



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Sue Gibson of Farmington (left) scored two goals and had one assist Monday as the Falcons defeated Harrison 9-0 to complete a sweep of the public school opposition in the city. Julie Farabee is the opposing player.

## Falcons extend reign among public schools

Farmington claimed the city championship in girls soccer — among the public schools at least — by routing host Farmington Hills Harrison 9-0 Monday.

The Falcons got two goals apiece from Michelle Lorenz and Sue Gibson to win the title for the fifth consecutive year, the last three under coach Cathy Kansman.

Farmington would need a victory over Farmington Hills Mercy of the Catholic League to be the undisputed city champs, but that won't happen unless they should meet in the state tournament.

The teams played for a district title last year when the Falcons were the top-ranked team in the state. Mercy won in an upset and advance to the state semifinals.

The Marlins are undefeated (8-0-2) and ranked seventh in Class A this

### soccer

year. Farmington is 4-4 overall.

"If we do get the chance to play them, we would look forward to that opportunity," Kansman said. "They're a quality team, and we want to play quality teams. We would love to play them."

The fact Farmington doesn't play the Marlins in the regular season doesn't diminish what the Falcons have done among their public school rivals.

"Since we wouldn't play them until the end of the season, we accomplish our goals as meet them," Kansman said. "Our goal was to beat North Farmington and Harrison, and

the girls are real happy they did that."

Farmington dominated the Hawks, attempting 36 shots on goal. Kirsten Soper and Kim Owezczak combined for the shutout, playing the first and second halves in goal, respectively.

Michelle Lorenz, Kim Popyk and Gibson scored first-half goals. Julie Dugan, Eileen Mombalanco, Lauren Tucker and Jessica Vitler had second-half goals while Lorenz and Gibson got their second of the afternoon.

The assists also were spread evenly among the players. Dugan, Mombalanco, Maggie Frump, Sue Cinarad, Gibson, Monika Kurzer and Popyk received one point each for their contribution on the distributing end of the scoring plays.

"We made a lot of combination plays that we had worked on in practice," Kansman said, "and it took a total team effort to do that."

The play of tri-captains Dugan, Gibson and Popyk has been especially important to the Falcons, and the trio has performed to expectations.

"When they have a challenge in front of them, they go about it with the consistency and intensity to accomplish it," Kansman said. "And I'm glad they're on our team."

AFTER GIVING up an early goal Monday, Farmington Hills Mercy rallied for a 2-1 soccer win over Catholic League rival Harper Woods Regina.

The visiting Marlins, playing without injured players Kathryn Dudley and Colleen O'Connor, improved to 8-0-2 overall and 5-0-1 in the Central Division.

After spotting Regina the early lead, Mercy tied the game on a goal by Carrie Dzasdosz at the 20-minute mark of the first half. Dana Lehmkuhl assisted on the goal.

Lehmkuhl broke the tie with about five minutes remaining when she scored her eighth goal on a penalty kick.

Hence Larabell was the goalkeeper for Mercy. Dudley, who leads the Marlins with 12 goals, missed the Regina game after suffering knee ligament



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Michelle Lorenz of Farmington (left) and Janelle Kohler of Harrison cross paths on the soccer field Monday. Lorenz scored two goals.

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## North takes crown in first city tourney

It was appropriate the winner of the initial Farmington softball tournament should be a hometown team, and that honor fell to North Farmington Saturday.

The Raiders (11-2) had an easy time in three of their four games, whipping Plymouth Salem in the championship game 12-2 in six innings.

North started with a 13-0 defeat of Birmingham Groves and, after getting past Northville 5-3, embarrassed Bloomfield Hills Andover 22-0 in a game that lasted only 1 1/2 innings.

North senior Dana Botwick was named the most valuable player, hitting .668 and collecting five RBI. She also had a key defensive role in center field.

The Raiders had a number of players with healthy hitting stats. North had a team batting average of .453 for the tournament with 43 hits in 95 plate appearances.

**SECOND BASEMAN** Terri Gruca hit .656 with three RBI, pitcher Jennifer Lydon .615 with eight RBI, catcher Eve Clear .462 with six RBI, third baseman Andrea Borico .429 with four RBI and left fielder Katie Bohne .558. Clear's hits included three triples.

Lydon was 3-0, pitching all but the Andover game and not allowing an earned run all day. Karen Seromet pitched a no-hitter against Andover.

"The girls are learning how to win," North coach Dave Brubaker said. "They're being aggressive and not making mental mistakes."

In the championship game, Clear belted a two-run triple and Botwick, Gruca, Lydon and Borico had two hits apiece. Botwick and Borico also drove in one run each.

Lydon gave up only three hits and three walks. She struck out two. The Raiders had 12 hits and nine walks off Salem pitcher Andrea Welling.

## Farmington avenges softball loss to Rocks

Farmington broke a 7-7 tie with seven runs in the sixth inning Monday and pulled away from visiting Plymouth Salem 14-9 in softball.

The Falcons, who won their first Western Lakes Activities Association game and stand 1-3 in the Lakes Division, avenged a Saturday tournament loss to Salem.

Farmington tied the game with one run in the fifth after Salem had rallied to take a 7-6 lead despite having only three hits.

Cory Wojcik pitched the entire game for the Falcons, 7-6 overall. Andrea Welling replaced starter Jenny Garvey in the first inning and was the loser. Emily Giuliani had two hits for Salem.

The Falcons won two of three games Saturday in the Farmington tournament.

Farmington beat Troy 5-3 in eight innings in the first game. Wojcik went the distance, and Jenny Sever paced the Falcons at the plate with three singles and a triple.

The Falcons mercied Farmington Hills Harrison 14-4 in the six-inning second game. Sever, Maria Hahn, Patti Hansen and Angela Farr ripped two hits apiece. Hansen pitched the first four innings for the victory, and Wojcik earned a save in relief.

Salem scored nine runs in the fourth and fifth innings of the final game and defeated the Falcons 9-2. Both teams were 2-1 in pool play, but the Rocks advanced to the final against North Farmington based on the head-to-head meeting.

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Botwick was 3-for-3 in the Groves game. Lydon had two RBI with a bases-loaded double, Borico also knocked in two runs and Gruca scored two runs.

Lydon pitched a one-hitter, striking out four and walking one.

**NORTH LED 4-0** in the bottom of the sixth inning against Northville before the Mustangs staged a late rally to make the final score close.

Lydon, Botwick and Clear had two hits apiece. Lydon also had two RBI and Botwick two runs scored. Lydon

allowed only two hits and one walk, and she struck out two.

The Raiders took one hour to complete their first inning and only at bat in the Andover game. North scored 22 runs on 11 hits, 10 walks and three errors.

Botwick had two walks, a bases-loaded triple and three runs; Gruca was 3-for-3 with two RBI and scored three runs. Lydon was 2-for-2 and had four RBI. Clear had two hits and four RBI. Bohne was 2-for-2 with three RBI and Allison Stein had three RBI on two singles.

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