JUNIOR COLLEGE the JUNIOR COLLEGE and the standed. The best JC athletes aren't standed the standed th

ting on the bench."

GELMISI WANTED to play soccer, not watch it. At Michigan State University, he was told he would watch from the sidelines bis freshman season. Plus there was money to consider. Pull-ride soccer scholarships are rare; MSU has just one, which is split among several players.

Gelmisi chose to attend and play soccer at SC while living at home. It also has worked and was able to save money for next year, when be plans to earfold at MSU to pursue a business degree.

"I had my fun; I played soccer and saved some money," said Gelmist's choice was based in

misi.

Gelmisi's choice was based in logic. He had decisions to make. He sorted through them and made the one he felt would be best. At present, Gelmisi Isn't even sure he'll play soccer at MSU.

CARLOS BRIGGS had no such CARLOS BRIGGS nad no such decisions to make. Briggs came out of Detroit Benedictine with a grade-point average a bit too low (1.95) to earn him a major college scholarship. So Briggs enrolled at SC and became the school's best best best best of the school's best

Falcons rule WLAA!

H's official.

What everyone speculated throughout the high school cross country season was verified Tuesday afternoon at Walled Lakes' Willis

Park. Farmington's boys and girls cross country teams are the best in the

tion.

It was the second year in a row that Farmington High School won both ends of the WLAA cross country

both ends of the warm cross count, meet.

The Falcon boys took top honors with 40 points followed by Walled Lake Central with 57, Northville with 94, Walled Lake Western with 121, and Plymouth Canton with 146.

The girls captured the title with 48 points followed by Walted Lake Central with 66, Plymouth Salem with 110, Livonia Stevenson with 144 and North Farmington with 151.

The smooth running of Farmington's Christ Inch astounded many of the competitors. Gilding through the tough, tilly course at what appeared to be an effortless pace, Inch won the boys race setting a new course record of 16:28. Walled Lake Western's Kyte Chura set the previous record of 16:41 in 1983.

"INCH WAS incredible. He breezed through the course," said a Western harrier after the race was over. "It was more like he floated through it," replied another.

Farmington's No. 3 man Brandon London surprised race officials by finishing second overall at 16:50. Al Stebbins, who recently returned form an injury, placed 10th for the Falcons at 17:22 followed by Ron Smedley, 13th at 17:29, and Matt Walter, 14th at 17:35.

Walter, 14th at 17:35.

"The very happy to have won," said inch. "It was a tough, tough course. My time wasn't all that great, but for this course it will do. The hills were really tough. The just killed you. At about 25. The just killed you. At about 25. The just killed you. At about 25 miles into the race, there was a real steep down hill and I got going pretty fast. I started to get tired but I got my wind back near the end and was able to pick it up."

It was the third league title in as many years for the Falcon boys, which pleased coach Jerry Young.

which pleased coach Jerry Young.

"WE DID WHAT we were supposed to do. We won it," said Young. "It doesn't always work out that way, but this time it did. The kids are really corning along. They alt did real weil. Brandon (London) did a super Job. We were hoping he'd finds seventh or eighth. And Chris just drilled them. He broke the course record by 13 seconds. "Stebbins, London, Smedley and Walters are the ones that really carry the team. Inch is always in here. He's dependable. It's the other kids that deelde where we finish as a team.

In the girls competition, a strong finish by Bonnie Stecker, third at 20:30, and alted the lady Falcons to run away with the winners tropby.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL'S Karen Kantor won the race with a time of 20:39, followed by Walted Lake Cen-tral's Colleen Yuhn at 20:53. Farm-ington's Nicole Jelley placed seventh

cross country

BDVS TEAM RESULTS: 1. Fermington, 10 points: 2. Waled Lake Central, 87: 3. orthwise, 84: 4. Waled Lake Vestern, 121: 6. Phymouth Canton, 181; 6. Lhoreis Sierason, 187; 7. Farmington Harrison, 187 (out the breaked); 8. Phymouth Salem, 196; 1. b. Charles Sierason, 187; 7. Earthquise Harrison, 187; 1. b. Charles, 181; 1. Lhoreis Churchal, 278; 12. lornt Farmington, 312.

North Farmington, 312.
BDy's (NDNOVALA, RESULTS: 1. Circle North (Farm), 16,28 — row course record. Cell mark was 1641 ass in 1983 by Kyle Crus of Wasted Lake Western, 2. Durodov Course, 16,48 ass in 1983 by Kyle Crus of Wasted Lake Western, 2. Durodov S. Charlon, 16,54 and 16,55 but and Crusso (WLW), 16,56 d. Bad Ares, 16,55 but and Crusso (WLW), 16,56 d. Bad Ares, 16,56 but and (Fall), 16,56 but Ares (Fall), 16,56 but Ares (Fall), 17,50 but Crusso (WLW), 17,70 but Crusso (WLW), 1

GIRLS TEAM RESULTS: 1, Farmington, 48; 2, Waked Lake Central, 86; 3, Phymodal Salem, 110; 4, Lhronia Stremenon, 144; 5, North Farmington, 16; 5, Lhronia Frankin, 162; 7, Phymodal Central, 172; 9, Woosland John Clemeria, 172; 9, Woosland John Clemeria, 172; 9, Woosland John Clemeria, 172; 10, Waled Lake Westen, 200; 11, Farmington Harrison, 209; 12, NorthYdö, dol not front.

