

SPORTS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1995

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Baseball tryouts

South Farmington will have tryouts for its 1996 Little Caesars Federation baseball teams Saturday, Sept. 23, and Sunday, Sept. 24, at Founders Park on Eight Mile Road. The times both days are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for ages 10, 11 and 12, 1-4 p.m. for ages 13 through 16. All players residing in Farmington or Farmington Hills or attending a Farmington/Farmington Hills school are welcome.

South Farmington also seeks team managers with good baseball experience. Managerial candidates should send a letter stating experience and philosophy to Ken Lee, S.F.B.I. Baseball Federation Director, 32306 Valleyview Circle, Farmington, MI 48336.

For information call Lee at (810) 478-1943.

The NWFB Cobras travel baseball team will conduct tryouts for its 1996 16-year-old team later this month at North Farmington High School. The tryouts will take place 3-5 p.m. Saturdays, Sept. 23 and 30, and 12:30-2:30 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1.

For details call Bob Sopo at (810) 661-6276.

Rec sports leagues

A fall coed basketball league begins play Saturday, Sept. 23, for middle school and high school students at the new Farmington Hills Activities Center.

The fee is \$30 per person. The leagues will consist of four teams each, and teams will play each other twice for a total of nine games. Volunteer coaches will be needed for each team.

Under Michigan High School Athletic Association rules, boys and girls who are on a school team are ineligible for this program.

The Farmington Hills Recreation Division offers adult basketball and volleyball leagues in the newly-renovated gymnasium at the Farmington Hills Activities Center.

Men's basketball teams will play Monday (open), Wednesday (6-foot and under) and Thursday (over 30). Men's and women's volleyball is scheduled for Tuesday. The leagues start the last week of September.

Call Kim Elkins at 473-9570 for more information on any of the above programs.

Open gym schedule

The renovated Dublin Room at the Farmington Hills Activities Center is available for community members to participate in basketball and volleyball.

The open-gym basketball schedule for adults: 7-9 p.m. Friday, 8-10 p.m. Saturday, 5-9 p.m. Sunday; for teens: 3-5 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday; for 12-and-under: 1-3 p.m. Saturday, 9-11 a.m. Sunday.

The volleyball open-gym schedule for adults: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Saturday; for teens: 3-5 p.m. Sunday.

The fee per two-hour session is \$3 for 17-and-under residents, \$5 for non-residents; \$4 for adult residents, \$6 for non-residents.

For more information call Kim Elkins of the Recreation Division at 473-9570.

Flames win tourney

The Farmington Flames under-11 girls soccer team had a rousing start to its 1995 fall season by winning the Waterford Cup Tournament.

The Flames were undefeated in four games and allowed only one goal while scoring 14.

Jessica Klein of the Farmington team was named the age-group most valuable player. Lindsay Bury, Cheri Opsahl and Klein provided the primary scoring punch for the second-year team.

The defense was anchored by Deanna DeRoo and Meghan Depp along with a strong performance by goalie Meghann Lloyd.

"It was a super way to start the season, and I'm proud of the effort from all of our girls," Flames coach Randy Bury said.

In college soccer Wednesday, former Farmington High star Mike Glass scored a goal in the University of Detroit's 2-0 win over Western Michigan.

Kal Kalliszewski (Livonia Churchill) recorded his 10th career shutout in goal for the Titans. Richard Gerspacher scored the first U-D goal.

