

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1996

SPORTS

F C

FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

NFWB freshmen win

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield Vikings freshmen football team improved to 5-1 Sunday with a 25-13 victory over the Westland Comets.

Quarterback Andy McKellar paced the visiting Vikings, rushing for three touchdowns and passing for another. McKellar's 75-yard TD strike to flanker Jimmy Larkin opened the scoring in the first quarter. McKellar, who rushed 11 times for 176 yards, also scored on runs of 20, 76 and 36 yards. Tailback Gary Kennedy added 76 yards on 19 carries for the Vikes, who totaled 288 yards on the ground and 117 in the air.

Defensively, linebacker Kendrick Peterson had eight tackles and one sack, defensive end Tim Muir recovered two fumbles and recorded one sack, and linebacker Jeff Pinkston had an interception and a sack.

The Vikings can clinch a playoff spot with a victory Sunday over the visiting Ann Arbor Eagles. The game begins at noon at North Farmington High School.

Marlins just miss in tennis

Farmington Hills Mercy just missed qualifying for the Class A finals in girls tennis Saturday at the Dearborn Edsel Ford regional.

The Marlins had 16 points going into the final matches and needed just one more point to qualify for the state tournament this weekend in Midland.

Mercy was in the finals at three flights but finished second in each and failed to score another point.

The top two teams in each regional and any others scoring at least 16 points go to state.

Junior Alex Shade lost in three sets to Pam Laubhoff of team champion Birmingham Groves (6-3, 4-6, 6-7), but the runner-up at No. 1 singles also advances to the state meet. Shade qualified last year and made it to the third round.

Dearborn's Jenny Slabaugh defeated Sarah Cahill at No. 4 singles (6-4, 6-4), and Patricia Rodney and Sara Fulton of Groves rallied to beat Nicole Gopalan and Katy Hoyt in the finals at No. 3 doubles (4-6, 6-4, 6-4).

"Cahill and the two doubles players are sophomores," Mercy coach Mike Arabucki said. "In that respect, they were over-achievers. Alex is a junior, so we're looking for big things next year."

"When you fall one point short, you wonder if it was the coaching. It was so frustrating -- everyone playing well but not quite good enough."

"I have a good, experienced team full of girls who play tennis. We just need to make that next step."

The Marlins will return all but two starters -- Christy Snyder, who played No. 3 singles, and No. 2 doubles player Alexa Ruketele.

Snyder, playing what Arabucki said was the best tennis she has played in two years, earned two points before losing a three-setter in the regional semifinals.

College sports update

Ryan Ramirez, a sophomore midfielder from Farmington, assisted on his team's final goal Monday, enabling Eastern Michigan to tie visiting Valparaiso in men's soccer, 4-4.

The Eagles led 3-1 at halftime, but Valparaiso rallied to tie and take a 4-3 lead in the first overtime. In the second overtime Ramirez, who played at Farmington High, led Diego Alvarez for the tying goal.

The Eagles (4-7-1) play host to Miami (Ohio) Saturday at 2 p.m. in a Mid-American Conference game.

Freshman Anne Grimaldi of Farmington was second for Alma College and sixth overall with a 19:23 time in women's cross country Saturday.

The Lady Scots finished third in the MIAA Jamboree hosted by Kalamazoo College.

Trzos named fall MVP

Jeff Trzos of North Farmington High School was the most valuable player in the Sports Academy's High School Fall Baseball League.

The left-handed pitcher struck out 76 of 162 batters, gave up only 16 hits and hit for a .365 batting average.

He also drove in seven runs for league champion North Farmington, which defeated the Mets 10-1 in the championship game Sunday, Oct. 5, at Henry Ford Community College.

Ryan Helms of Southfield Christian was named the top pitcher after posting a 0.42 earned run average in 334 innings.

The league batting champion was Mike Sopo, who went 20-for-34 at the plate for a .588 average.

The league consisted of 16 teams divided into two divisions.

Baseball tryouts

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield Cobras 13-year-old travel team will conduct tryouts for the 1997 season from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, and Sunday, Oct. 20, at Warner Middle School.

Players whose birth dates fall between Aug. 1, 1983, and July 31, 1984, are eligible. Warner Middle School is located on 14 Mile Road in Farmington Hills, and players should arrive early for registration.

For more information, call Dennis Baltus at (810) 851-2251.

■ Mercy and Harrison high schools placed among the top five teams in the county swim meet.



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

A pair of Farmington Hills teams used the annual Oakland County meet to showcase their talents in girls swimming Saturday.

Mercy High School finished second for the second straight year, and fifth-place Farmington Harrison had its best-ever finish.

Birmingham Seaholm repeated as county champion with 200 points at Royal Oak Dundero. Mercy scored 176, Bloomfield Hills Lakeshore 154, Birmingham Marian 111 and Harrison 108.

