

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1996

SPORTS

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FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Elite coach needed

The Ann Arbor Elite, an outdoor men's professional soccer team, is accepting applications for the paid position of head coach.

The Elite was organized a year ago and competed as an amateur team in the United States Inter-Regional Soccer League but has been elevated to pro-am status for 1996.

The Elite has also been designated as the feeder program for the Columbus (Ohio) Crew, a Major League team, according to Elite owner Wayne Worosz.

Coaches interested in applying for the position should call Worosz at (313) 455-4011.

Knights win district

The Livonia Knights Pee Wee AA hockey team captured the District IV title with a 3-1 victory over the Plymouth Stingrays in the finals Feb. 10 at the Detroit Skating Club in Bloomfield Hills.

The Knights, coached by Dan Lerg, advance to the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association championships March 8-10 in Wayne.

In the championship, Shaun McDonnell's unassisted goal in the second period proved to be the game-winner.

The Stingrays opened the scoring on Ryan Layton's goal from Doug Statham, but Livonia tied it up on Pat Lerg's goal from Mike Walsh of Farmington Hills.

With 40 seconds left in the game, Bryan Marshall added an insurance goal for the Knights. Kevin Krogel assisted.

The Knights opened tourney play with a 13-0 victory over the Livingston Lightning followed by wins over Lakeland (2-1) and Plymouth (4-3).

Other members of the Knights include goalkeepers Bobby Pruchnik and Kevin Marlowe; defensemen Ryan Yost, Nathan Jakubowski, Erik Reltz, Derek Martin, Sean Szostak; forwards Sean Smith, Bobby Zagata, Joe Hillebrand and Jim Spiewak.

NFWB softball tryouts

North Farmington-West Bloomfield will have tryouts for its 18-and-under fast-pitch travel softball team Sunday, March 3.

The tryouts will take place between 2 and 5 p.m. in the North Farmington High School gymnasium.

Players must bring proof of insurance and must be 16 or under as of Aug. 31, 1996.

For more information call Janet Schrock at (810) 471-3686 or Les Traub at (810) 626-7701.

Sorrows grid sign-up

Football registration for the Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows teams will be Saturday, March 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

The varsity team consists of boys in the seventh and eighth grades; the junior varsity, of fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders.

For more information call (810) 478-3325.

Coaching vacancies

Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingwood and Birmingham Marian high schools are seeking coaches for the upcoming spring season.

Cranbrook Kingwood is looking for girls junior varsity soccer, girls junior varsity softball, boys junior varsity tennis and boys junior varsity baseball coaches.

For information or to apply, call Cranbrook Kingwood Athletic Director Mark Zalin at 645-3639.

Marian is looking for a girls assistant varsity track coach. For further details, call head coach John Dunn at (810) 644-1750 or (810) 644-1754.

Figure skating show

The Champions On Ice figure skating show takes place 7 p.m. Friday, March 1, and 2 p.m. Saturday, March 2, at the Detroit Skating Club on Denison Court.

The skating shows feature three-time U.S. men's champion Todd Eldredge. The former Olympian is also a 1995 silver medalist.

Other featured stars include the world-class dance championship team of Lis Punsalan and Jerod Swallow; the 1996 U.S. national senior dance bronze medalist duo of Eve Chalson and Matt Gates; 1996 U.S. national senior ladies bronze medalist and world team member Tara Lipinski; 1996 Polish ladies champion and world competitor Zuzanna Szwed; and the U.S. national championship Detroit Skating Club Team Elean precision skating team.

Tickets are \$20 per person with all proceeds going to the Detroit Skating Club.

Volleyball tryouts

The MAV Juniors AAU volleyball tryouts will be held March 10 and March 17 at Birmingham Marian High School.

Tryouts will be held from 9-9:45 p.m. each day for the 14-and-under players and from 8-8:45 p.m. for the 16-and-over players.

For more information, call 644-1750.

Michalski captures regional title



Farmington High senior Matt Michalski earned his third straight trip to the state finals in high school wrestling. He will be joined in Battle Creek by teammate Mike Lane and North Farmington's Scott Richmond.

BY MARTY BUDNER
AND DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITERS

Farmington High's Matt Michalski earned his third consecutive state meet appearance after capturing a 115-pound regional wrestling championship Saturday.

Michalski, as well as teammate and fellow senior Mike Lane and North Farmington junior Scott Rich-

mond, will compete in the Division II finals March 8-9 in Battle Creek.

Lane placed third at 125 pounds Saturday at Otisville-Lakeville High School and Richmond fourth at 103.

The 112-pound regional championship bout was a replay of the district final as Michalski defeated Holly's Justin Torres 5-3, scoring a takedown with 20 seconds left.

"I felt the match was a little more

controlled," said Michalski, who won 9-5 in the district. "The way I wrestle I don't give up a lot of points, and I take the points when they're there."

"It was a close match, but I was pretty confident most of the way through. I just had to be patient and wait for opportunities."

Michalski was fifth (103) at state as a sophomore and second (100) last year. But he had never won district and regional championships in the same year.

"He's just a very hard worker," Farmington coach Al Beyer said. "He's very meticulous with his workouts, and he does extra work all the time."

"His mental toughness is one of his

strong points. He's about as fierce a competitor as we've had at Farmington in a long time."

"His goal is to win a state championship after placing second last year. It's coming together real well for him; and he's finishing the season real strong."

