

SC men's soccer rally nets victory

It took quite a while for Schoolcraft College's men's soccer team to start playing like the defending NJCAA Region 12 champions they are.

Indeed, the realization of just what it will take to regain that title almost came too late.

With less than 10 minutes remaining in their first match in regional play, against visiting Cuyahoga Metro CC Saturday, the Ocelots found themselves trailing 3-2. Fortunately, they also found a pair of very important veterans on the field in Chris Crawford and Jeff Vandemergel.

Crawford took a free kick from midfield with seven minutes left. A Cuyahoga defender tried to head the ball out of danger, but wasn't quite able to reach the ball. Vandemergel was, though he figured what would happen and raced behind the defender to field the ball, putting it into the net for the tying score.

After that, the game belonged to SC. The Ocelots dominated the two 15-minute overtimes, with Dave Isehn and Crawford each scoring in the first OT to deliver a 5-3 victory.

"OUR GUYS just totally dominated (the overtimes)," said SC coach Van Dimitriou. That wasn't the case dur-

ing regulation, however. "It wasn't that we were out-playing them, but when they made a rush we didn't defend properly."

SC opened the scoring 12 minutes into the match when Rick Menary scored from six yards out. John Varro rallied Cuyahoga, however, scoring a goal on a hard drive at 36:00 and setting up a second when he was headed down in the penalty area by SC sweeper Mike Presley at 38:00. John Abusada scored on the penalty kick, putting Cuyahoga up 2-1.

With under a minute left in the half, SC's Brian Hansen slammed home a pass from Menary to tie the game at 2-2. Cuyahoga again forged ahead when Varro drilled a free kick from 25 yards out past a mis-aligned SC defense.

"There were a number of situations where we just had miscommunications on defense," said Dimitriou. "I can't remember when we have allowed three restart goals in a season, and we've already done that this year."

It's something the Ocelots, now 2-1-1 for the season, will have to straighten out quickly, if they plan on remaining in title contention.

Schoolcraft women tie

The play of Schoolcraft College's women's soccer team matched the weather, according to coach Nick O'Shea.

"We played terrible," was his summary after the Lady Ocelots tied Hope College 1-1 Saturday in Holland. The match was played in the rain, and SC played it without top forward Shannon Meath, out with a leg muscle pull.

The game was scoreless through regulation. Hope got the first goal, two minutes into the second 15-minute overtime, but it was scored by the Lady Ocelots. As Jennifer Whitfield prepared to clear a ball from in front of the net, it skipped off the wet turf and went off her side and into the goal.

At that point, with just 13 minutes left to retaliolate, O'Shea said "It didn't matter if we gave up another goal, so we pushed (stopper) Lori (Place) up front. In four minutes we had a goal. We almost gave up two in that time, though."

Without Meath, SC forwards Carol Pletilla and Becky DiVerno had trouble handling the ball on the wet grass. O'Shea tried pushing midfielder Nikki Johnson up front, but then there was no one at midfield to move the ball forward.

Only when he put Place up front did the SC offense finally click. Place was pulled down just outside the penalty area, and she put the direct kick into the net to knot the game.

Coaches: call in best swim times

Girls swim coaches are asked to call Plymouth Canton coach Hooker Wellman with their best individual swim times and diving scores. Wellman will compile the weekly list of Observerland bests again this year. Area coaches should call Wellman between 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at Canton High School, 451-6600, Ext. 313.

O&E sports line

Coaches and statisticians calling in sports results to the Observer should be advised of a change in phone numbers. Dan O'Meara, sports editor for the Farmington and Plymouth-Canton Observers, can now be reached at 953-2141.

CC triumphs over B.Foley

Continued from Page 1

and goalkeeper Jeff Sawicki earned his third shutout Monday as Redford Catholic Central defeated Madison Heights Bishop Foley at Bell Creek Park, 1-0.

Brendan Sullivan earned the assist on Walled's goal, which came before halftime. The non-league win moved the Shamrocks' record to 6-0 overall. Foley, a highly-ranked Class B team, fell to 5-1.

On Sunday, CC blanked host the University of Detroit-Jesuit 5-0. Anthony Vertino scored two goals and Walos, Kerry Zavagnin and Scott Lerner one each. Matt McIntosh, Zavagnin, Walos and Mario Sceltona picked up assists.

Deadline near for O&E golf

The deadline is here.

The most challenging Observer & Eccentric/Whispering Willows Golf Tournament ever is at hand. What makes this one so difficult?

Expansion. Fox Creek Golf Course has been added. The 36-hole men's tournament will feature 18 holes at Fox Creek Saturday, Sept. 28, and 18 more at Whispering Willows on Sunday, Sept. 29 (both golf courses are in Livonia). The women's tournament will be an 18-hole event on Saturday, Sept. 28, at Whispering Willows.

