

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1992

SPORTS

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FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

North gridders win, 17-14

North Farmington's Todd Anderson ran wild Friday, but the Raiders had to hold off host Livonia Stevenson in a Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division football encounter, 17-14.

Anderson, who racked up 273 yards in 30 carries, scored on the game's opening play, a 70-yard touchdown run. The senior added a 30-yard TD run in the second quarter. North is 1-0 in the division and 2-1 overall.

"We couldn't contain him," said Stevenson coach Jack Reardon, whose team is 0-3 overall. "He's the best running back we've played against. He's a good football player."

Stevenson trailed 17-7 at halftime. The Spartans tied it early in the second quarter on a 3-yard run by Mike Redding.

Mich Bendler, in for injured place-kicker Scott Lord (two-for-two on extra points), added a 21-yard field goal for North just before the half.

Stevenson cut the deficit to 17-14 in the fourth quarter when Mich Lietzau caught a 4-yard pass from backup quarterback Kevin Szczembura, who was filling in for the injured J.J. Rorog (139 total yards).

Brad Morgan was Stevenson's leading receiver with four catches for 81 yards. Cliff Mickelson also picked off a pass.

Rockets down Falcons

It was apparent from the opening kickoff that Westland John Glenn would have the upper hand on Farmington.

The Rockets (3-0) took only 37 seconds to score their first touchdown and added five more before the afternoon was over en route to a 41-0 victory Saturday over the host Falcons (0-3) in the Lakes Division football opener.

Derek Besco's crunching hit on Farmington kick returner Harvey Hicks set the tone for the ball game. The ball popped straight up in the air and Glenn's Matt Graca recovered at the Farmington 3-yard line.

"I think our kids were a little intimidated by Glenn," Farmington coach Bernie Call said. "We worked all week on bunting up all our blockers in front of the return man, but we let the first guy down hit him. It was a combination of a blocking breakdown and not protecting the ball."

"You just can't give a team like Glenn the ball on the 3 to start the game."

Junior tailback Joe Padock, who led all rushers with 98 yards in 12 carries, scored on the game's first play from scrimmage. He added another TD, a 1-yard run on Glenn's next possession, to make it 14-0.

The Rockets added a third TD later in the quarter when Besco scored on a 33-yard sweep. (The score was set up by John Miller's fumble recovery.)

Quarterback Bryan Morrison, who was five of eight for 84 yards, contributed a 6-yard scoring pass to Besco in the third quarter, while Ryan Nistel and Tariq Horne added TD runs of 10 and 1, respectively, to close out the scoring.

The Rockets racked up 304 total yards, including 228 on the ground. Farmington was held to 56 yards total.

"I think we have more balance than we've had in the past, and consequently it's harder to defense us," Glenn coach Chuck Gordon said, "and hopefully we're not as predictable."

Brad Emons

Payne-Biggs rematch

Livonia heavyweight Craig Payne (5-1-1) will take on Philadelphia native and 1984 Olympic gold medalist Tyrell Biggs (23-4), beginning at 8 p.m. Tuesday as part of the Budweiser Fight Night at the Palace series, presented by Metro 25 Tire.

The bout is a rematch of the '84 Olympic Trials finals, when Biggs won a controversial 3-2 decision to make the U.S. squad. As amateurs, Biggs holds a 3-2 series edge against Payne, a former National Golden Gloves champion.

Biggs rang up a 15-0 pro record before losing on a devastating knockout to former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson in October of '87.

Tickets are available for \$20, \$15 and \$10 (general admission) at all Ticketmaster outlets. Tickets can also be charged by phone to American Express, Visa or MasterCard by calling 645-6666. For information call the Palace Box Office at 377-0100.

Falcons post victory

Farmington got its first dual-meet victory in girls swimming Thursday, defeating host Westland John Glenn 102-77.

Kim Seel paced the Falcons (1-2) by winning two individual events and playing a role in two relay victories.

She swam the 200-yard freestyle in 2:12.68 and the 500 in 5:48.38. Becky Weary, Jill Benivenga, Seed and Kelley Komula won the 200 and 400 freestyle relays in 1:55.29 and 4:15.39.

Weary and Benivenga also won other events, Weary the 100 freestyle (59.07) and Benivenga the 50 freestyle (28.15).

Farmington's Kristen Seed and Janet Rodeghier had personal bests in diving (138.65) and the 500 freestyle (5:58.61), respectively. Seed was second and Rodeghier fourth.

Harrison winners in a 128-58 loss Thursday to host Plymouth Canton were Veronica Furbergo, 50 freestyle (27.02); and Jenny Domino, 500 freestyle (5:47.99).

Area seniors eye World Series title



Canton Softball Center will be the site of the Senior Softball World Series this week. The National Trails team, dominated by Observerland men, is among the contenders in the 60-and-over age division after finishing fourth last year.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Bob Kaump recalled the time he and his age-50-plus teammates took the field for a softball game against younger men in a 35-and-over league.

