

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1996

SPORTS

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Raiders face test from Rice



Dorsey qualifies in tennis

Carla Dorsey of Farmington Hills qualified for the Western Tennis Association Closed tournament last weekend at The Sports Club of West Bloomfield.

Dorsey placed fourth in Girls 16 competition at the Southeastern Michigan Tennis Association Mushing District Qualifier.

The top young players went up against 200 area juniors in the first phase to qualify for the feed-in tournament to the United States Tennis Association Championships. The top 40 competed to determine SENTA ranking order last weekend.

Golfers are ninth in state

Farmington Hills Mercy qualified for the second day of competition and finished ninth in the girls golf state finals Saturday.

Kalamazoo Central won its third straight championship with a two-day team total of 691 at Forest Akers Golf Course in East Lansing.

The Marlins, who placed 14th out of 16 teams two years ago and 12th three years ago, were one stroke behind Ann Arbor Pioneer, 694-695.

Mercy freshman Jennifer Borowicz shot 192 (98-94) and finished 23rd among the 53 players who played both days.

Sophomore Kristen Smith shot 200, freshman Angela Harbar 201, senior Erin Moug 212 and senior Gina Mazzoni 230.

"We would like to have broken 400 both days (403-402), but we were very pleased to qualify for the second day and place," coach Vicky Kowalski said. "Overall, it was a fine finish to a fine season."

"We're looking forward to next year, because our top three players are two freshmen and a sophomore. Some people were saying 'Watch out for that Mercy team.' The future certainly looks bright."



North Farmington's first-round opponent in a regional baseball tourney Saturday will be top-ranked Brother Rice, but the Raiders have the pitching and hitting to make a run at the title possible.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

North Farmington's Ivy Horwitz and Jim Ferguson were not only baseball coaches but also sports psychologists when the Raiders began a week of preparation Monday for their regional tournament assignment.

The Raiders will have a first-ever meeting with No. 1-ranked Birmingham Brother Rice in a semifinal contest 9:30 a.m. Saturday at Royal

Oak Memorial Park.

Rochester Adams, which defeated Rice to win the regional last year, plays Waterford Mott in the other game at noon. The final is scheduled for 2:30 p.m.

The first order of business for Horwitz and assistant coach Ferguson was to get their players in the right frame of mind, to focus on what they had to do and not Rice's name and tradition.

"We had a long talk with our kids about forgetting who they're playing

and to think about the game they've been playing the last few weeks," Horwitz said.

"We have to convince them they're just as good and can play with them. If we play our game, I think we have a possibility of winning."

The Warriors, who have won two state titles in this decade, are the Catholic League champions and boast a 29-3 record.

North has been on a roll the last month, winning nine of 10 games following a six-game losing streak. The Raiders improved to 14-8 overall by beating Farmington High in the district final, 9-1.

"We had our bumps along the way and got knocked down a few times, but we keep getting up and pushing

forward," senior catcher John Lessway said. "That's the story of the season."

"We have the most talent I've ever seen at North Farmington," said senior first baseman Eric Pierce, who leads the Raiders with a .563 batting average. "It came down to whether or not we could get it together."

Despite being a young team, the Raiders have begun to tap the potential Horwitz saw in this team at the start of the season.

"To have an opportunity to play a great team like Rice is going to help us no matter how it comes out," Horwitz said, adding the Raiders have

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Three yards and a cloud of dust: Well, not exactly, although North Farmington senior John Lessway had a big season last fall as a running back on the football team. He had to get back to the base in a hurry Saturday to avoid a tag by Paul Mitchell of Farmington in the district championship game.

Hank Greenberg Invite

The Michigan Jewish Sports Hall of Fame will sponsor the Sixth Annual Hank Greenberg Memorial Golf and Tennis Invitational on Monday, June 17, at Tom O'Shanter Country Club in West Bloomfield.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Hank Greenberg Memorial Cancer Fund and support oncology research at Sinai Hospital.

Al Rosen, former Cleveland Indians player and San Francisco Giants president and general manager, will receive the Hank Greenberg Memorial Achievement Award.

The golf format consists of a noon shotgun start with a four-player team featuring one additional celebrity golfer. Tennis participants will compete in round-robin doubles. The cocktail hour is 6 p.m. followed by a dinner banquet.

ABC and ESPN sports broadcaster Dick Schapp will serve as master of ceremonies and honorary chairman.

For ticket information, call (810) 788-0921.

Lajoy resigns as CC coach

Phil Lajoy cited business interests for resigning after five seasons as Redford Catholic Central soccer coach.

Lajoy owns Norrell Services, a temporary employment agency, which is adding offices in Jackson and Brighton to its previous locations of Ann Arbor and Adrian.

He had a 63-20-1 record, winning Catholic League and district championships in 1992.

"I love the school and think the world of Catholic Central, but for me it's a case where I just can't do it anymore because of my business situation," said Lajoy, 52, of Canton.

"It's hard for me to leave at 2 in the afternoon to run a practice. I was able to do that but with the growth we've had I would be shortchanging myself and my family."

Anyone interested in the CC job may call athletic director Bob Santello at (313) 534-0890.

Turbos end 20-win season

The Livonia Turbos, an under-16 boys team, won two three seasons and finished with a 20-2 indoor record at Total Soccer in Farmington.

Members of the Turbos, who have won eight of their last nine tournaments, include Adam Coulter, Jeremy Hornak, Brian Prost, Naum Popovskii, Steve Scheel and Joe Suchars, all from Livonia Stevenson High School; Mark Biellia and Scott Smith, Livonia Churchill; Bill Fischer, Livonia Franklin; Gavin Walsh, Redford Catholic Central; Tim Hunter, Eric Scott and Mike Lovati, Redford Union; Joe Hart, Novi; Dave Meyn, Plymouth; Tim Raiz, Farmington; and Dan Basse, Northville.