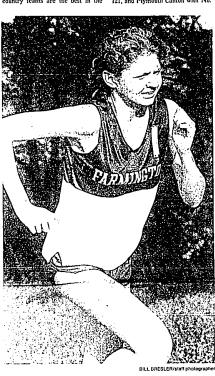
at 21:14 and teammate Amy Truck finished 13th at 21:36. "We're extremely happy," said Farmington girls coach John Bar-rett. "We really don't have any frent-runners. We usually finish in a pack. We worked together as a team all year. We have a great sense of team arithude.

year. We have a great sense of team attitude.

"We ran here last week and knew the hills would be our biggest obsta-cle. We did hills all week in practice and it really paid off. We caught peo-ple and made up some time on the hills."

hills."

Both teams will compete in the class A regional tournament Saturday afternoon in Ann Arbor.



Bonnie Stecker was the first Farmington girt to cross the finish line Tuesday. Her time of 20:58 was third overall, helping the Falcons win the title for the second straight year.

Harrison, North Farmington brace for WLAA showdown

EXAMPLES LIKE Gelmisi and Briggs make JC athletes look appealing. What else could a four-year coach ask for? An athlete with two years of college playing experience and enough time to adjust to college academics seems ideal. And yet, most coaches still would rather recruit freshmen. They view JC players as stop-gap or emergency measures who can

There's a bit more at stake Saturday than the mythical Farmington city football championship. Heck, this is even more important than the famed Tace Bowl tille that was revived last season. This is immense. And the best part is, we'll do it all over again a week from Saturday. The mournful groan you just heard came from the two coaching staffs.

The mourful groan you justed heard came from the two conching staffs.

Here's what's on the line Saturdax when North Farmington hooks upwith rival Farmington Harrison:

• The Western Lakes Activities Association Champlonship. Harrison, for the fifth straight year, is the champlon of the Western Division. North shared the Lakes Division title with Livonia Stevenson and Westland John Glenn but carned the right the play Saturday because of its edge in state playoff points.

• A berth in the state playoffs. For North to make it into the Class A state tournards because of its edge in state playoff points.

• A berth mit he state playoffs. For North to make it into the Class A state tournards because of the Class A state tournard, when the claim of the cl

1986 RECAP
The following are the paths taken by North Farmington and Farmington Harrison to Saturday's Western Lakes Championship game.

WEEK 2

WEEK 4 North 9, John Glenn 7 Harrison 12, Northylle 3

WEEK 6 North 22, Plymouth Salom 14 Harrison 7, Plymouth Canton 0 WEEK 7

North 24, Farmington 0 Parrison 38, Walled Lake Western 3

WEEK 8 (6-1) at Harrison (6-1), 1 p.m. Satur

each other. But from 1971 to 1981 the issue was settled on the gridiron. Harrison won six games to North's five.
Last year, the teams renewed the series and Harrison won bragging

AND HOW about a touch of irony: Harrison head coach John Herrington coached under former North boss Ron Holland. North head coach him O'Leary and Herrington used to caach together. North assistant coach Iry Horwitz coached with Herrington. Another North assistant,

Dave Therne, was a standout player for Herrington at Harrison. Still another North assistant, Mark Babcock, tenches and coaches track at Mark Babcock, tenches and coaches track at Standout Standout Babcock, tenches and tenches track at If fact, one of the coaches toughest assignments this week will be keeping the emotions from overwherming their players.

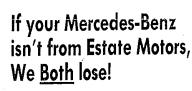
"They way we're looking at it, we are representing the Lakes Division and they are representing the Western. It's a big game because the champlonship is at stake. We're trying not to overemphastic this because we don't want them overly keyed-up," O'Lecary said.

Said Herrington: "We're not talking about the state playoffs. Sure, it's in the back of our minds, but the league champlonship has been our primary goal all season. Somebody asked me if we would hold someting back from this game and saveit for the second game. That's ridiculous. You go all out for the league champlonship, then you go back and give what you have left the next time out."

give what you have left the next time out."
North has been ranked ahead of Harrison all season, but the team's are evenly matched. Both have potent offensive weapons and sting defenses.
North's top gun is potential allistate running back Scott Selzer. Sclzer has gained 1,061 yards this season. That's just 15 short of Brad Pease's 1972 North single-season rushing mark. He's easily the most dangerous back in Observerland this season.

BUT HARRISON isn't preparing r a one-dimensional attack. "It would be a big mistake to de-

Please turn to Page 2





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