

## Sports

Dan O'Neare editor/591-2312

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## Maier's late goal defeats Stevenson

By Steve Kowalski  
staff writer

Farmington coach Cathy Cole was talking to a reporter Friday after the Falcons' 2-1 win over host Livonia Stevenson, when Margaret Martin interrupted the conversation. "We're doing our best to give you an ulcer," said Martin, a junior midfielder. A mild understatement.

Carrie Maier, a multi-talented senior forward, scored both goals for Farmington, including the game-winner with only 22 seconds left.

Maier, who scored a hat trick in a game earlier this year, ended a wild scramble in the net of the Stevenson net by sliding the ball past goalkeeper Alicia Smith.

Activities Association Lakes Division schedule, and gave Farmington a 5-0 overall record. This is Cole's first year at Farmington after spending the past few years at North Farmington.

And there's no doubt where her loyalty stands.

She enjoys all the suspense. "I love them," Cole said. "They're real dedicated, hard-working athletes. It went right down to the wire in both halves. I expected a tough game, knowing the tradition and history of both teams. I thought we'd play hard to the end."

Shannon Wilkinson, a freshman midfielder, tied the game for Stevenson at one with 6:12 left in the game, but the Spartans weren't able to put the game-winner by Farmington keeper Debbie Westerkamp. This was the first coaching loss ever suffered by Stevenson first-year coach Mary Kay Hussey, who played on two Class A Stevenson champions earlier this decade. The Spartans are 3-1 overall.



"IT FEELS worse as a coach (to lose) than as a player," Hussey said. "But we'll be OK. Farmington's a good team and Carrie Maier is as good as you'll find. It was a great game. I put my best defensive player (Lisa Thomas) on her — but Carrie's awesome — and Lisa played great."

Maier was a standout at the end of both halves. She scored the game's first goal just before time expired in the first half when she raced by the Stevenson defense and pushed a loose ball by Smith. Maier's game-winning tally came after a cross by Amy Trunk. The ball bounced off a few legs before it finally got to Maier, who knows what to do when she gets it. "It was all a team effort," she said. "We built it up from the backline and Amy made a great crossing pass. The whole team scored the last goal."

Maier, Trunk and Sue Gibson double as athletes in the spring for Farmington's track team and that makes them more effective in soccer, Cole said.

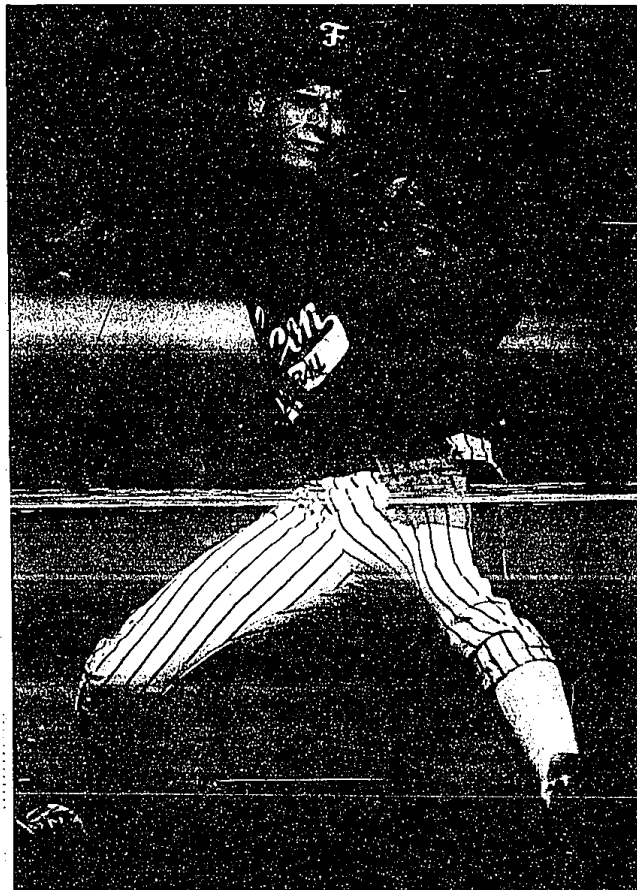
"CARRIE IS real quick — one of the top five runners in the 200 (meter dash) in Oberlinland," Cole said. "Being able to run

the field really helps them, and Carrie is a very disciplined, well-skilled player. She's very skilled and works hard because of that."