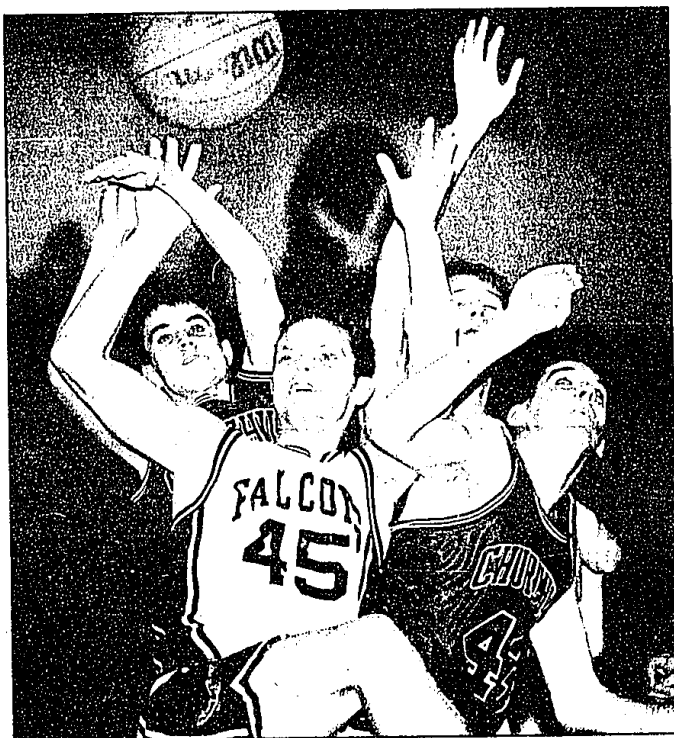
Michalski, a team captain and senior class president who owns a 3.9 grade-point average, takes a 42-3 record to the state meet.

"If you take it easy on one match or think one is going to be a breeze, it could destroy your season," Michalski said.

"I have to wrestle every one like it's

See WRESTLING, 2C

On the rebound



SHAWN LEMLEY'S STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Up in arms: Farmington junior Adam Weber battles a host of Livonia Churchill players for a rebound Tuesday. The Falcons lost the game, 63-57. See story on Page 3C.

Raiders rack up 3s, win

Junior Brad Rivers set a school record for three-point shooting Tuesday as host North Farmington whipped Livonia Franklin 71-49 in boys basketball.

Rivers, who scored a game-high 26 points, sank eight triples — one more than Matt Hoffman did during a 1988-89 game.

The Raiders also broke the team record in that category by making 14 threes. The old mark was 12, also in 1988-89.

Senior Tim Dolan contributed to the record performance with 11 points, which included three treys.

Senior Rich Best tossed in eight points, and sophomore Jeff Trzos led the rebounding effort with 10.

Rivers also had eight rebounds and three assists.

The Raiders were ahead 27-24 at halftime but took charge in the third quarter by outscoring the Patriots 27-12 to take a 54-36 lead into the finale.

"This was one of our hardest-working games of the year," North coach Brian Swinehart said. "We were able to get a lot of turnovers off the press, and the kids got after it."

"It was one of our best performances, offensively and defensively. We've been waiting to break out and have a game like this, and all 12 guys came to play tonight."

"The seniors gave us a lift, and we're looking for them to lead us into the district tournament. They did a great job of competing tonight."

Matt Bauman scored 21 points for Franklin. Both teams are 5-14 overall.

The Raiders will be host to Farmington tonight in the final regular-season game for both teams.

Parrish's return boosts Bulldogs

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

It's been a bittersweet season for Ferris State University defenseman Dwight Parrish.

The Farmington native, who played his final home hockey game Feb. 17 in a 6-4 loss to Lake Superior State, is still trying to get up to speed after an injury that would have put a lot of players out for the season.

"My skate got caught in a rut and I was hit (by a Miami of Ohio player)," he said of the broken leg he suffered Dec. 16 at Oxford, Ohio. "I had a broken fibula and torn ankle ligaments."

HOCKEY

Parrish, who is a senior and team captain, was missed as the Bulldogs struggled until his return Feb. 16. During his absence, the team only won two games and was sinking out of the Central Collegiate Hockey Association playoff race. Eight of the league's 11 teams make the playoffs.

Although Parrish has been far from full strength since his return, the Bulldogs have played well, beating Miami at home, 6-4 in overtime, and leading the league power, Lake Superior State, for two periods before succumbing to the Lakers, 6-4.

The split put the Bulldogs into seventh place with games remaining at Illinois-Chicago and Notre Dame, teams the Bulldogs lead in the standings. Ferris improved its chances Feb. 23-24 by sweeping a series from Chicago, 5-4 and 8-0.

See PARRISH, 4C



Dwight Parrish: College career winds down at Ferris State.

CC eliminates Warriors, 3-2

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Detroit Catholic Central hockey star Eric Bratcher wears a face mask, so why was he sporting a fresh wound on the bridge of his nose following Wednesday night's Class A regional semifinal against Birmingham Brother Rice?

Bratcher, a junior winger, said it happened when a Rice player tugged on his cage during one of the many scrums the teams had in CC's 3-2 win at Redford Ice Arena.

"This was the roughest game because it was worth the most," he said, referring to two earlier ties against Rice.

Bratcher doesn't have an answer for the other riddle he was part of with 3:13 remaining in the third period.

Rice goalie Casey Osting stopped consecutive shots by Matt Giordano and Dan McLellan, but Bratcher slapped the second rebound in the net for his second goal and a 3-1 lead. It was the game winner.

"No one was there, just one of their players," said Bratcher, who also hit the goal post about two minutes later. "Somehow it went through his legs (and past Osting)."

He'll take it.

Brad Karabelski, Mark Wolleschlager and Matt Bientek also had assists for the 15-6-3 Shamrock, who advance to the regional championship at 8 p.m. Saturday at Redford Ice Arena.

Rice bowed out at 12-7-4 overall.

See CC, 4C