

# FIFA has high expectations

PERHAPS IT WAS inadvertent. But I wouldn't bet on it.

Guido Tognoni bubbled with enthusiasm, refusing to say anything he didn't like about the Prud'homme Silverdome as a site for some of the 1994 World Cup soccer games.

People prodded, but the closest Guido — one of the site inspection delegates — would come to saying anything bad was admitting "technical reasons" could ruin the Silverdome's chances.

"I have difficulties finding something negative," said Guido. "We know about the lack of size of the field and the artificial turf before, so I could not really call that a negative."

What Tognoni said that caught my attention, though, seemed to incorporate a world's-eye view of America. Said he: "Since Americans have gone to the moon, I'm sure they'll make grass grow indoors."

Tognoni was smiling when he said it, so maybe it was nothing more than a meaningless joke. Still, I have my doubts.

I GET the feeling most people share Tognoni's view of America — a land where money is so abundant, anything is possible.

Think about this for a moment: It will cost an estimated \$1.2 million to renovate the Silverdome — build a



C.J. Risak

find a way to build a platform and grow green, green grass.

"Such a wonderful stadium deserves to be a host. As I said, it is a five-star stadium."

These glowing reviews make me happy. Even if they do stick us with those crazy hooligans from England or Germany or the Netherlands. I'd love to see the World Cup come here.

THIS AREA has more to offer. It would be a stretch to call it a tradition, we're not that established yet. But compared to the rest of the United States, the metro-Detroit area — particularly the cities covered by the Observer & Eccentric — ranks high in soccer understanding.

As proof, I need only point to the massive youth programs going year-round (indoor and outdoor), to the number of top collegiate players from the Detroit area (Indiana U. has three, for example), or to the 1,000 fans who showed up for an Oakland University-vs.-Michigan State game at Rochester HS two years ago.

The Detroit/Pontiac World Cup Committee, headed by Roger Faulkner of Bloomfield Hills and Jim Dugan of Farmington Hills, want something more out of this than a couple of weeks of foreigners romping through our streets. They want to establish soccer — professionally.

It could happen. Why not? We've already been in the moon.

platform above the normal playing surface the football field isn't wide enough, which means tearing out the first few rows of seats, and then plopping down some real grass on top of it.

You've got to keep the grass growing, too. And the turf must withstand the pressure of full-grown men running and to and fro, game after game.

A study conducted by Cup organizers for the three possible indoor sites (Houston, which has already been eliminated, and New Orleans were the others) said it will work. Without doubt.

Although FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association, soccer's ruling force) hasn't officially said it wants to play any World Cup games indoors, the general feeling is they do — if we can make the grass grow.

"FIFA FROM early on was receptive to playing soccer indoors," said Tognoni. He added: "Our general impression (of the Silverdome) was very, very positive. I hope they can

# sport shorts

## ROCKERS WIN TOURNEY

The Farmington Rockers No. 3 ended its season Sunday by winning the Farmington Cup Tournament and bringing its final record to 10-0-1.

The Rockers, members of the Western Suburban Soccer League under-14 boys Division II, entered the tournament as division champs and having outscored their opponents 36-4.

The Rockers reached the tournament final by winning a 4-3, sudden-death shootout with arch-rival Farmington No. 4. The Rockers defeated Farmington No. 2 in the tournament final, 2-0.

"It was truly a team effort in winning the division and tournament," coach Ed Kolack said.

The Rockers are Ron Baker, Tony Clarantaro, Justin Davis, David Dobson, Noah Payne, Chad Goshorn, Matt Hankins, Ryan Holmes, Shmuel Inoue, Andy Kolack, Walter Koning, Brandon McKelly, Will Myers, Dante Vaccas, David Viane and Kosuke Yamagata.

## BANDITS CITY CHAMPS

The Farmington Bandits soccer team won the city championship for the third consecutive year Sunday.

The Bandits qualified for the championship game with 5-0 and 2-1 victories over Farmington teams Saturday. The Bandits won the title game 1-0.

The Bandits, who were coached by Craig Barton and Jerry Marchel, are Abe Aon, Ken Barton, Dan Gabriel, Brad Gerwatowski, Justin Gerwatowski, Mike Haller, Pete Jackson, Paul Koolman, John Lowry, Jon Marchel, Zack Papper, Dave Petrovich, Jeff Porter, Nick Pourcho, Randy Sage, Colin Short and Nick Sconowski. The Bandits were sponsored by the Farmington Clinic.

## COACH NEEDED

Farmington Hills Mercy needs a varsity volleyball coach. Candidates should send a resume to Athletic Director Suzanne Brown at 29200 Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, 48336 or call 476-2838.

# Shamrocks 7th in state

By Brad Emmons staff writer

Three-time state boys cross country champion Redford Catholic Central finished seventh Saturday in the Class A meet held at try and blustery Terra Verde Golf Course in Nunciac.

The Shamrocks had 226 points, only one point behind fifth place Hillford and sixth place Ann Arbor Pioneer. Both schools had 225.

Milford Lakeland came away with its first state title, scoring 144. Walled Lake Western was second with 185, followed by Monroe (168) and Grand Rapids Christian (219).

