

SPORTS

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THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1995

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Raiders rule courts

North Farmington won the Warren Mott Invitational in boys tennis Saturday, edging Warren DeLaSalle by a point, 20-19.

Seth Weingarten won the No. 1 singles title for the Raiders, defeating Jeff Wajda of Trenton in the finals, 6-0, 1-6, 6-1.

Freshman Nomi Shah improved his team-best record to 8-1 by winning the No. 3 singles championship over DeLaSalle's Chris Korbut, 6-1, 6-2.

North also was first at No. 3 doubles with Peter Golaszewski and Steve Lehman defeating the Trenton duo of Dave Sunderland and Aaron Von Volkenburg, 6-3, 7-8 (7-2).

The Raiders were runners-up at No. 2 singles (Ben Sommer) and No. 2 doubles with Brad Steel and Michael Radisch.

Mercy golf victory

Farmington Hills Mercy improved its dual-meet record to 4-0-1 in girls golf Monday with a non-league victory over Dearborn, 176-200.

Karen Porter shot 41 on the par-30 Dearborn Hills course to lead the Marlins. Amy Schulzinski carded 43 strokes, Jacque Denamore 45 and Tina Madej 47. Krisay Kachowski's round of 44 paced the Pioneers.

Elite loses opener

Ann Arbor Elite fell to the Lexington (Ky.) Bandits in its U.S. Inter-Regional Soccer League opener 3-2 Saturday before 856 fans at Ann Arbor Pioneer High School.

The Elite, made up primarily of former Observerland prep standouts, took a 1-0 lead on a Dave Nordwall (Livonia Stevenson) goal from Billy Joker (Plymouth Salem).

The Bandits scored two unanswered goals before Elite tied it on Joker's goal on a corner kick from Andy Cosenza (Salem).

The Elite returns to action 7 p.m. Saturday against the Minnesota Thunder, one of the top teams in the USISL.

Tickets for Saturday's game are \$6 for adults and \$4 for students (18 and under). For more information call Wayne Worosz at 455-4011.

Madonna sweeps games

Kurt Wilczyński slugged a run-scoring double in the top of the ninth inning Monday, allowing Madonna University's baseball team to claim a 7-6 victory and a sweep of its doubleheader against Siena Heights.

Wilczyński, who had three hits and two RBI, drove in Tim Kasubowski with the deciding run. Jim Solak (Redford) went the distance to pick up the pitching win; he surrendered six hits and a walk, and he had two hits himself.



City champ: Patti Dizon won the 300-meter hurdles Tuesday and helped Harrison High win the 1995 girls title.

SHARON LAMMIE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Harrison girls claim city title



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills Harrison put away past disappointments and overcame injuries Tuesday to regain the city championship in public school girls track.

The Hawks won their first title in three years and dethroned two-time defending champ North Farmington. Harrison scored 81 points, the host Raiders 61 and Farmington 30.

"It seems like we've been second for a while," Harrison coach Mark Babcock said. "We've had some bad luck at the city meet with injuries and other problems."

"Last year we didn't bring home any of the plaques in any of the relays, so we were bound and determined today to give it our best."

The Hawks won 11 of the 17 events, and seniors Allison Noe and Krista Snow were directly or indirectly responsible for seven.

Noe won the 800-meter, 1,600 and 3,200 runs, and she was on the winning 3,200 relay team.

Snow, despite an ankle injury that kept her out of the 300 hurdles, won the 100 hurdles and long jump and anchored the first-place 400 relay team.

"Noe ran four distance events and won four distance events," Babcock said. "She never ceases to amaze us; she's just a terrific kid."

Krista, under the circumstances, did very well. She'd been horizontal

for four days with the ankle, and today is the first day she was up and around."

Lisa Sokol also was unable to run the 400 and 1,600 relay because of injury.

Sophomore Devron Kennedy won the 100 and 200 dashes and ran a leg of the 400 relay. Patti Dizon won the 300 hurdles and anchored the winning shuttle hurdle relay.

Babcock also cited the efforts of sophomore Monique Anderson in the sprints and freshman Kristin Schleicher in the distances.

