

SPORTS

C

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1996

FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Midget hockey champs

The Southfield Dakota hockey team captured the Michigan Midget BB state championship recently in Alpena.

Dakota outscored its opponents 35-7 to win the eight-team tournament with five straight victories.

Goalie Jason Brennan (Detroit) began the tournament with a 8-0 shutout win over the Battle Creek Hat Trick.

In the next two games, the Dakota defeated the Warren Blues 6-1 and the Wyandotte Warriors 7-3.

In the semifinals, Southfield scored a 6-2 victory over Ontonagon and whipped the Warren Blues again in the final 8-1.

Brennan shared the goaltending duties with Brent Rickard (Farmington). Scott Grant (West Bloomfield) scored a hat trick in the win over Ontonagon.

Other team members include Charlie Kilunen and assistant captain Kevin Shannon of Farmington Hills, Jeff Schultz (Farmington), Michael Greenberg, Brian Hout, Chris Michalak and Steve Jalaba (Southfield), Robert Hooper (Birmingham), Nick Lossia (Bloomfield Hills), Sean Morrow (Novi), Keith Sheradu (Sterling Heights), Brett Soble (Orchard Lake), Brad Stoler (Bloomfield Village), Tim Zvekan (Clarkston) and Jason Yaldo (Lathrup Village).

The coaches are Jack Schultz and Geoff Geiersbach.

Gymnastics competition

More than 500 gymnasts representing 29 clubs from five states, including the Oakland Gymnastics Training Center of Wallis Lake, attended the Seventh Annual Wolverine Classic last month.

Shunyn and Jodie Lancaster (Bloomfield Hills) competed in Level 10. Lindsay Bond (Southfield) led the Level 9 team with a 31.6 all-around score. Amy Russo (Farmington Hills) and Katie Spyrka (Orchard Lake) also competed in Level 9. Sara Boudreau and Anna Darling of West Bloomfield competed in the Level 8 junior division. Katy Payne (Bloomfield Hills) was fourth in Level 8 senior all-around.

Meteors indoor champs

The Livonia YMCA Meteors, an under-16 girls soccer team, recently finished unbeaten in Division B play during the second session at Total Soccer in Southfield.

Members of the Meteors, coached by Mike McGrath, include Kristin Burd, Vanessa Byerle, Brook Cioma, Michelle Dunaway, Lindsay Pfeiffer, Kerrie LaPorte, Sara Libinski, Audrey McDonald, Julie Murray, Elizabeth Peterson, Jill Richardson, Katie Shannon, Paula Shureh, Kelly Stasienko and Katie Westfall, all of Livonia; Emilie Villemonte, Farmington; Jennifer Bagdady and Julie DiPonio, Novi. The assistant coach is Derrick Steele.

College baseball

Ex-high school pitching rivals Scott Kapla (Bedford Catholic Central) and Mark Rutherford (Livonia Churchill) shared pitching duties for Eastern Michigan University in a 6-4 baseball defeat recently at Memphis State.

Kapla, the starter, pitched three scoreless innings before giving up five runs in the fourth. Rutherford finished up, allowing one run over the final five innings with four strikeouts.

Summer cage camps

Schoolcraft College will hold four different sessions of boys summer basketball camps, directed by men's basketball coach Glen Donahue and son Kevin, along with assistant staff members Ramsey Nichols, Mike Trudeau and Gregory Thomas.

Session I (grades 2-8) will be from 9 a.m. to noon and Session II, Monday through Friday, June 17-21 (cost \$65); Session III (grades 9-12), 1-6 p.m. June 17-21 (cost \$75); Session IV (grades 2-12), 9 a.m.-6 p.m. June 24-28 (cost \$135); and Session V (grades 2-12), 9 a.m.-5 p.m. July 1-5 (cost \$135).

For more information, call the Schoolcraft Athletic Office at (313) 482-4400, ext. 6249 or 6245.

Ladies golf lessons

Beginning golf lessons and clinic for ladies will be held at the Pheasant Run Golf Course. There will be two sessions from 9:30-11:30 a.m. April 23-26, and from 5:30-7:30 p.m. April 30-May 3.

Both will be at Pheasant Run, with PGA professional Dave Horstman and his staff of assistants as instructors.

The cost is \$60 per person, per clinic. Sponsored by the Canton Parks and Recreation Services, each clinic will consist of four lessons taught by Horstman and his staff, with instruction in chipping, putting, sand shots, iron play, wood play and golf course management.

The deadline to register for the first clinic is April 16; for the second, April 23. There are no residency requirements. For further information, call 397-5110.



Veteran player: Sophomore Angela DeDomenico (right) will run interference in the midfield for Farmington again this year and also be a catalyst in the offense.

Falcons eager to start



Farmington High School hopes to challenge the other Western Lakes Activities Association powers in girls soccer, and the Falcons appear to have the talent to do just that this year.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

With a mix of returning varsity players and talented newcomers, Farmington High takes an optimistic viewpoint into a new girls soccer season.