Stevenson outshot Farmington 8-6, and seemed to pick up the intensity a notch in the second half. The Spartans had several chances in the second 40 minutes, getting a boost on the front line by the play of senior co-captains Shariene Sudek and Karen Carney and sophomore Lori Godlewski.

Maier's goal at the end of the first half discouraged Stevenson, but Hussey wouldn't let the Spartans get down.

"We were disappointed they scored, but we knew our chance would come — and it did," Hussey said. "I just told them to be patient. It wasn't that we didn't play well in the first half, we just got a little more organized."



RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Brian Vicchio turned in a complete game and earned the pitching victory Friday as Farmington won for the fourth time in five games, defeating Livonia Stevenson 8-4. Vicchio scat-

tered six hits, struck out eight and walked just three in what amounted to an excellent pitching performance.

## Boston Marathon tough test for 'Flying Johnson Sisters'

By M.B. Dillon  
staff writer

All the training runs in winter's wrath were history. It was Patriot's Day in Boston, and 18 Redford Road runners were among the 6,418 runners excitedly awaiting the start of the 26th Boston Marathon in the hamlet of Hopkinton.

Temperatures were nudging 70, with humidity to match.

The heat took its toll on times, and the miles did a number on muscles. But runners returned to Redford, exhilarated nonetheless.

At Pizza Hut Tuesday after the club's weekly run, they shared tales about the 26-mile, 385-yard race.

"The Flying Johnson Sisters" — Vicki Webster, Donna Swanson and Laura Johnson — ran their first Boston Marathon together.

Swanson, winner of last year's Michigan Trail-Marathon on the grueling Polawatom Trail in Plinckney, finished in 3:35.



"It was a tough one," said Swanson. "I don't know if I want to do it again."

Swanson said her husband John "ran — no, shuffled me in from the 20-mile mark. At 25 he said, '(Road-runner) Dave Frank's right behind you. He looks good.'"

"I said, 'I don't care,'" laughed Swanson.

Seconds ahead of Swanson, Frank completed his second Boston — his 35th marathon.

"I'd say the temperature was in the high 60s. I got sunburned," said Frank, who included a 30-mile run in his training program.

Vicki Webster of Livonia finished her first Boston Marathon in 3:46. "I wish I could have done better,

but I'm glad I finished," said Webster. Webster ran the first mile with her sister Laura before Laura left her to try to catch Donna.

"You've got to do it once to enjoy the course and the spectators — it's great," said Webster. "You wonder what makes Boston so special — I think it's the crowds. There are so many people; all the elite runners; and the whole thing starts in this small little town of Hopkinton. The marathon just overwhelms this town."

"I couldn't believe there are spectators the whole way, but there are. It's amazing."

Johnson, also running her first Boston, had trouble with the heat and hills and made it to mile 17 before dropping out.

TOM GEROU of Canton had his share of trouble — sock trouble.

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## Boyle Chevrolet's goal to reach peak

By Dan O'Neare  
staff writer

The Pat Boyle Chevrolet men's modified fast-pitch softball team is expecting good things in 1989.

First of all, the Western Wayne County-based ballclub has a new sponsor. The team, formerly known as FGS Radiator, will play under the banner of the Belleville auto dealership.

Secondly — and possibly just as important to the team's aspirations — veteran pitcher Al White has returned to the team he founded in 1982.

White, one of the best-known pitchers in the modified game, departed for Florida five years ago and helped a Miami outfit win a national championship.

And that's just what the 15 players on the Boyle Chevrolet team hope to do.

