

SPORTS

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1994

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Raiders run to victory

North Farmington began a new season in girls cross country Thursday by routing Redford Union 16-50 at Oakland Community College.

Sophomore Jaime Brenner paced the Raiders with a first-place time of 21:04.

Junior Amanda Hough (23:43), senior Elaine Wolf (22:59), junior Kerrie Simpson (23:06) and sophomore Ava Lala (23:43), Becky Naglik (23:52) and Monica Czarwinski (24:02) filled the next six spots for North.

Roth wins pair of medals

Robert Roth of Farmington Hills earned silver and bronze medals in track and field Aug. 14-19 at the International Maccabi Games in Cleveland, Ohio.

Roth won the silver medal in the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.1 seconds and the bronze in the 400 relay. Roth was a gold-medal contender in the long jump, but he had to withdraw from the competition after hurting his back.

Roth had only one week to train for the games because he spent most of the summer playing baseball. He was a varsity player at North Farmington High School as a freshman last spring.

He played center field for the North Farmington-West Bloomfield Mickey Mantle team in the summer. He hit .381, had an on-base percentage of .568, a slugging percentage of .739 and stole 29 of 29 bases.

Roth pulled a hamstring muscle sliding into a base, and the injury hadn't completely healed before the Maccabi Games.

Sixty-three delegations from North America and around the world sent 2,900 athletes to compete in Cleveland. Boys and girls ages 13-16 competed in track and field, swimming, volleyball, softball, soccer, tennis, golf, gymnastics, table tennis, wrestling and basketball.

Glese joins U-D Titans

The University of Detroit Mercy men's soccer team, coached by Morris Lupenec, has high hopes entering the 1994 season.

The Titans return nine starters off last year's squad, which won a school-record 16 games and advanced all the way to the Midwest Collegiate Conference finals.

The forward position will find newcomers Mike Glese of Farmington, a transfer from Wisconsin-Green Bay, and Dominica Vella, a product of Livonia Churchill and Schoolcraft College.

The midfield spot features junior Darlo Rauker (Churchill) and sophomores John Truskowski (Plymouth Salem) and Adam Pichler (Livonia Stevenson).

The fullback position will be spearheaded by sophomore sweeper Jeff Thomas (Stevenson), a second-team All-NCAA Midwest choice. Redshirt sophomore Scott Wiggins (Stevenson) returns after sitting out last season with a foot injury.

In goal, the Titans boast one of the best in the Midwest in sophomore Kal Kaliszewski (Churchill). He posted 14-4-2 record while earning second team and MCC Newcomer of the Year honors.

Salem coach on mend

It's been a rough year for Plymouth Salem basketball coach Bob Brodie.

First his son, Joe, suffers a life-threatening injury while skiing last February. And now, with Joe nearly fully recovered, Bob goes down with a torn Achilles tendon, which he injured while playing — what else? — basketball.

It happened at the Gus Macker 3-on-3 Tournament hosted by Oakland University Aug. 28-29. Brodie was recruited to play by one of his assistants, Rick Wilson.

"I talked him into it," said Wilson. "And sure, I felt bad about (the injury), but he wanted to play."

Brodie, 40, underwent surgery last Wednesday to reattach the tendon. He will be in a cast for six-to-eight weeks.

Shamrocks defeat N'ville

Redford Catholic Central's soccer team spotted Northville a 1-0 lead before rallying for a 2-1 non-league victory Wednesday at Northville.

The Shamrocks are 2-0 overall. Goalkeeper Jeremy Podolak recorded the win with four saves.

Northville opened the scoring with a goal by Jeremy Sweet off a corner kick at 12:25 of the first half.

CC took the lead, however, with goals less than two minutes apart late in the first half.

Junior forward Chris Kennedy scored an unassisted goal to tie, and senior midfielder Dan Kogut broke the tie with a pass from Tom Derbake.

Crackerbox fall softball

Teams are still being accepted for the Crackerbox men's and coed softball fall leagues at the Knights of Columbus in Farmington Hills.

Play starts immediately. Teams are urged to apply quickly. For information call Mike Callahan at 474-6175 or 476-9088.

Falcons, Raiders win grid openers



The prep football season began last weekend with long overdue victories for Farmington High and North Farmington as both won their first openers in a long time.

Farmington football coach Lauri Niskanen said his team would do more than just compete this year, and the Falcons proved him right Friday night.

The Falcons won their season opener for the first time in many years, rolling to a 21-0 halftime lead and 24-14 victory over host Waterford Not.

