

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 1995

# SPORTS

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## FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Fury wins soccer tourney

The Farmington Fury 1979 boys premier soccer team captured first place in the Traverse City Cherryland Soccer Tournament with a 3-0-1 record.

The Fury beat the Sault Ste. Marie 2-0 in the championship game. Farmington scored 10 goals and allowed just three as coach Tom Faro and the Fury won their first tournament title.

"It was such a great feeling to win the tournament," Faro said. "We've finished second a number of times. Everyone was very excited when the referee sounded the whistle for the end of the game."

Farmington finished the year in second place in the Little Caesars Premier Soccer League with a 5-3-4 record. But the Fury combined for an overall record of 24-13-7.

The Fury will resume play indoors following the high school soccer season.

### Boots resigns post

John Boots, who posted a 24-11-4 record in two seasons as the varsity boys soccer coach at Livonia Churchill, has resigned.

Boots, who guided Churchill to the 1993 Western Division title in the Western Lakes Activities Association, informed Churchill principal Rod Hosman of his decision two weeks ago.

"John said he sent Don Alberson (Churchill's athletic director) a letter in June, but Don said he never received the letter," Hosman said. "John called me and said he was having some pressure as far as traveling with his business. It was a time commitment issue."

The Churchill principal said he has a strong candidate in mind and plans to name a replacement by today to coincide with the start of preseason practice.

Hosman said he is not aware that Boots has taken another boys varsity position. Boots could not be reached for comment.

### Livonia Lynx on top

The Livonia Lynx, a boys-under-16 soccer team, recently captured a tournament in Traverse City with victories over the Leelanau Sting, Brighton Express, Sault (Ontario) Civics and the Livonia Turbos in the finals.

Members of the Lynx, who will become the Livonia Wings in the boys under-16 Little Caesars League next spring, include Newell Bentley, Scott Cashmore, Jim Franko and John Griffin, all from Redford Catholic Central High; Mike Friedland, Tom Fickler, Joel Stage and Matt Wypochki of Livonia Churchill; Bryan Radcliffe, Tim Davis and Paul Glaspe, Livonia Stevenson; Ben Davis, Plymouth Christian Academy; Nate Cooper, Southfield-Lathrup; Bob Brenner and Scott Garant, South Lyon; Matt Heger, University of Detroit Jesuit; Jason Pinard, Wayne Memorial.

The Lynx are coached by Larry Brenner, Jacques Pinard and Eric Radcliffe.

### Birmingham Lions race

The annual Birmingham Lions Club Leader Dog Run for the Blind is scheduled for Sept. 24.

The race begins 10 a.m. in downtown Birmingham at the corner of Merrill and Piquette streets. The day's events include 10,000- and 5,000-meter races, plus a one-mile walk through a protected course.

Registration forms are available at Total Runner, The Varsity Shop, Vic Taney, Footlocker, Dunham's, The Birmingham Community House and the Maple Athletic Club.

Entry fees include a race T-shirt and are \$12 through Sept. 13. The price will be raised to \$13 from Sept. 19-23.

Runners can register on race day from 8-9 a.m. with a \$15 registration fee.

Awards will be presented for the first three male and female finishers in each five-year age category beginning at "under-20" up through "60-and-over" in the 10K and 5K races. A special trophy will be awarded to the youngest and oldest runners.

Business logs will be placed on the official race T-shirt for a \$300 sponsorship fee.

For sponsorship information call 844-1576. For race information call 354-1177.

### Home games for Chargers

The Oakland County Chargers semi-professional football team has started its 1995 Midwest Football League debut season, and plenty of home dates remain.

The Chargers, who defeated the Gary (Ind.) Golden Bears 40-0 in their season opener and met the powerhouse DuPage (Ill.) Eagles on Saturday, are scheduled to host the Springfield Buccaneers Sept. 2 and the Chicago Falcons Sept. 9. Home games will be played at Pontiac's Warner Stadium or Pontiac Northern High School.

