

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1996

# SPORTS

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## FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Falcons defeat Hawks

Paul Mitchell scored three goals Wednesday to lead Farmington High to a 6-1 victory over Farmington Harrison in boys soccer.

Tim Rals accounted for two Farmington goals and Phil Wantin one. Mitchell had two goals and Rals one in the first half to give the Falcons a 3-0 halftime lead.

Scott Morrell started in goal for Farmington; Mitchell, the regular keeper last year, played the last 12 minutes.

"It was a good game for us," Falcons coach Luke Juncay said. "We dominated the game."

In other action, senior Corey Berzac pumped home four goals Wednesday, leading Livonia Churchill (2-0) past host North Farmington, 8-0. David Nemec, Tony Mousset and Larry Schmid scored goals for Redford Catholic Central (4-2) Thursday in a non-league win at Dearborn Edsel Ford, 3-0.

### Locals lift Nothdruff

Five players with Observerland ties helped Nothdruff Softball Club win the 24-team National ASA 56-and-over men's slo-pitch championship Sept. 1 in Tifton, Ga.

Nothdruff, led by outfielder Bob Malecki of Southgate, the tournament MVP with an .818 batting average, defeated Dixie Gas (Fla.) in the championship game, 14-7.

Nothdruff captured six of six games in the double-elimination tourney.

Area players included Peto Woodard (Plymouth) and Milo Karhu (Farmington Hills), both second-team all-tourney picks; Chuck Hobestreit (Livonia), who hit .600 (15-for-25) and a third-team all-tourney choice; Bobby Delgaud (Redford) and Joe Martin (Canton), the latter who was out injured.

Pitcher John Upham, a former Major League from Windsor, made first-team all-tourney along with Jim Wessel of Union, Ky.

Manager Frank Pilarowski's team will play in the Senior Softball World Series Sept. 19-22 at the Canton Softball Center. Nothdruff has won three of the last four ASA national crowns.

### Western hosts tourney

Western Golf & Country Club of Redford will stage the 1996 Lincoln-Mercury Match Play Championship, today through Thursday.

The tournament begins with 182 of Michigan's golf pros in stroke-play qualifier. The top 63 are seeded according to qualifying scores and begin with two-day match play on Tuesday. The champion will be crowned on Thursday.

Tom Gieselman of Pine Lake CC is the defending champion.

Conducted by the Michigan PGA, the Lincoln-Mercury Match Play provides the largest purse in the history of the tournament (\$50,000).

The winner also gains entry into the 1996 Tournament of Champions and is exempt from qualifying in the Michigan Open.

### Suburban Hockey Schools

Suburban Hockey Schools' Breakfast Club, an adult hockey instructional program open to players of all experience and ability levels, will offer one on-ice session per week for 20 weeks, 13 practice sessions and seven scrimmages from Oct. 21 through March 28, 1997.

The Breakfast Club will be managed by former Michigan State and UM-Dearborn coach Tom Anastos, along with former NHL players Lyle Phair and Darren Eliot.

Area sessions include 7-8:30 a.m. Tuesdays at Plymouth Compware Arena; 6-7:30 a.m. Wednesdays at Livonia Devon-Aire; and 7-8:30 a.m. Thursdays at Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

The cost is \$450 for forwards and defensemen, \$225 for goalkeepers.

For more information, call (313) 730-1330.

### ODP regional qualifiers

Michigan once again was a leader in placing players on the Olympic Development Program regional girls soccer team, and Observerland was well represented.

The camp, at Northern Illinois University last July, consisted of nearly 300 players in each age division, from which 30 were chosen for the regional teams and will compete in inter-regional competitions.

In the 1977-78 division, Mari Hoff, a Plymouth Salem graduate, and Mario Spaccatella, a Livonia Churchill grad were chosen. Both are freshmen forwards at University of Michigan.

In the 1979 division, Sara Kloosterman, a keeper from Farmington Harrison; Emilee Meier, a midfielder from Plymouth Canton; and Kristah Mantuffel, a midfielder from Redford, were selected.

Mia Sarkesian, a midfielder at Plymouth Salem, was the only choice in the 1980 division.

### Girls swim times

Ken Stark, girls swimming and diving coach at Livonia Churchill High School, will compile the weekly list of Observerland best times and scores.

Area coaches should report their results and updates to Stark at the Churchill pool from 4-6 p.m. Monday through Friday at (313) 823-9231. The first list will appear Thursday, Sept. 19.

## Marlins finish 2nd in Classic

Plymouth Canton is still the Mercy Hoops Classic champion, winning 47-43 over the host Marlins in the final Saturday.

BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER

As a four-year varsity player on the Plymouth Canton girls basketball team, senior Kristi Fiorenzi was ready to assume a leadership role this year.

She was a take-charge player Saturday in the Mercy Hoops Classic, leading the Chiefs to their second straight title with a 47-43 win over the host Marlins.

Canton has won four of the last five championships and a total of five since 1988.