"There was some chuckling as we walked up," he said. "But the chuckling changed to 'Hey, these guys can play some ball' by the time we got to the middle innings."

"We like playing against younger competition — and if we lose that's OK — because it gets us ready for our own age bracket. But we don't take it any less seriously."

National Trails, which includes Kaump and many other Observerland players, is one of 103 teams competing this week in the Senior Softball World Series at the Canton Softball Center.

Teams from the United States and

Canada will play for championships in six age groups: over-50, 55, 60, 65, 70 and (for the first time) 75.

The opening ceremonies take place Wednesday morning, and the games begin at 10 a.m. The finals are scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Each team plays four games to determine seeding for the double-elimination tournament.

Admission is free.

Ken Masa of Clinton Township, who helped organize the SSWWS four years ago, has seen the event grow from 63 teams the first year in Greensboro, N.C., and the quality of competition get better as more players take up the game.

"What we're seeing are members of these ballclubs who are former minor leaguers and some who played in the Major League," he said. "We have smart players and many have kept

themselves in good playing condition. "The caliber of ball will be surprising to those who haven't seen it. I know of one fella (Mel Trebble) who's 83 and plays a heckuva shortstop."

The Kids N Cubs from Florida, a team of octogenarians who have been the subject of features on national television, are entered in the 75-over bracket.

The team uniform of long white pants, white shirts and black bow ties distinguishes its members. One of its players, former Michigan resident George (Buck) Bakewell, is the oldest in the World Series at 100.

Al Moran of Farmington Hills, the second baseman for National Trails and assistant baseball coach at Redford Catholic Central, is one of the many former pros. He was the starting shortstop for the New York Mets in the early 1960s.

"If we don't get hurt, we should do pretty well," Moran said, adding the team has had a lot of recent injuries.

"Our chance of winning is just as good as six or seven others. We could play a possible 12 games in four or five days,

and that's a lot of games for 50-and-over players."

National Trails is one of two Michigan teams in that age group, the other being Notttadraft Tool from Mount Clemens. They finished fourth and third, respectively, last year in West Palm Beach behind the hometown Florida Legends and Premieres Cruises Lines.

In its preliminary games, National Trails plays Vancouver at 5:30 p.m. and the Legends at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. It plays the California Classics at 5 p.m. and the Rhode Island Colts at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

"Some people scoff at this, but those who come out will see pretty good softball because there are very few bad teams in this," said Kaump, a Redford resident who teaches in Farmington.

Other area players on the Trails roster are Bob Deligauw of Redford; Vaughn Covert, Don Dombey, Chuck Hrbatstret and Ken Johnson of Livonia; Milo Kachu of Farmington Hills; Joe Martin, John Pawett, Paul (Pete) Woodward and Gerry Ratkewicz of Plymouth.

See SOFTBALL, 2C

North, Harrison repeat as champs

The annual city cross country meet produced a pair of repeat champions Thursday as the North Farmington girls and Harrison boys won their second straight titles.

North won by a slightly larger margin (15 points as opposed to 13) over runner-up Harrison than it did Farmington a year ago in the girls contest at Oakland Community College. The Raiders compiled 27 points, the Hawks 42 and the Falcons 52.

"We knew Farmington Harrison was coming along," North girls coach Bill Pinnell said, "and we didn't expect to win by a comfortable margin."

The boys race couldn't have been any closer. A sixth-man tiebreaker was needed for the Hawks to edge vastly-improved North.

Both teams finished with 38 points, but Harrison's John May was 12th overall and North's Jordan Lane 20th. Ryan Duell, usually the No. 5 runner for the Raiders, twisted an ankle and was forced to drop from the race.

"It was a little disappointing not to win," North coach Paul Welch said, "but it shows we're capable of running with Harrison."

"We're looking forward to next year. I think we're going to do quite well. We have a lot of young runners and, as they get more experience, they're going to get better and better."

The Raiders did fare better in the dual-meet scoring, defeating Harrison 27-30 and Farmington 25-30 to push their record to 5-0. North won its Lakes Division girls dual over the Falcons 22-40.

North senior Emily Shively repeated as the girls' individual winner, finishing first in 21:06.

Teammates Keegan Keefover (22:34), Alicia Crossland (23:02), Kerrie Simp-

son (23:44) and Elaine Wolff (24:04) were fourth, fifth, seventh and 10th. Nora Curiel was 15th (25:09) and has filled in nicely while other runners are sidelined with injuries. Pinnell said.

"Simpson and Wolff have been pleasant surprises," he said. "Elaine is running about two minutes faster than last year. Simpson was in middle school but worked hard all summer and has done a good job."