Donations (\$5 for adults) are suggested as ticket prices. Seniors 65 and older and children under 12 are admitted free.

For ticket information and updated schedule information, call the Chargers' team hot line at (810) 958-6442.

To submit items for the Chargers Sports News, write to Dan O'Meara, 28281 Silvercreek Road, Livonia, MI 48150; or send via fax to (313) 951-1974.

## Another thrill for Mill — Lions TD

Mill Coleman was on familiar turf again Thursday, contributing a touchdown to a Detroit Lions preseason victory.

By DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER



When he played for Harrison High School, Mill Coleman threw touchdown passes in the Silverdome but probably never thought he would catch one there.

Coleman, now a free-agent rookie trying to make the Detroit Lions team, was finally on the receiving end Thursday night.

The former Michigan State wide receiver caught his first professional touchdown pass in the Lions 19-3 preseason victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars.

"It was nice to catch my first TD here in front of my family and friends," said Coleman, who knew where to find his parents in the crowd of some 44,000. "When I came back to the sideline, I saw my mom waving to me."

"Obviously, the high school and pro ranks are two different levels, but when you score a TD you still get the same type of feeling inside."

It was Coleman's first game in the Silverdome since he guided the Hawks to a last-minute, comeback win over DeWitt in the Class B championship game six years ago.

Coleman played in three consecutive state finals as the Harrison quarterback (1987-89) and led the Hawks to back-to-back titles as a junior and senior.

"I was joking with my roommate (fellow rookie/wide receiver Rex McCovey from Florida State) and telling him I worked my magic here in high school," Coleman said. "I told him I made a move at this spot on the field."

The circumstances are different for Coleman now. He isn't the All-American quarterback and star player.

Instead he's trying to impress the Lions coaches with the goal of just making the team.

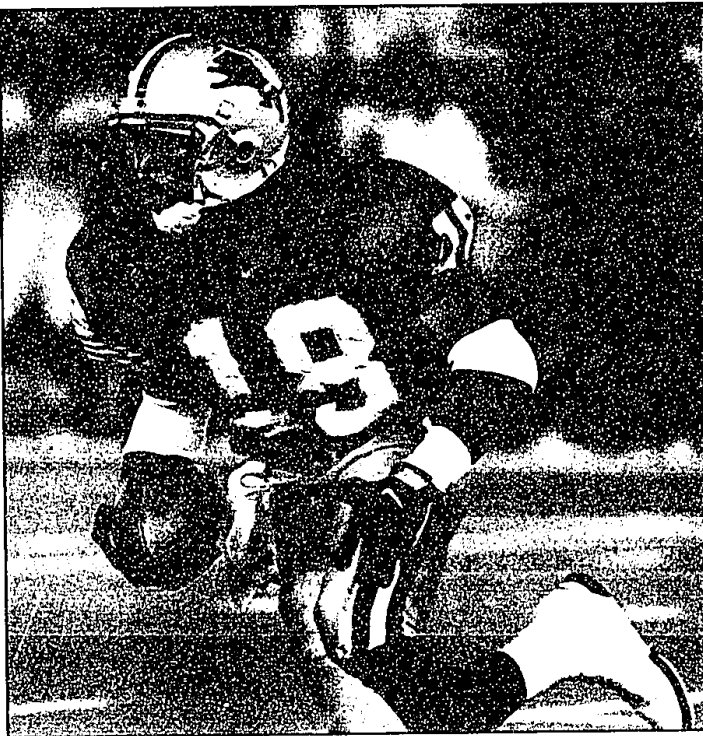
"All I can do is come out and work hard, do the things the coaches ask me to do and hope they like it," Coleman said. "I try to stay alert and not make mental errors. I just try to do the right thing."

"I think I've been having a good camp, but there's no report card or evaluation on how I played. I don't ask (the coaches) 'How am I doing?'"

Coleman was asked if his performance Thursday — two receptions for 22 yards and two punt returns for 14 yards — will make it hard for the Lions to not keep him around.