Fiorenzi scored a game-high 15 points in both games, including a 47-34 defeat of Rochester Adams in the first round Thursday, and was named the most valuable player in the tournament.

"I remember when I was a freshman on the varsity; we had the best leaders," Fiorenzi said, citing former players Alyson Nounne and Britta Anderson.

"They just helped me so much and were a positive influence. I feel it's my turn this year to give back, to be a leader and to help my team."

Also named to the all-tournament team were Canton junior Melissa Marzolf, Mercy senior Mary Jane Valade, Mercy sophomore Jessie Brennan and junior Dianna Sorrento of third-place Adams.

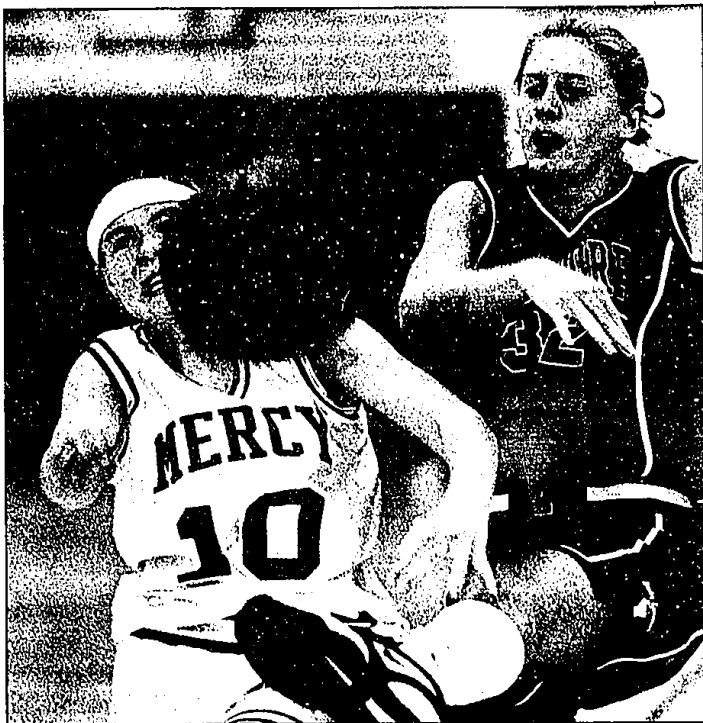
Fiorenzi, a 5-foot-10 post player, scored eight points in the second half Saturday to lead a Canton comeback and help rally the Chiefs from a 24-23 halftime deficit.

"We knew we didn't come out strong, and the big thing for us is playing with intensity," Fiorenzi said. "We knew we weren't doing our best, and (coach) Bob (Blohm) let us know that. We came out (in the third quarter) with the attitude we didn't want to lose this game."

The Chiefs (3-1) scored the first seven points of the second half, taking the lead with a pair of Fiorenzi baskets and three points by Marzolf, who finished with 10 before being injured midway in the final period.

Canton also turned up the heat defensively, forcing the Marlins into five early turnovers (seven for the quarter and 23 overall).

"I think we got better ball pressure," Blohm said, adding senior guard Mary Anderson helped in that regard and with post defense. "I think we got (Mercy) a little tentative and thinking 'what should we do here?'"



Tourney action: Mercy point guard Jena Kluska tries to get a pass away as Sarah Behnke of Stevensville Lakeshore swipes at the ball in first-round action Thursday. The Marlins won the game, 65-39. See story on Page 2C.

Mercy (2-1) didn't score in the second half until 2:44 remained in the third quarter. Brennan and Valade tried to keep it close, 32-28, but the Chiefs scored the last seven points of the period.

Kristin Lukasik and Fiorenzi extended Canton's lead to 43-30 in the fourth. That was the score when Marzolf was injured, falling hard on her left elbow while reaching for a rebound.

The Chiefs didn't want to a spread offense but didn't seem for almost five minutes. During that time the Marlins rallied to within five, 43-38,

but the clock (less than a minute remained) was against them.

Valade had 12 points to lead Mercy. Brennan finished with nine and Ashley Schumacher eight.

"They played some fine half-court defense, and we were hoping to make it a full-court game," Mercy coach Larry Baker said.

"I had a bad sense as to how the game was going at halftime. The kids seemed frustrated. I urged them to be patient, but some individuals wanted to go one-on-one against a team that wasn't going to give them any easy first shots."

"Our kids played with terrific intensity at the end. We just weren't as self-disciplined as we needed to be to execute the win in this game. It should be a good learning experience for us if we learn the right lessons."

Valade had 10 points in the first half. Canton tied the first-half score four times, but Mercy never trailed until Marzolf scored the first basket of the second half.

The Marlins were 19-of-41 from the floor but only 4-of-5 at the free-throw line. The Chiefs made 13 of 22 free throws and 17 of 48 field.

## Hawks rout Wildcats in opener, 42-6

BY BRAD KADRIC  
STAFF WRITER

When a team wins by 36 points, the punting game isn't generally considered to be the turning point.

