

Scott Selzer selects MSU

By Chris McCosky
staff writer

If Scott Selzer had his way, the only person who would know he was going to Michigan State University next fall would be George Perles.

"He's pretty shy when it comes to talking about himself," said Jim O'Leary, Selzer's football coach the past three seasons at North Farmington. "He just works hard and lets things happen. He doesn't brag. He thinks that if he talks too much people will think he's arrogant. And he's definitely not arrogant."

No. In fact, he might be described as low-key to a fault. He made a verbal commitment to accept a fullride football scholarship from MSU two weeks ago. And kept the news virtually to himself.

His mother, Marsha Selzer, called the Observer with the news last Thursday.

"Now don't tell Scott I called," Marsha said. "He'd really be upset with me."

SCOTT SELZER may be quiet off the field, but there was nothing shy about his performance on the football field. Last fall he gained 1,311 yards rushing for North and scored 16 touchdowns. His efforts garnered him some 40 scholarship offers.

"What impressed them, especially Michigan State, was Scott's strength and speed," O'Leary said. "People just don't realize how incredibly strong he is. He bench pressed 355 pounds last year."

In addition to his strength, Selzer is one of the premier sprinters in Observeland. He ran the 100-meter dash in 10.9 last spring.

He purred the 400 off in 1:02 to three MSU, Indiana and Minnesota.

But there was only one school Selzer seriously considered. "I visited Michigan State and Indiana. Right before we were supposed to take my visit to Minnesota, I decided to get this thing over with," Selzer said. "I guess I always wanted to go to MSU."

SAID O'LEARY: "I'm real excited about this. And I know Scott is excited about it. They (MSU) spent a lot of time with Scott, and they were first class throughout the whole process. They flat-out told Scott that they wanted him to be a running back. That excited him."

Plus: "When I took my official visit to State, I went out with John Miller and Brian Smolinski (two former All-Area gladiators from Farmington Harrison). I know those guys pretty good. And Todd Krumm, too. They are all from this area. That was nice," Selzer said.

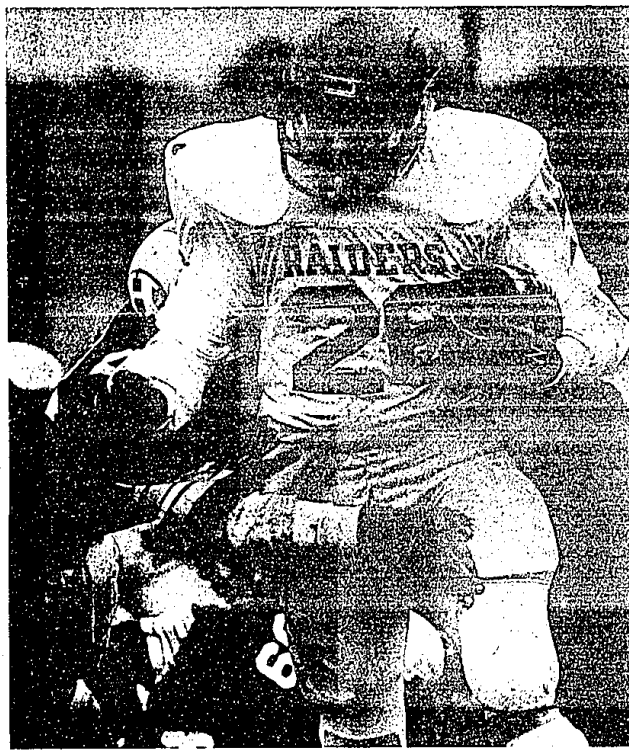
Selzer said other than the fact that he'll be playing tailback, the MSU coaches didn't make any promises.

"They don't really tell you anything about playing time or anything like that," he said. "I'll just have to see what happens."

O'Leary said that the MSU coaches indicated to him that they weren't planning on red-shirting him, even though they were offering a five-year scholarship.

"My attitude is, he can play college football," O'Leary said. "How long it will take him to get in, I don't know. I'm no judge of that. He'll be in the same boat as every other freshman."

Selzer, who will play in the annual Michigan High School Football Coaches Association All-Star Classic in August, will sign his letter-of-intent Feb. 11.



All-Area standout Scott Selzer wasted little time choosing which college to share his

football talents with. He will attend Michigan State in the fall.

volleyball Raiders fight back

North Farmington's volleyball team ran the gamut on emotion last week.

A strong performance at the Wayne Memorial Invitational (the Raiders advanced to the quarterfinals) was washed out when team captain Terry Spengler went down with a knee injury. She was to have surgery late last week.