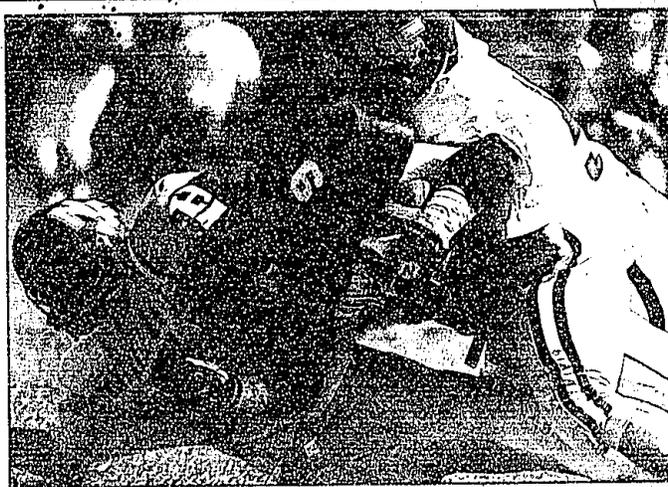
Michigan Mile canned

Ledbrook DRC officials made it official last week, announcing cancellation of the track's most significant event, the Grade II \$250,000 Michigan Mile Handicap.

Earlier this summer, the Mile had been postponed from its customary mid-summer date until this fall.

"Due to the severe decline in attendance and dollars wagered we've experienced at Ledbrook DRC this year, we've been forced to reduce the purses that our local horsemen compete for to extremely low levels," said track spokesman Sam McKee. "We couldn't justify taking \$250,000 directly out of our purse pool for one race considering our current purse structure."

Last run in 1993, the future of the Michigan Mile, and horse racing at Ledbrook is up in the air pending legislative efforts for increased simulating of races from out-of-state, inter-track betting, and a tax reduction to prop the sagging industry.



Rotum man: Harrison junior Sean Sarsfield had several good kickoff returns Saturday, being brought down here by North Farmington kicker Chris Kemp and Matt St. Charles.

1st-half scoring barrage lifts Hawks past Raiders



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills Harrison's football opponents will find this a scary thought.

The Hawks, according to coach John Herrington, can be even better than they showed Saturday in dismantling North Farmington 37-7 at Harrison.

"I don't think we've reached anything close to our potential," he said, noting some shortcomings in the defensive secondary and passing game. "There's a lot of improvement we can do in a lot of facets of the game."

Senior Jason Granger was at his best, however, and his making ability was more than enough to carry the day for the Hawks.

Granger rushed for 174 yards and three touchdowns on runs of 18, 64, and 18 yards in the first half as Har-

risson took a 30-7 halftime lead. He finished with 191 yards on 19 carries.

"He can obviously break the big play, but we're far from a one-man team," Herrington said, adding the Harrison defense played well against the run. "The secondary got confused at times but was able to make the interceptions, and the passing game still needs to improve."

North scored first when Eric Jones blocked Kyle Vassell's attempt at a 51-yard field goal and Tim Dolan roared 40 yards with the free ball.

But the Raiders were unable to hold the momentum and were hand-capped by the absence of their best player, Richard Beal, who was suffering the effects of food poisoning and didn't play until late in the half.

Harrison scored the next three

times it had the ball and added a safety when Alex Stolalcik sacked North quarterback Brad Rivers, causing the ball to carom out of the end zone.

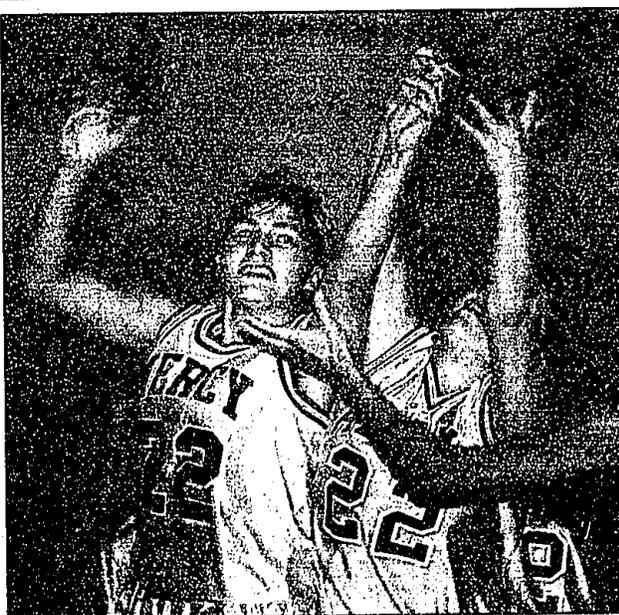
"They're a better football team than we are; they played like state champions and we didn't," North coach Jim O'Leary said.