But that's where Farmington Hills Harrison coach John Herrington pointed after his Hawks beat host Oxford 42-6 in a non-league prep football game Friday night.

Hawk punter Joe Ghanann repeatedly pinned Oxford deep in its own territory, and Harrison took advantage of the field position to build a 28-0, first-half lead. The Hawks never looked back.

"We kept punting them in the hole, and then I think we just wore them down," said Harrison, whose Hawks beat Oxford for the third

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straight year. "They played us pretty well, but we pretty much controlled things."

Ghanann's first punt forced Oxford to start at its own six after the Wildcats were called for clipping. Oxford went three plays and punted, and Harrison started at the Oxford 30.

Five plays later, Nick Shaleb powered over the middle on a 3-yard touchdown run. Chris Ghanann's point after was wide, and Harrison led 6-0.

Oxford couldn't do anything after the ensuing kickoff and punted. But the Wildcat defense stiffened and

forced another Harrison punt. This time, Oxford's Steve Huddleston muffed the catch, and Harrison recovered at the Oxford 1.

Shaleb dove over for his second score, and quarterback Kevin Bambenek added the two-point conversion for a 14-0 lead.

Oxford's best drive came on the next series, when the Wildcats drove to the Harrison 43 before being forced to punt again.

Harrison took over on its own 29, and Bambenek engineered a 10-play, 71-yard drive that ended when Sean Sarsfield slipped a tackle at the line of scrimmage on his way to a 5-yard scoring run.

Harrison got another break when Wildcat quarterback Kenny Allen

fumbled the snap at Oxford's 45, and the Hawks quickly capitalized.

Four plays later, Bambenek found Ricky Bryant down the left sideline for a 24-yard scoring pass that gave the Hawks a 28-0 halftime lead.

"We've got a big offensive line this year," Bambenek said. "We figured we could run on them and then throw some play-action at them."

Harrison scored twice in the second half, once on a 6-yard run by Chris Ghanann and again when defensive tackle Francis Gojcaj returned another Allen fumble 73 yards for the Hawks' final score.

Oxford scored its only touchdown with 4:57 left in the game when Allen found Steve Huddleston for a

See HAWKS, 3C

## Shamrocks beat Pershing in trenches, 24-6

BY STEVE KOWALSKI  
STAFF WRITER

Detroit Catholic Central extended its winning streak to 18 games Saturday night by beating Pershing 24-6, in a Kickoff Classic football game at Pontiac Silverdome that sometimes resembled rugby.

"We kept punting them in the hole, and then I think we just wore them down," said Pershing, whose Hawks beat Oxford for the third

straight year. "They played us pretty well, but we pretty much controlled things."

Ghanann's first punt forced Oxford to start at its own six after the Wildcats were called for clipping. Oxford went three plays and punted, and Harrison started at the Oxford 30.

Five plays later, Nick Shaleb powered over the middle on a 3-yard touchdown run. Chris Ghanann's point after was wide, and Harrison led 6-0.

Maurice Williams didn't stand out. DiGian-domenico, a 6-5, 260-pound senior, had three sacks in his first varsity start. Deptula and Selasky had one each.

"CC hasn't lost since the seventh week of the 1994 season."

"Williams is not as much as the hype said," said Teeley, who had a fumble recovery leading to a score. "We knew every play what they were going to run, we just weren't aware of the blocking that came with it. After a while it was getting easier and easier to fit through the blocks."

CC outgained Pershing, 210-169, in total yards and had 16 first downs to the Doughboys' nine, but those weren't the most telling statistics. Pershing had 17 penalties for 127 yards compared to the Shamrocks' four for 45 yards.

"They had a good sound game plan and coach (Tom) Mach executed well as usual," Pershing coach Stephen Thompson said. "But we had 180 yards of nothing but penalties."

Alcala scored twice and led the Shamrocks with 106 yards on 19 carries. Fullback Milan Brooks scored once and had 48 yards on 10 carries, while quarterback Greg Call finished with 25 yards on the option in eight attempts.

Call recovered a fumble at his free safety position and was forced to placekick when Aaron Rock injured his leg after being rolled on by a Pershing player on a 35-yard field goal attempt.

After a 10-yard personal foul penalty and Call, kicking straight on like the old-time kickers, knocked a field goal through from 25 yards out. He also added the last extra point.

CC led 14-0 before the Doughboys could even run their first play from scrimmage. The Shamrocks took the opening kickoff and drove 82 yards in 11 plays, scoring on a three-yard run by Brooks with 7:18 left.

Pershing fumbled its first snap from scrimmage and Teeley recovered at the Doughboys' 13, leading to the next score. Alcala scored on a third-and-goal from the 2 and Rock added his second extra point to put CC up 14-0 with 5:38 left in the first quarter.

CC's offensive line of Dominguez, Mike Bink, Brian Douglas, Chris Koss and Brian Bowen, didn't look like first-time starters.

"We took everything Pershing said in the papers all week and fed off it," said Bink. "We came out crazy and played hard. We knew it would come down to the line play."