The Raiders were bopped Monday by a strong Walled Lake Central team in two unusually quick games, 15-3, 15-8.

But on Wednesday the Raiders got back to form, defeating Plymouth Salem 15-11, 15-7.

"Plymouth Salem got everything back," said North coach Sandy Lutenick. "They are scrappy. Whatever we hit at them they returned."

But the Raiders' strong net play eventually wore the Rocks out.

Tammy Spengler was a perfect 15 for 15 at the net with six kills. Suzi Butcher was 8 of 10 with three kills. Butcher was also 9 for 9 from the service corner with three aces.

Kelly Coulson, a sophomore, gave the Raiders a big lift. She came off the bench to provide 11 successful serves good for 10 points.

The win puts North at 4-2 in the Western Lakes, 15-6 overall. Salem is 2-4 in the league, 4-7 overall.

FARMINGTON HARRISON disposed of Plymouth Canton in short order Wednesday. The Hawks rolled 15-3, 15-3.

"What can I say, we couldn't do anything wrong," said Harrison coach Ron Shortt, whose team was drubbed by Livonia Churchill on Monday. "We played a real good game and everybody contributed."

Janine Whittemore and Theresa Spiz led the way. Whittemore had eight successful spikes with seven kills. Spiz was 3 for 3.

Stevenson tips Rocks in swim showdown

Doug Buckler spoke cautiously and with concern after his Livonia Stevenson swim team clinched the Western Lakes Division title with a 102.5-69.5 win against Plymouth Salem Thursday night.

It was a colossal effort by the unbeaten Spartans. They won eight of the 11 events and placed 1-2 in five of them. But Buckler was leery.

"I don't know. I still say the league meet will be decided by 15 points between us and Salem and it could go either way," said the successful Stevenson coach. "It's real nice to win

the division, but our goal is to win the league meet. I'm sure it's the same goal for us, but I bet this meet will do just as much good for them as it does for us. You get a lot out of a win, but you can get a lot out of a loss, too."

The Spartans assumed command of the meet Thursday with a 1-2-3 finish in the 50-yard freestyle. Chris Saunders (54.4) and Greg Jubenville (1:00.8) went 1-2 in the 100 butterfly. Steve Taormina (1:07.5) and Brian Cantoni (1:08.4) went 1-2 in the 100 breaststroke.

As if that weren't enough, Saunders also won the 100 backstroke (58.3) and the Spartans won both relays. Saunders, Taormina, Jubenville and Codere won the 200 medley relay (1:46.0) while Morasky, Butrico, Codere and Goekke won the 400 free relay (3:28.3).

Salem (5-2) got a double win from freshman Ron Orris. He won both the 200 individual medley (2:05.0) and the 500 free (4:55.8). Don Harwood was second in the 200 IM

(2:11.5). Kevin Tunich won diving for Salem with 218.5.

It was Stevenson's third straight Lakes Division title. The Spartans are 9-0 on the season. The Western Lakes conference meet is set for Feb. 25-27 at Plymouth Salem.

PLYMOUTH CANTON, for the first time in five years, beat Livonia Churchill in a dual meet. The Chiefs knocked Churchill out of first place in the Western Lakes Western Division Thursday with a convincing 113-59 win.

Barring an upset, Canton will host Farmington Harrison Thursday, Feb. 12, to decide the division championship.

"Churchill came in here pretty pumped up," said Canton coach Hooker Wellman. "Some of their kids had shaved and they were saying, 'We want you, we want you, and stuff like that. And we murdered

em. It was a lot of fun."

Dean Roberts won a pair of events for the Chiefs. He took the 200 IM (2:11.3) and the 100 backstroke (1:00.2). Both were big events for the Chiefs. They went 1-2 in the IM and 1-3 in the backstroke.

Bill Richter (197.0) and Keith Corley (179.4) went 1-2 in diving for the Chiefs.

Other Canton winners were Tom Hone (23.6 in the 50 free), Bryce Anderson (59.10 in the 100 butterfly) and Roberts, Jeff Homan, Anderson and Jim Walker won the 200 medley relay (1:48.8).

For Churchill (5-3), Jeff Peterson won both the 200 free (1:56.5) and the 500 free (5:10.5). Geoff Hutchison won the 100 free (53.3) and Jeremy Findlay won the 100 breaststroke (1:08.4). Churchill also won the 400 free relay (3:41.0).

Canton is 4-5 overall.

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