

SPORTS

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THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1995

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Japenga paces Hawks

Junior Japenga scored two goals Monday to lead Farmington Hills Harrison to a 4-0 victory over Walled Lake Western in its Western Lakes Activities Association soccer opener.

Japenga, whose breakaway score was lone tally in a 3-1 loss Saturday to Berkley, scored on breakaways in the 52nd minute and 46th minute, the second time with an assist by Amanda Quirio.

Sara Kloosterman made a great save late in the game to preserve her first shutout.

Julie Earle converted a cross from Erica Rice in the 76th minute, and Rice scored off an assist by Janine James a minute later. The win put Harrison's record at 1-2 overall.

Jana Kluska's second-half goal, a header on a cross from Lynn Drowniak, enabled Mercy to tie Livonia Ladywood 1-1 Monday.

Mari Hoff scored three goals and assisted on another as Plymouth Salem defeated Farmington 7-0, and Livonia Stevenson gave interim coach Jim Kimble a 6-0 win over North Farmington in his varsity debut.

CC wins pair from RU

Senior Greg Rogers gave his usual steady performance in the field Saturday and added some punch at the plate as Redford Catholic Central swept a baseball double-header from Redford Union, 5-1 and 6-4.

Rogers, who batted only .203 last season, delivered a two-run double in the first game to spark a three-run rally against RU's all-state pitching candidate Brian Berryman.

Rogers added a triple and walked twice with one RBI to help the Shamrocks win the second game.

Rogers, playing second base, also showed fine range to spoil two attempted hit-and-run plays.

Justin Stankiewicz equaled his win total from last year by allowing two hits in five innings.

In the second game, Marty Wilk overcame a shaky start and earned his first varsity win with a six-hitter over five innings.

On Monday, CC moved to 3-0 with a 5-4 victory over Detroit DeWorces. James O'Connor scattered four hits and struck out seven over five innings for the win.

Ryan McGrath and Matt Kaye had two hits and two RBI each, Mike Daguanno an RBI triple.

Hawks prep for another title run

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER



Couch John Reed won't let his Farmington Hills Harrison track and field athletes take success for granted.

The Hawks are the defending Western Lakes Activities Association champs, and Reed wants them to continue doing the things that made them winners.

"We're doing it a little differently," Reed said. "We're going to go one practice and one meet at a time. Even though we feel we have a pretty good team, we feel it's important not to lose track of doing the basic things."

"My biggest concern is, if we forget about what got us there, we won't have a good season; so we're going back to the basics."

Harrison, which finished 9-1 in dual meets and won its third straight city championship (four of the last six), returns most of its team with some notable exceptions.

Hurdler Tom Sokol and distance runners Matt Zimmerman and Doug Bacon have graduated, sprinter Scott Gurke used up his eligibility and senior Gil Chavez, the all-area selection in the 200-meter dash, decided not to return.

Senior Kevin Bryant is recognized as an outstanding hurdler, even though he had not competed in that event before last year.

Bryant, who is going to the University of Michigan to play football, won the WLAA title in the 110 highs and placed eighth in the state. He set a school record of 14 flat in the Class A prelims.

"We'll use him creatively," Reed said, adding Bryant is also a good quarter miler and relay runner.

"He did well in the indoor season and is going to be a great performer this year. Kevin has a lot of ability and works hard to get the most out of it."

Despite the loss of Gurke and Chavez, the sprints remain an area of strength with the return of juniors Jason Granger and Jeff Aschoff and



ANN HEALEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Life in the fast lane: Harrison senior Ahsan Allos (left) and junior Jason Granger are two of the best sprinters in the area.

senior Ahsan Allos. Granger was the WLAA champ and all-area pick in the 100 dash, running a season best of 10.6.

"He looks terrific, as good if not better than last year," Reed said, adding Granger won the 65-meter dash at the recent Huron Relays and tied a meet record (6.2).

He and Allos were members of the all-area 400 and 800 relays, and Aschoff, who has recovered from a broken leg suffered in football, can fill the void in those events.

Allos "is greatly improved and more confident," Reed said. "He did well in some indoor meets and looks real strong."

The Hawks also have a good group of freshmen with good attitudes and talent to match, according to Reed.

"I get the feeling some of the new kids are going to be big-time contributors by the end of the season," he said.

Harrison didn't perform to Reed's See BOYS TRACK, 4C

Mercy's new coach plans to build strong program

BY NEAL ZIPSER
STAFF WRITER

For the seniors on the Farmington Hills Mercy softball team, the start of the past four seasons has been the same: getting to know the new coach.

Ever since longtime coach Suzanne Brown left the Mercy program four years ago, a new coach has been at the helm of the Marlin program each season.

The newest leader, Jack Falvo, is the third coach in the past three years, succeeding Lonnie Hines, who followed Beth Burgess.

Falvo, however, has no intentions of being in the Mercy dugout for only one season. He also has ideas of returning the program to where Brown had it.

"We're trying hard to resurrect the program from where it was

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four years ago and bring back the pride and winning tradition," Falvo said. "In a way, we want to make this a tribute to Suzanne and the alumni."

Falvo realizes it might take awhile for the team to play at the level he expects.

"We're going through a period of transition where a new coaching staff is coming in and the players are trying to adjust to them, just like we're trying to adjust to the players," Falvo said.

"We're moving at a slow pace now, and it will take some time for us to jell. We're working on putting together a team chemistry; we don't expect to be playing our best until May. Hopefully,

then we'll be respectable in the districts."

It was the districts that ended Mercy's 17-14 season last year, when the Marlins were eliminated by Farmington Hills Harrison.

The Marlins lost several key players to graduation, including second-team All-Area center fielder Kathy Mitterovich. Also gone is the battery of pitcher Debbie Dzickan and catcher Erin Wiebe, as well as first baseman Katie Kenny.

Mercy also received a blow when outfielder Glenda Lee opted not to return for her senior year.

Falvo does have a core of returning players, including senior Piper Metz. She played shortstop last season but might move to catcher because of her strong arm.

See MARLINS, 5C



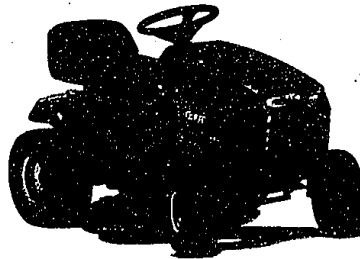
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Team leader: Senior Piper Metz, diving back to first base in the district final last year, is one of the top Mercy players.

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