The deadline for entry is 6 p.m. this Saturday. Coupons are in various O&E editions; details regarding the tournament are included on the form. Other entries are available at either Whispering Willows (located on Newburgh, south of Eight Mile) or Fox Creek (on Seven Mile, east of Newburgh).

There is one change, regarding the men's tournament: Instead of a shotgun start on Saturday, there will be a crossover start. Tee times will begin at 7:45 a.m., so all participants are urged to call after noon Thursday, Sept. 26, ready, over 100 have been received for the men's tournament.

The use of two Livonia city courses should provide a greater test of skill. Fox Hills is a par-71, covering 6,612 yards; Whispering Willows is also a par-71, measuring 6,215 yards.

Entry fee is \$50 for men, \$25 for women. All entrants must reside within the O&E coverage area (cliques included are listed on the entry coupon). For additional information, call Whispering Willows at 476-4493.

Hawks 3rd at S'craft

By Brad Emmons

staff writer

Walled Lake Western High's nickname is the Warriors, but Jackrabbits or Roadrunners would fit better for the boys cross country squad.

Once again, Western proved to be a bunch of Wylie Coyotes, placing five of the top 10, and seven of the first 20 finishers in the 26th annual Schoolcraft Invitational on Saturday.

Western, the state's top-ranked team in Class A, won for the second straight year by setting a meet record for the lowest total score ever with 29 points. Novi was a strong second with 56 and Farmington Harrison a distant third with 93 in the 14-school field. See statistical summary.

Senior Bill Crosby (Western) was the runaway winner over the revamped 5,000-meter course with a time of 16:02.4. Novi's Brian Molloy took second in 16:55.1.

It was Crosby's first Schoolcraft crown after finishing behind Farmington's Ben Goba the past two years.

"Last year I ran against him (Goba)," Crosby said. "This year I feel more confident. I wanted to stay with the pack and run as fast as I could at the end."

CROSBY HAD plenty of competition on the course from his teammates.

Four others cracked the top 10 to earn all-divisional honors, including senior Jim Sweetman, 10th; senior Matt Wright, seventh; junior Art Schuetzler, eighth; and twin brother Chris Crosby, 10th.

"Schuetzler has been our sixth man, but he's made a big jump the last couple of meets," Western coach Dennis Keeney said. "He decided he's capable of being in the top 10."

boys cross country

and being right up there with the others. He's got a lot more confidence. Art really came through today."

And if that wasn't enough for Western, Keeney's two sons, Brandon, a junior, and Trevor, a sophomore, finished 13th and 19th, respectively.

"The competition on the team scares them somewhat," Keeney said. "That's good to a certain extent, but I also want them to run for each other."

Bill Crosby, however, got the green light to set his own pace and it showed, beating his closest competitor by nearly 53 seconds.

"Coach Keeney has time for the runners and he'll bend over backwards for you," said the Schoolcraft champ. "But he keeps me in my place while bending over backwards for me, too."

THE ONLY OTHER two area runners to crack the Western-Nov domination were Harrison senior Jason Zydrski, who took fifth; and Livonia Churchill senior Jeff Martus, who finished sixth.

But with a four-point win already over perennial state power Milford, the rest of the area schools will simply fall into line behind Western.

"I think we can win the whole thing," said Crosby, looking ahead to the state meet.

"At the state meet anything can happen," Keeney cautioned. "The best team usually sticks together."

And at least for now, Western is best around.

Mercy outruns Falcons

Farmington Hills Mercy had career-best times from several of cross country runners Tuesday as the Marlins edged Dearborn Divine Child 27-29 at Cass Dental Woods.

The Marlins improved to 2-0 in the Catholic League, and Divine Child fell to 1-1 in dual meets.

"It was a great day for running," Mercy coach Gary Servais said. "The girls ran their best times of the season, and most ran the best times of their careers."

One of those with a career best was junior Sharmila Prasad, who ran 26:19 and finished second. Divine Child's Angie Carolosi finished first in 19:54.

"It was a fairly close meet, and a place here or there meant the difference," Servais said.

Senior Heather Noll took third place for the Marlins in 21:50 and teammate Amy Freund was fourth in 22:04.

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- FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (18-5-0) ranked #6 nationally
- NEW HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE (15-7-0) ranked #9 nationally

Note: 1990 records

1991 pre-season rankings

THE SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. - Youth Select Tournament
11:00 a.m. - Detroit Country Day School vs. Livonia Churchill High School
1:00 p.m. - Florida Institute of Technology vs. New Hampshire College
3:00 p.m. - Oakland University vs. Northeast Missouri State University
5:00 p.m. - Rochester High School vs. Warren DeLaSalle High School
7:30 p.m. - Tournament Banquet at the Oakland Center

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. - Youth Select Tournament
1:00 p.m. - Florida Institute of Technology vs. Northeast Missouri State University
3:00 p.m. - Oakland University vs. New Hampshire College
5:00 p.m. - Presentation of Trophies
4:45 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - Youth Tournament
Championship Games

THE ADMISSION

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