"I have to attribute this (victory) to the senior class," Babcock said, naming Snow, Noe, Sarah Hone, Rachel Buckley, Jenny Hannawa, Lesli Svoke. "We do the coaching, but these kids are carrying us."

"When we did our goal sheet at the beginning of the year, this was one of the goals they targeted. This is very important to them."

North had its share of standouts, too. Alisha Gordon won the discus and shot put, Heather Burcar the 400. Carrie May and Ava Laia helped the Raiders win the 800 and 1,600 relays.

Burcar also was part of the 1,600 team. Monica Czerwinski was on the 800 relay team and second in the 100 and 200 dashes.

Farmington's only winner was senior Andrea Solter in the high jump.

"We did about what we expected to

See CITY, 6C

Observerland marks 25th anniversary

BY STEVE KOWALESKI
STAFF WRITER

For an opinion on the 25th Annual Observerland Track Relays, who better to ask than legendary starter Kermit Ambrose?

Here is a man who knows so much about track meets, he has one named after him: The Ambrose/Eccentric Relays, which is held every year the Tuesday after Memorial Day.

"There are a lot of nice teams," said Ambrose, who at 84 is Michigan's best-known and oldest starter.

TRACK

"I'm kind of interested in (Redford Catholic Central coach) Tony Magli and his wife Linda, they're terrific friends. And the Redford Union girls (meet workers), I'm really flattered by. Last year, they all ran over, visited and talked to me. That makes you feel like a million bucks."

Ambrose won't be the starter, but he'll be one of several dignitaries expected to be on hand for the historic

event. The field events begin at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at RU's Howard Kraft Field, with the finals scheduled for around 7 p.m.

RU athletic director Jim Gibbons, the meet director, will present special awards to Howard Kraft, the former RU athletic director and co-founder of the Observerland Relays, and former RU coaches Mike Krafchak (currently the Plymouth Salem girls cross country coach) and Bob Ouellette.

Gibbons said he also likes to recognize all the contributions made by

Fred Price, the long-time Livonia Churchill coach and Observerland Relays meet director who has retired.

Gibbons also plans to have an alumni run/walk planned for about 5:30 p.m., which should give the runners some comic relief in the middle of competition.

While spending the last several months preparing for the Silver Anniversary, Gibbons came across programs from each year as well as some

See OBSERVER, 6C

Falcons rally to defeat Raiders

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Alana Heikkinen usually helps the Farmington softball team with her pitching, but she took a turn with bat Monday.

The ninth batter in the order, Heikkinen smashed the game-winning double to give the host Falcons a 4-3 victory over North Farmington.

Farmington rallied with two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning, and Heikkinen's double scored Katie Lukasak with the winning run.

It also made Heikkinen the

SOFTBALL

winning pitcher and gave the Falcons their fifth consecutive victory.

Farmington is 5-1 in the Lakes Division and 6-1 overall, the Raiders 1-4 and 3-7.

The timely hit pleased Heikkinen, "especially since I've kinda been in a batting slump," she said, adding she is often tentative at the plate.

"My dad is always telling me I wait and wait. Usually, I just stand up there (and take a couple

strikes). This time I was ready to hit — and I did."

Maureen Carolan started the sixth-inning rally with a one-out single, stole second and took third on a wild pitch.

Lukasak followed with a pinch-hit single to score Carolan with the tying run.

Heikkinen drove a two-out pitch into left-center field for the game-winning, and she retired the ninth batter in order in the top of the seventh.

"It all boils down to which

See FALCONS, 3C

Errors cost Farmington; North wins

North Farmington scored seven unearned runs in the sixth inning Monday to take a 7-1 baseball victory from visiting Farmington.

The Raiders capitalized on five Farmington errors, two of its six hits and two walks to erase a 1-0 deficit.

North had a two-run single from Darrin Gleaser and a one-run single by Eric Pierce in the big inning.

"We got very lucky, because they could have blown the game open in the fourth inning," North coach Iv Horwitz said.

The Falcons had the bases loaded in that inning but scored just one run on a passed ball.

With men at second and third, Farmington tried a squeeze play, but the batter hit the ball in the air to first base, and the Raiders



SHARON LAMMIE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Close play: North's Robert Roth charges toward home plate, but the ball got there first and Dale Domas applied the tag.

See BASEBALL, 3C

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