THE TEAM'S player/manager Don Dreher of Plymouth and long-time team member Dave Brubaker, formerly of Farmington Hills, sought a bigger sponsor in hopes of enhancing those chances. They believe they have found the right sponsor in Boyle Chevrolet, which liked what it saw and when Dreher and Brubaker made their pitch.

The team hopes to upgrade its travel schedule and increase its level of competition.

"We've been trying for eight years to win a national championship, and



we're hoping to fund some out-of-state tournaments," Dreher said.

Boyle Chevrolet begins regular season play today in the Livonia Parks and Recreation Modified Division I League and also will compete in the Plymouth Modified Fast-Pitch League.

The team has won the Livonia title five of the last seven years and has been the Plymouth champion eight years running. Furthermore, the club has held the title of Metro Detroit champs six consecutive years and seven of the last eight.

In addition, Boyle Chevrolet will take on the renowned King and His Court, featuring pitching whiz Eddie Feigner, and will sponsor a home run-hitting contest in July.

UNDER ITS former title, Boyle Chevrolet finished third in the nation in 1983 and tied for ninth last year, and it was at the big tournaments the team realized what it was up against.

While most of the nationally regarded outfits receive extensive sponsor support, the local players fancy themselves as "the blue-collar guys from Detroit." The team has

made a tradition of playing in BP's National Invitational in Atlanta every year, finishing as high as second place last year.

Dreher said a player from another team at that annual tournament asked how much his players were being paid.

"I told him we get a uniform, our name on the back and some entry fees," he said. "He couldn't believe we weren't getting any money."

"It's also tremendous incentive for us to go out and compete against these guys. One time the (opposing) manager had to call home and explain why they lost. We kept saying 'Let's make this guy make another phone call.'"

Helping to increase Boyle Chevrolet's outlook for '89 is the fact it has two outstanding pitchers. Curtis Richards of Livonia is another longtime member who has developed into one of the top modified pitchers in the country.

IN ADDITION to Dreher and Brubaker, the team's catcher, the Boyle Chevrolet roster includes Charlie Johnson, outfielder; Plymouth; Rick Dreher, outfielder; Canton; Keith McLanaway, infielder; Westland; Jeff Campbell, pitcher; Novi; Dan Pierce, outfielder; Plymouth; Scott Collins, outfielder; Wayne; Jim Stotzslad, outfielder; Livonia; Kevin Dial, outfielder; Ann Arbor; Dan Cook, outfielder; Livonia; and Mike Kesslin, infielder; Canton. White lives in Canton.

## Vicchio's pitching lifts Falcons

Farmington struck for eight runs in the third inning on five hits, three walks and two errors, and made it stand up in an 8-4 baseball triumph over Livonia Stevenson Friday at Farmington.

Brian Vicchio was the winning pitcher. He allowed four runs (three earned) on six hits and three walks, striking out eight. Joe Arella started and took the loss for Stevenson; he was relieved in the third inning.

Eric Messer started the Farmington rally with a single. Chris Adams and Gary Shely followed with walks to load the bases and, after P.J. Green struck out, Kevin Van Ord singled in two runs to pull the Falcons to within 3-2.

A pickoff attempt at second base ended up as a wild throw into center field, allowing Shely to race home with the tying run. Eric Miller then doubled in Van Ord with the go-ahead run and, after Chris Schmidt walked, Norm Selinske singled to load the bases again.

Paul Woytowick hit a bouncer to the pitcher, but his throw to first was wild and two more runs scored. Messer followed with a sacrifice fly for another run, and Adams' single made it 8-3.

Adams had two hits and an RBI for Farmington, now 4-1. Dan Piergentilli had two hits, scored two runs and knocked in another for Stevenson, now 1-4.



JIM JAGGELD/staff photographer

Sisters (left to right) Donna Swanson, Laura Johnson and Vicki Webster were among the many Oberlinland runners who competed in

the annual Boston Marathon last week. All three are serious competitors who train regularly with the Redford Road Runners.