"You'll have to ask coach (Wayne) Fontes that," he said, "but that's what I'm trying to do."

"I'm trying to make it hard for him to keep me on the team. I've been busting my butt all summer just to



Back in the 'Dome: Mill Coleman's first game in the Silverdome since he finished a brilliant high school career there included a TD reception.

**Q** "It was nice to catch my first TD here in front of my family and friends. When I came back to the sideline, I saw my mom waving to me."

Mill Coleman

have the chance to play in the NFL."

After standing, kneeling and sitting on the sideline in the first half — Coleman knew he wouldn't play that soon — he was on the field every other play for the first two offensive series of the second half.

Of the first six plays, Coleman ran his pass routes while the ball went to someone else (five passes/one run). Then came the 7-yard TD toss from backup quarterback Don Majkowski.

On third down, Coleman cut across the middle of the end zone and was

suddenly wide open. He raised his hands to draw attention, but it seemed like forever before Majkowski spotted him.

"The ball seemed like it was coming to me in slow motion," Coleman said.

"I wasn't his primary read. I think he got flushed out of the pocket. He was stepping up to avoid the rush, and I came into his field of vision. I just wanted to make sure I caught it."

After scoring the TD, Coleman, always reserved and never a showboat,

did something college rules had prohibited. He spiked the ball.

"I said to myself 'Hey, I can spike this ball. I'm not in college anymore.'"

"I was really happy; I was on Cloud Nine, but I came back down to earth and put it back in perspective when I got to the sideline."

Coleman reminded himself that it was only a preseason game and, with several still to go, he can't afford to get too comfortable.

But he does hope results like that register with the Lions coaches.

"It's all about getting out there and showing the coaches something and convincing them I'm capable of being on this team," he said.

"I've been picking things up and working hard. I just want to see my name on that final roster list when the preseason camp is over."

## Roberts: Drug tests for preps not likely

Jack Roberts, director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, recently discussed current sports issues with members of the Observer & Eccentric sports staff.

The two sides covered a variety of topics which will have impact on the 1995-96 school year.

Here are the questions put to Roberts and his responses.

**Q:** What's the MHSAA's official stand on the national drug policy recently acted upon by the U.S. Supreme Court, which allows school districts to test student-athletes?

**A:** "Due to the expense involved of testing, no one thinks it's going to become pervasive in the schools. Also, because of the lack of justification for doing so. There is no evidence that athletes abuse drugs more than other students. In fact, the evidence suggests otherwise; so why would we be testing a group of students who use less? It would be a bit out of perspective."

"Florida adopted a policy to test, then found it couldn't afford it. I haven't heard of any schools that will test without reasonable cause."

**Q:** Lacrosse has become an increasingly popular sport (in certain areas). Is there a possibility it will become a state-sanctioned sport over the next couple of years?

**A:** "There are between 40 and 50



Prep sports czar: MHSAA Director Jack Roberts visited the O&E offices last week to discuss high school sports in Michigan.



Jim Sackville/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

(increase) teams identified with schools, but fewer than 12 are sponsored by a school. Only when the number reaches 70 or more does the MHSAA sponsor a tournament.

That's only 10 percent, and we're a long way away. Forty or 50 reflects growth, but a dozen is a pretty flat number."

"Long before lacrosse in boys volleyball. There are 100 to 200 schools ready to go. Boys want to play, but

schools may be reluctant to sponsor because they have attained equality in the number of sports between boys and girls."

"There are close to 70 (boys volleyball) teams identified with schools, but not officially sponsored by schools. Nineteen are actually sponsored."

"From time to time, boys want to demonstrate they can play on girls teams. We all remember the time four

boys won the girls (state) bowling championship in Illinois. Hence, the policy is boys are not permitted on girls teams in tournaments."

**Q:** Most schools in the area and a number of other counties already employ mega conferences or they are looking into them. Is this a trend that the MHSAA is alarmed

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