"As long as we keep score, winning is important," Niskanen said. "We got the first one, and next Saturday we're going after No. 2."

"When I took over the program 20 months ago, I said we weren't just going to be competitive. We were going to compete for positions in two-a-days, and once we got people in there we were going to compete as a team."

Farmington's Tim Wheelis caught two touchdown passes from quarterback Tim Streit, and junior tailback Jake Sklosky rushed for 224 yards on 28 carries.

Senior fullback Ryan Lewis opened the scoring with a 20-yard run. Wheelis caught passes of 49 and 6 yards from Streit and Sean Noble kicked three extra points for the 21-0 halftime lead.

Mott stopped Farmington on fourth-and-1 in the third quarter and trimmed the score to 21-8. Noble kicked a 32-yard field before the Corsairs scored again with four minutes remaining.

With so many experienced players on both sides of the line, Niskanen said he told his team it was time to step up and play.

"We still have a lot of work to do, but it's better to make the corrections on a positive note when you win," he said.

"People think you just show up and win Friday night, but our offseason program was a big part of it. The preparation was unbelievable, and the kids have responded."

The Falcons play host to Walled Lake Western later this week.

NORTH 14, W. BLOOMFIELD 7: North Farmington took a 14-0 lead in the first half and held on to beat visiting West Bloomfield in the season opener Saturday.

The Raiders got on the scoreboard late in the first quarter when Nigel Whitte blocked a punt at the West Bloomfield 5-yard line and scored from a yard out.

In the second quarter, fullback Jeff Kong turned a screen pass from Russell Hayes into a 68-yard scoring play. Ben Sommer kicked his second extra point for a 14-0 lead.

The Lakers cut the margin in half

before halftime when Jared Johnson passed 22 yards to Lorenzo Ferguson.

North had only three first downs and survived the second half, according to coach Jim O'Leary.

"We didn't move the ball well," he said. "They blitzed us a lot and caused us some problems. We have an inexperienced offensive line, and they did exactly what they should and came after us."

"But our kids hung in there and played good defense, especially the secondary. We tried to get field position, play good defense and not give up the big play."

Defensive backs Rich Beal and Mark Lee played well, O'Leary said. Beal had an interception and both knocked down a couple passes and had some tackles for losses on sweeps.

West Bloomfield outgained the Raiders 92-55 on the ground and 236-180 overall.

Hayes was 4-of-6 passing for 95 yards. Kong gained 41 yards on eight carries, Whitte 38 on nine.

Warriors get best of Hawks

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills Harrison had its football pride wounded Saturday in a season-opening loss to Birmingham Brother Rice at the Silverdome, 28-21.

The Hawks, the preseason No. 1 team in the state, recovered from a 28-7 deficit with two fourth-quarter touchdowns to make the final score respectable.

Harrison had a chance to tie and force overtime, but Jake Lawson's fourth-down pass to Jeff Aschoff with a little more than three minutes left was incomplete at the Rice 25.

"That made me feel good, the fact we came back and showed some poise," Harrison coach John Herrington said.

"I told the kids we don't have time to feel bad about it, because we have (Westland John) Glenn next week. It's only the first game and we have a lot of football left."

When Harrison's Jason Granger dashed 76 yards for a touchdown on the first play from scrimmage, the game looked like a possible replay of the '91 opener won by Harrison 32-0.

But it was all Rice after that.

The Warriors used the combination of quarterback Derek Canine's passing and tailback Brian Marshall's running to dominate the clock and statistics for three quarters.

Rice outgained the Hawks 288-218 overall, but the margin was 253-109 through three periods. The Warriors scored twice in the second half and turned the game into a rout at that stage, 28-7.

"They had a good balanced attack and a big offensive line," Herrington said. "We were hoping the big line-backers could make up the difference, but not against the line averaging 250."

"We had to stay in there against their power, and then they hit us with the bootleg passes. We knew Canine could drill the ball in there, but Marshall kept breaking outside and we just had some trouble tackling him."

Canine completed nine of 16 passes



ANN HALEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Holding on: Brother Rice's David Sofran stopped Harrison's Kevin Bryant from breaking a long gainer on a kick return Saturday with a shirt tackle.

for 125 yards and two touchdowns, and he also scored one. Marshall rushed 26 times for 145 yards and a TD.

Rice responded to Granger's long run with a 10-play drive capped by Marshall's 8-yard run.