The Hawks had Allison Noe (22:28) in third place, Jamie Riggs (23:18) sixth, Jenny Hannawa (23:52) eighth, Kelly Collins (24:43) 12th and Jenny Davis (24:59) 13th. Farmington's Dana Goble (22:25) was the runner-up. Sara Lidgley (23:52) was ninth, Jessica Rau (24:30) 11th and Mary Crawford (25:02) 14th.

Farmington's Dave Clineard was the boys top runner, finishing with a 17:06 time. Justin Dreyer paced the Hawks with a second-place effort of 17:39.

The Raiders had four of the top eight runners but, with the injury to Duell, could not overcome Harrison. Jeff Howle was third (17:55), Tom Stamboulion fourth (18:09), Brian Rajdl fifth (18:14), Paul Simpson eighth (18:37) and Adel Ahmad 20th (19:49).

Harrison's top five included Justin Koonce, sixth (18:29); Todd Hancy, ninth (18:55); Chad Koonce, 10th (18:59); and Roger Stadler, 11th (19:00). John May finished in 19:10 and Steve Quarterman was 14th (19:17).

Farmington's Tom May placed seventh (19:34), Mike Langdon 13th (19:12), Tripp Adams 15th (19:20) and Steve Swartz 16th (19:21).

Harrison's Aaron Bard was 17th (19:31), Farmington's Jason Parzuchowski 18th (19:34) and North's Mike Lane and Scott Samper 21st (20:25) and 22nd (20:33).



SHARON LEMMEL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

City champion: North Farmington senior Emily Shively won her second straight individual championship Thursday in the annual city cross country meet.

Patriots stun Hawks with OT field goal

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Dave Little had prepared too thoroughly for just the precise moment, and he wasn't about to let it slip away unfulfilled.

His 20-yard field goal in overtime Saturday boosted Livonia Franklin's football record to 3-0 with a monumental victory over visiting Farmington Hills Raiders.

"All summer long, me and (holder) Josh Reynolds dreamed about it and practiced it — a last-second field goal against Harrison," Little said.

"When it came down to that, he looked at me and I looked at him, and we knew we weren't going to miss it."

The defeat of four-time Western Lakes Activities Association champion Harrison (2-1) was historic, ending a win streak of 19 regular-season games.

The Hawks, the defending league champs, have lost only three Western Division games since the WLAA was organized in 1982, and Franklin now has two of those victories — the last coming in 1985.

"We had planned our season on it," said Franklin coach Armand Vigna, who kept a pledge to his players and allowed them to shave his head after the game.

"We set two goals — to beat Harrison and make the playoffs. Now we're going to have an intermediate goal. Let's try and win the division and, if we do that,

we'll go for the championship. If we do all of that, the playoffs will take care of themselves."

Franklin won the coin toss and chose to play defense first in overtime. A sack, an incomplete pass and a short run led to a missed 30-yard field goal by Brock Gove.

The Patriots gained 7 yards on two running plays before Little, who also plays quarterback and is the team's emotional leader, kicked his game-winner on third down.

"We have a lot of confidence in ourselves," said Little, sizing up the significance of the victory, "and it's a great boost to make the playoffs and go all the way — and we believe we will."

Neither team could do much offensively for four quarters, but Franklin's size in the line, its strong pass rush and defensive containment played a major role in limiting the Hawks.

The Patriots outgained Harrison 144-133. John Glenn (21 carries) gained 71 of Franklin's 84 rushing yards and Little completed four of 12 passes for 60 yards.

Harrison rushed for 72 of its 109 rushing total in the last quarter, especially late, when the Patriots were playing a little loose. Fullback Nick Williams got most of those late yards, finishing with 80 on 12 attempts.

Quarterback Jeff Cialo, who didn't start the game

after injuring a shoulder in the previous game, entered early in the first quarter when Harrison had trouble running wide and ended up three of 14 for 21 yards.

"I thought our kids played hard and well on defense, we just couldn't get anything going offensively," Harrison coach John Harrington said. "They overpowered us pretty much at the line of scrimmage."

"They stopped us early on the outside, and their pass rush was a little too strong. We hoped to catch them on first down in overtime with a pass, but the pass rush got us again."

Harrison's best scoring chance came late in the first half when a Cialo pass from field-goal formation was broken up by Clemente Herrera near the goal line.

"I told my kids, in as many years as I've been here (28, the last 18 as head coach), I can never remember our defense handling a first-class program's offense the way we did today," Vigna said.

The Patriots had bad field position in the first half but let several opportunities get away in the second.

Dennis Madden's interception and a short punt gave Franklin the ball at the 50 and Harrison 39, but the Patriots had to punt each time. In the fourth quarter, Franklin was stopped on fourth-and-one at the Harrison 36, and a fumble following a long pass into Harrison territory ended the next possession.