The head coach is John Hunter.

Madonna softball tryouts

Softball tryouts for the Madonna University women's team will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, June 9 at Ford Field, located off Farmington Road and north of I-96.

Tryouts are open to any 1996 graduating high school senior or any prospective junior college transfer interested in competing at a four-year school for the 1996-97 season.

For more information, call Jerry Abraham at (810) 478-7107.

Mercy hopes focus on junior pitcher

BY RICHARD SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

That nice little blend coach Jack Falvo has at Farmington Hills Mercy might be brewing up another victory or two in a Class A girls softball regional tournament.

"That's what makes this team so much fun," Falvo said. "Our seniors have been tremendous, our sophomores have worked so hard and we've got that junior in the middle."

That junior in the middle (of the diamond) is pitcher Dana Dziekan, one of the chief architects of the Marlins' 17-9 record to date.

"She's been our workhorse all year," Falvo said. "In all of our key games, from our tournament win earlier in the year against Milford to now, she's come up big."

"She's pitched extremely well. She's beaten Regina a couple of

times; she's beaten Ladywood; she's beaten Milford.

"So we think, if she pitches to the level she's capable, maybe we might get a little lucky and get through the first game. Then, maybe we can get lucky again in the second game."

Mercy runs into the host team, Royal Oak Kimball, at noon Saturday at Royal Oak Memorial Park.

Should the Marlins win, they would play the winner of the 10 a.m. game between Rochester Adams and Milford. The championship game follows at approximately 2 p.m.

Adams (25-11) won the regional two years ago by knocking off Farmington Harrison in the final.

The Highlanders are led by

pitcher Kristina Wheaton, who is 20-10 and has pitched every inning since Amy Kline (5-1) was injured.

Adams has a pair of 410 hitters in senior Rachel Melnecke and sophomore Lauren Kotulski. Melnecke has 50 hits and 30 RBI.

Milford is 19-16 and the only one of the four teams to earn a state rating as an honorable mention.

Dziekan carries Mercy's hopes.

"She was given a couple of objectives at the start of the season," Falvo said. "One of them was the district championship. Against Farmington, she pitched a beautiful game in picking her spots and location."

"We also have a pretty talented sophomore class - Katie Hansen, Erin Fitzgerald, Kelly Moug, Shanae McGrath, Shayla O'Mara, Bethann Nowak, Flavia Palaretti and Leah Moeller."

"They came up real big during the district series at a time when our seniors were going through all those things that seniors do."

"When we started the season, we felt they had to develop for us to be legitimate at the end of season. They have all worked hard to prepare for this."

"Then we have a group of four seniors - Jennifer Lin, a tremendous defensive player and a hard-working committed player; Carrie Fling, another hard-working player; plus Rachel Geiger and Heidi Wahl, both All-Catholic."

"They lead the team, anchor it. They've helped lead the team with their verbal leadership, their actions on the field and their commitment to trying to be the best team they could be."

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Finish line

City has people in high places at state meet

BOYS/GIRLS TRACK

Three individual athletes and one relay team from Farmington schools scored points Saturday at the Class A boys and girls state championships in track and field.

Farmington senior Keith Budheimer tied for sixth place in the high jump, North Farmington sophomore Melissa Gratz was fifth in the discus and Mercy senior Amy Duhl was seventh in the 100-meter hurdles.

Harrison's 400 relay team of Devron Kennedy, Ciera Colbert, Emily Mayberry and Mahogany Fletcher finished in eighth place at Redford High School.

Budheimer and Jeff Kus of Grand Ledge jumped 6-4. Three others tied for third, also at 6-4 but with fewer misses.

Ferriside's Elvin Jones and Rochester's Jacob Surber, both of whom Budheimer had beaten at the Oakland County meet, were first and second at 6-6.

"He was disappointed from that standpoint," Farmington coach Chip Bridges said, "because I knew it was there for him."

"His goal at the end of last year was to jump 6-6; he went 6-7. As soon as he jumped 6-5 indoors, he wanted that school record, but he had a great season."

Budheimer will have one more chance to break Craig Kieley's record of 0-8 1/4 Saturday at the Midwest Meet of Champions in Indianapolis.

Gratz saved her best for last, throwing the discus 123-7 and bettering her previous best by five inches at the state meet.

"She had a great performance; that was a nice way to finish the season," North coach Bill Pinnell said. "Only being a sophomore, we look forward to two more years of improvement in the discus, as well as the shot put, has the potential to throw the discus 130 feet consistently and the shot 40-plus feet."

"If she works hard over the next couple years, I think we could see big things from her," he said.

North senior Heather Burcar, a three-time state qualifier in the 400 dash, just missed scoring in that event, finishing ninth. Jenison's Jaime Carson ran 59.84 and Burcar 59.87.

Buhl, who has the top area time at 16.1 in the hurdles, didn't get beyond the prelims last year but was clocked at 16.74 this year and earned a medal.

"Amy will be hard to replace," Mercy coach Gary Servino said. "We have some young kids in that event, and they got to see somebody who is really outstanding. Hopefully, they'll pick up their work habits. She set the standard for the hurdles that will be there for awhile."

Harrison's relay team ran 50.4 in the finals to capture All-Observer honors. The Hawks, who were seeded 16th, did so despite Kennedy having a touch of the flu, according to coach Mark Hahbeck.

"She didn't run well in the 200, so we had our fingers crossed that she could get through the 400 relay," he said. "She did come back and run pretty

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