The question is how well the Falcons can compete with the perennial powers in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Farmington was 1-3 in the Lakes Division and 5-6-1 in the conference (seventh place) last year while compiling a 6-7-2 overall record.

"We're capable of a lot better record than we had last year," coach Bob Neff said. "To have a

better record, that means we have to beat some very tough teams in our division, and those are big challenges.

"Until we get into the season and find out the strength of opponents, it's hard for one team to be a standout because the other teams (in the WLAA) are getting better."

The Falcons lost All-Observer midfielder Krissy Mahon to graduation, as well as goalie Jessica Guibord and defender Erin Kenny, but Farmington welcomes back a nucleus of 13 players.

Farmington returns all-division sophomore Angela DeDomenico, who remains in the midfield but replaces Mahon at the center-mid position.

"She's stepping into big shoes but is going to do a good job for us," Neff said. "She has good playmaking skills and also is a threat as a scorer."

The primary scoring roles will rest with junior forwards Jodi Guibord and Tiffany Okopny, who led the team in goals scored last year, and freshman Emilie Villemonte, who has played for the Michigan Hawks and has earned a starting position.

"(Villemonte) had a lot of good technical training prior to coming to the high school," Neff said. "She's a threat as an attacking player and an assisting player, and we are going to utilize those talents."

Another newcomer who has impressed Neff is freshman Jamie Jakacki, who will have an immediate impact in the midfield and also

See FALCONS, 3C

Raiders revamp offense

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

North Farmington will have to find its offense from someplace else this year in girls soccer.

The Raiders graduated all-state forward Ali Lord, who holds the school records for single-season and career goal scoring.

Lord, now playing for the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, scored 34 goals last season and 104 over four years. She also had 24 career assists.

North did find a new coach, Tim Russell, the third in as many years, replacing Tim Ernst, who followed Kris Galczyk.

Russell, a 31-year-old English teacher at Harrison High School, has coached the Harrison JV boys team for two years and has played soccer at various levels for 20 years.

His hope is the Raiders will have

SOCCER

more balance in their offense and be able to compensate for Lord's absence that way.

"When you have someone that good, (the other players) tend to stand around and watch," Russell said. "We won't be relying on one person and, hopefully, that will help us to become a better passing and overall offensive team."

Three players who figure prominently for North (9-8-1) are senior tri-captains Cooker Perkins, Kristen Kopacz and Natalie Reje.

Perkins, a three-sport standout, begins her fourth year on the varsity and will play a pivotal role at the center-midfield position.

"We want her to run the offense and bolster the defense," Russell said. "We'll rely on her greatly to control the midfield."

Reje is another longtime veteran who returns at sweeper. Illness has limited her practice time, but Russell is counting on her to spearhead the defense.

Kopacz will start at one of two forward spots.

"She's a scrapper; she likes to get in there and scrap for the loose ball," Russell said. "She's real good with either foot; she can shoot with the right or the left."

The other forward will be freshman Cathy Ricco, who has a level-headed attitude despite being such a young player, Russell said.

"Most freshmen are very excited when they get the ball, but she has a good head on her shoulders," he said. "When she gets the ball, she's relaxed and is going to do something with it."

Four juniors also return with

See RAIDERS, 3C



Field events: Junior Kathy Telford will throw the shot put and discus for the Mercy track team again this year.

Mercy's goal to regain Catholic League title

BY NEAL ZIPPER
STAFF WRITER

In 1991, Gary Servais coached Farmington Hills Mercy to the Catholic League girls track championship with only one senior on the team.

So, considering more than half of the 66 members of the 1995 team are freshmen or first-year sophomores, winning another title isn't out of the question.

Mercy's five-year streak of league championships came to an end last season when Livonia Ladywood edged the Marlins by four points. In that meet, however, Mercy ran without four-year standout Eileen O'Connell, who was injured.

With O'Connell now running at Arizona State University, Servais will have to fill the void left by a runner who averaged 140 points during each of four seasons. O'Connell also holds the school records in the 800- and 1,600-meter runs.

The Marlins were fortunate, how-

ever, not to lose too many key runners other than Brandy Johnson and LaQuette Freeman, both of whom were prominent on relay teams.

The loss of O'Connell doesn't leave Mercy without a star, however.

Senior Amy Buhl, who qualified for the state meet in the 100 hurdles and was the team's most valuable runner, looks even faster.

Buhl lowered her time last season in the 100 hurdles by .35 to 16.5, just three 10ths of a second off the school record.

Her 187.5 points last season is second in Mercy history to O'Connell's 198. At the Macomb County indoor meet last week, Buhl tied the meet record in the 60 hurdles (8.8).

"Amy ran cross country for the first time in her career and it has helped her," Servais said. "We expect her to qualify for the state in both hurdles. She's also a good worker and an example for the young ones to follow."

See MERCY, 3C

(To submit information for the Observer Sports Scene, send it to Dan O'Meara at 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48160, or fax to (313) 591-7279.)