The Warriors needed only two plays on their third possession to take the lead, Canine hitting Unwana Thomas on the run in the end zone for a 39-yard TD pass.

Canine's 4-yard keeper late in the first half made it 21-7, and David Sofran took a pass from Canine and broke free from several defenders for a 22-yard TD in the third period.

Ubon caught four passes for 57 yards and Sofran three for 52.

"Our kids came together and did a good job of moving the ball," Rice coach Al Francisco said. "We didn't know how our sophomore back would do, and the offensive line was untested. But they did a decent job."

"This is a good team we beat. I don't know if they're going to lose too many games. Their momentum was going pretty good; I'm glad the game is over."

Harrison fullback Nick Williams rumbled 21 yards early in the fourth quarter to make it 28-14, and Jake Lawson passed 40 yards to Jeff Aschoff for another TD with 6:42 remaining.

The Hawks forced another Rice punt and got the ball at their 40 with

4:07 to play. But Harrison couldn't get a first down, and the Warriors were able to run out the clock when Marshall gained 17 yards on first down.

Lawson was 2-of-13 passing for 51 yards. Granger finished with 117 yards on 13 carries, Williams 55 on eight.

"In the first half, we made quite a few mistakes and they made some good plays," Herrington said. "It looked to me like we were tired early."

"When we finally settled down, we played well. I thought we moved the ball well, but the trouble was they got it and we couldn't get it away from them."

Harrison wins opener; loss stuns Mercy

Farmington Hills Harrison posted an impressive win Thursday in its first basketball season opener, but Farmington Hills Mercy suffered a disappointing defeat.

The visiting Hawks shut down Waterford Kettering in the second half on route to a 51-37 victory while host Walled Lake Central stunned the highly-touted Marquette 38-34.

Harrison won two out of three at halftime (37-25) but outscored the Captains in third quarter 17-4 and held them to 10 points in the second half.

"We played aggressive team defense and we rebounded well," Harrison coach Pete Mantyla said. "Our girls played with great intensity for the whole game. They did what they have all season: play hard and together."

Seniors Erin LaCourse and Krista Snow scored 15 and 11 points for the Hawks, respectively. Five-foot-3 sophomore point guard Monique Anderson got held on an impressive 18 rebounds.

"She came down off the top to help our girls," Mantyla said. "That was a nice start by a senior."

Senior forward Jamie Simmons added 11 points and 6.3 minutes center Tracie Tallgren 10 for

BASKETBALL

Kettering (0-2).

Harrison sank 22 of 24 free throws, the Captains nine of 28.

The Hawks had their depth tested when senior Kelly LaCourse got her fourth foul in the second half and had to sit down and again when Snow fouled out with five minutes left in the game.

"I was pleased with our depth and the leadership of veterans Krista and Erin," Mantyla said. "They played a lot of mistake-free minutes. It was a great team defensive effort, and we just want to build on that."

WALLED LAKE, MERCY 38: The Marquette, who were ranked among the top preseason teams in the state and have a lot of experience playing ball behind 51-30 at halftime and were less productive in the second half.

"We certainly didn't live up to expectations tonight," Mercy coach Larry Baker said. "We were extremely tight and played as though we were under a lot of pressure to perform."

Central played well and has a good team, but we were disappointed we didn't get more points on the board."

Senior forward Felicia Brooks was Mercy's top scorer with just eight points. Senior guard Glenda Lee was scoreless in the first half and finished with seven points, and senior center Julie Angell got all five of her points in the first quarter.

"It was just an absolutely horrendous offensive go," Baker said, adding the Marquette had "tons of rushed shots. No one stepped up like we expected."

Sophomore forward Becky Cummings scored 13 of her 16 points in the first half for the Vikings, and junior guard Jessica Alsop contributed 14. Junior forward Regina combined with Cummings to make Central the dominant rebounding team.

"I was disappointed I couldn't settle them down and our eight seniors weren't more prepared," Baker said.

"All the preseason hype got to them, and we didn't have the right focus on the competition of the game from the beginning."

ATWOOD 41, FARMINGTON 23: The Falcons turned a negative situation into a second-half positive Thursday, but it wasn't enough to catch the host Red Hawks.

Trey Albino scored in a 28-10 halftime lead, but Farmington came back to outscore the opposition 17-4 in the third period and 23-13 in the second half.

"It was two different games," Falcons coach John Ventura said. "We came out pretty soft in the first half and aggressive in the second."

See NOOPS, 20.