"We knew they were going to run Granger at us, and he did a helluva job. He's the best back I've coached against. It's not only his speed, but he stops and there's air; then kids are reaching."

Harrison needed eight plays to even the score, and its next two drives consisted of only four and five plays. The last involved nine.

Quarterback Kevin Bambanek scored the other TD, running 21 yards on a bootleg and showing some moves by ducking inside a defender near the goal line. Vassell kicked five extra points on the day.

See FOOTBALL, 2C



Reaching out: Mercy junior Mary Jane Valade and Kelly McCoy of Adams reach for a rebound Thursday in the Hoops Classic.

Falcons rebound, win 34-0

BY NEAL ZIPSER
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington High football team had two bad memories on its collective mind heading into Friday's game at Livonia Churchill.

First, the Falcons had the bitter memory of their season-opening, 28-13 loss to Waterford Mott in which they committed five turnovers.

The second was a loss Farmington suffered to the Chargers two seasons ago, which has turned out to be Churchill's only victory in the past five seasons.

But on Friday, Farmington resembled nothing like the error-prone team of a week ago and routed Churchill, 34-0.

"We had so many things happen last week; it was like a season full of mistakes in one game," Farmington coach Lauri Niskanen said. "We be-

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lieve we have a good football team. Last week may have opened our eyes, and showed us that we have to be ready to play every week."

Unlike in the Mott game, the Falcons' offense was flawless and didn't commit a turnover. The attack was led by senior tailback Jake Sitkosky, who gained 145 yards on 22 carries and scored three touchdowns.

"This was the real Farmington team," Sitkosky said. "Last week, we would drive and then turn the ball over, and Mott capitalized on our mistakes. We were positive all week, and the coaches worked us hard. The line also did a great job blocking tonight."

Farmington (1-1) gained a total of 349 yards — 315 of it on the ground. Senior fullback Nick Latra rushed six times for 64 yards and a touchdown, and senior fullback Ben Lewis came off the bench to gain 55 yards on three carries with a touchdown.

"We learned last week that you can't rely on the ball on the ground," Niskanen said. "We didn't this week, and it made a difference."

The Falcons' defense did its job, holding the Chargers to 120 total yards. Junior tailback Todd Wilson was able to gain 60 yards on 13 carries, but Farmington stymied the Churchill passing game.

Junior quarterback Nathan Jerome completed six of 16 passes for 61 yards.

See FALCONS, 2C

Highlanders survive rally by Marlins

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills Mercy tried to do what Rochester Adams did last year but was unable to match the feat Thursday.

The Marlins, who succumbed to an Adams rally a year ago, made a comeback but suffered a first-round loss to the Highlanders in the 15th Annual Mercy Hoops Classic.

Adams (2-1) advanced to the championship game Saturday to play Plymouth Canton, and the Marlins (1-2) faced Stevensville-Lakeshore in the consolation game.

The Highlanders overcame a seven-point deficit in the final 45 seconds of the championship game to defeat Mercy 49-48 last year.

The Marlins were down 40-23 early in the fourth quarter Thursday when they found new life and made things interesting before losing 42-35.

Junior Mary Jane Valade scored half of her

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game-high 18 points in the fourth period to get Mercy within six points (40-34) with 3 1/2 minutes left.

"They put a press on and we didn't respond well," Adams coach Fran Sclafowicz said.

"When we got shots, we didn't make them — and they did. That will change a big lead to a small lead pretty quick."

Sclafowicz said he wasn't overly concerned as long as there was no panic in his players.

See MARLINS, 3C