"IT WAS the worst conditions I've seen since I've been coaching, but when you win it's 80-degrees," CC coach Tony Magni said. "The kids were hurting as the snow hit their face. The course had a lot of tight turns, but it was in good condition considering all the rain they had all week."

Senior Steve Witke finished ninth in the 5,000-meter race with a time of 17:06 en route to all-state honors. "When the gun goes off I don't worry about him because he's always among the leaders," Magni said.

Western's Bill Crosby was the individual winner in the team race with a time of 16:18.

# North has 2 all-staters

Continued from Page 1

"We've turned it around," Reed said. "When you look at it that way, we've come a long way."

"We had a great season. We were the first team to go to state and, I'd like to think it's the start of a great tradition. We've broken some ground and, hopefully, convinced some kids at Harrison we can be known for more than just football."

NORTH FARMINGTON had two all-staters in the Class A girls race. Sophomore Keegan Keelover was seventh in the individual race (20:44.27) and junior Emily Shively eighth (20:51.27).

Keelover, who also plays basketball for the Raiders, qualified for the Nebraska state meet as a freshman.

"We know she had the potential to be all-state but, playing two sports, we didn't know if it was asking too much of her," North coach Bill Pinnell Jr. said.

"But she's a tough competitor and ran well in all the meets. She gets out in front and hangs on. Keegan was the biggest surprise. I expected her to be in the top 20 but probably

the teens.

"I figured Emily would be all-state. She's had an excellent year for a first-year runner. She fulfilled our highest expectations of her."

The Raiders, champions of the Western Lakes Activities Association, will have four of their top five runners back next year, including sophomore Alecia Crossland, who was 62nd in the state (22:23.42).

"WITH THESE girls gaining experience in the state meet, it will benefit them when they're running in the big meets during the year," Pinnell said.

Farmington Hills Mercy junior, Sharmila Prasad was 22nd in the individual race (21:28.43) and Farmington High senior Allison Davis 63rd (22:24.14).

A pair of Farmington Hills sisters, senior Joy and freshman Laura Wright, helped Southfield Christian win its second Class C championship in three years. The Eagles were second last year.

Laura was third in the team race with a 20:16 time and Joy, also a member of the 1989 championship team, sixth (20:49).

# S'craft eyes NJCAA volleyball title

By C.J. Risak staff writer

For the last three years, Schoolcraft College's volleyball team has spent a week of November in Florida.

Not vacationing. Hardly. In 1988, the Lady Ocelots captured the NJCAA Tournament, collecting the school's second national title. They finished in the top six nationally every year since.

SC will begin its quest anew today when it hosts the NJCAA Region 12 Tournament. Opening round play begins at 6 p.m., with the third-seeded Ocelots play unseeded Muskegon CC.

Other opening-round matches are Henry Ford CC vs. Sinclair (Ohio) CC, Lansing CC vs. Lake Michigan CC, Vincennes (Ind.) CC vs. Cuyahoga Metro (Cleveland), Kalamazoo Valley CC vs. Clark State (Ohio), and Lakeland (Ohio) CC vs. Southwestern CC.

The 14-team tournament's top two seeds, Kellogg CC (No. 1) and Mott CC, received first-round byes — something SC had always been recipient of the last three years.

BUT THE Ocelots tied Mott for the Eastern Conference title, and Mott won the tiebreaker, thus earning the top seed. Should SC beat Muskegon, it will play the Kalamazoo Valley-Clark State winner at 11 a.m. Friday.

The tournament is double-elimination. The first two rounds, played Thursday and Friday, are best-of-three games; Saturday's semifinals and finals are best-of-five. The first round of Saturday's final will be at noon, with a second round at 2 p.m., if necessary.

There's no secret to SC's game plan — work the ball inside to middle-hitters Karl Van Deusen and Rena

Bonser. "If our two middle-hitters can hit in the .350 (kill percentage) range, we'll win," said SC coach Tom Teters.

"It isn't the only key, however. "We're going to have to be able to serve tough," he added — meaning fewer than three service errors a game. "Also, if someone can step up and do something out of the ordinary, something more than expected, it will help."

TEETERS MADE no secret his team was not exactly playing its best ball, but added an epidemic of colds has hurt. Setters Keil Haeger and Nancy Ehlers have apparently overcome their mid-season injuries, so that's a plus.

So has been the play of outside hitter Stephanie Jandasek. She had seven kills and six digs in a 15-11, 15-9, 15-8 win over Henry Ford CC, and seven more kills in a 15-13, 15-8, 15-6 victory over Tiffin University. Both matches were played at SC Tuesday.

Last Saturday at Huntington College (Huntington, Ind.), Jandasek was the only SC highlight as the Ocelots split two matches. They lost to Huntington 7-15, 15-13, 15-0, 16-14, and defeated Goshen (Ind.) College 15-7, 16-18, 15-3, 16-11; Jandasek did not commit a service error and had seven aces.

In Tuesday's win over Henry Ford CC, SC got 11 kills from Van Deusen and 10 from Bonser; Haeger collected 12 assists-to-kills. Against Tiffin, Van Deusen had 13 kills and nine digs; Bonser had eight kills and two aces; and Haeger had four kills and 19 assists. SC finished 9-1 in the conference.

The regional champion will advance to the NJCAA Tournament Nov. 25-27 in Miami. It is a trip SC is hoping to make — again.

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