The Marlins found their success in large numbers, spreading the scoring among 10 of the 18 swimmers and divers who qualified for the meet.

Mercy didn't win any events and had only one second, but the Marlins had five girls who scored in two individual events and five who scored in one. Mercy also scored in every relay.

"We basically nicked and dined everybody," Mercy coach Jim Downs said, adding the Marlins had four or five swimmers in every event. "It just added up. But we'll take it any way."

"I was impressed by the fact we brought 18 kids. I think that was a feather in our hat. Qualifying as many kids as we could was our goal."

The Marlins had four state-qualifying swimmers in the county meet.

Caroline Kenna had two, in the 50-yard freestyle (25.67) and the backstroke (1:03.39), while finishing seventh and 10th, respectively. Kelly Carlin qualified in the 200 freestyle (1:59.42) and Betsy Lam-



County meet standout: Farmington Harrison senior Lisa Richardson placed second in the 200 yard freestyle and third in the 100 freestyle. She also helped the Hawks score in two relays at the annual Oakland County swimming and diving meet.

bert in the 500 freestyle (5:27.07).

Carlin was second in the 500 and third in the 200, Elizabeth Posvar third in the 100 and fifth in the backstroke, Lambert fourth in the 500 and 10th in the 200, Danielle Clayton 10th in the 50 and 12th in the 100.

"One of the key races was Kelly Carlin going from a 2:00.1 seed time and down to 1:59.42 in the 200," Downs said. "That will put her in a much better position to score at the state meet."

"Between 2:00 and 1:59 separates

a lot of people, and she hasn't even tapered yet. When she's rested, hopefully, she'll do even better than that."

In addition, Becca Gould was fifth in diving, Jennifer McDonald fifth and Erin Downs seventh in the butterfly, Meredith Spiegel 10th in the breaststroke and Emily Thompson 10th in the 500 freestyle.

Mercy's 200 freestyle relay team of McDonald, Kenna, Clayton and Posvar finished second and had a state-qualifying time of (1:43.05).

Posvar, McDonald and Kenna also

combined with Spiegel for fourth place in the medley relay, and McDonald, Natalie Grondin, Clayton and Carlin were seventh in the 400 freestyle relay.

Harrison coach Ross Bandy was extremely pleased with his team's performance.

"Only winning two dual meets and finishing fifth in Oakland County says a lot about our quality of swimming," he said.

The amazing thing is the Hawks were so successful with only four

See COUNTY MEET, 2C

Marlins retain dual-meet title

Farmington Hills Mercy won the Catholic League dual-meet championship in girls cross country for the sixth consecutive year Tuesday.

The Marlins finished with a 5-0 league record by defeating Birmingham Marian 16-50 at Casa Benton Park.

Mercy runners filled the top eight places as the Mustangs elected to run their JV squad instead of their regular lineup.

Scoring points for the Marlins were senior Betsy Gignac (20:31), junior Jackie Segue (21:43), junior Hilary Harris (21:58), sophomore Christina Andriole (22:10) and freshman Katie Mason (22:20).

Mercy junior Danielle Wroblewski was sixth (22:26), freshman Alyssa Burniasky seventh (22:31) and freshman Anjum Ahmad eighth (22:51).

The Marlins will be favored to win their sixth straight Catholic League meet and overall championship Saturday at Young Patriots Park in Riverview.

The girls race starts at 10:30 a.m. "Dearborn Divine Child has a decent team, but you still have to go to the line and run well," Mercy coach Gary Servais said.

"You can't just say it's going to happen. You have to go out and compete. But based on the dual-meet season, we should win Saturday."

Mercy will miss sophomore Erid Thomas, who is unable to run any more this season due to a hip injury, Servais said.

"We would have had five under 21 (minutes) with her," he said. "Hopefully, the freshmen will step up and surprise us."

Servais thinks Gignac, Segue and Divine Child's Jenny Yavello will be the top contenders for the individual title.

"If Gignac and Segue get out to a good start, the other (Mercy) girls will be out near them, and that will be the key," Servais said.

Falcons rout Rockets

Farmington dominated its Lakes Division dual meet with visiting Westland John Glenn, winning 20-43 Monday.

Glenn's Marjorie Brooks was the winner with a 19:27 time at Oakland Community College, but the Falcons put the next 10 runners across the finish line.

See CROSS COUNTRY, 2C



Team leader: Senior Betsy Gignac finished first Tuesday and will lead the Marlins in the Catholic League meet Saturday.

Raiders rally to force tie with Patriots

Progress is being made in North Farmington soccer.

A team that a couple of seasons ago had trouble winning more than one game is slowly maturing into a club that should be setting its sights on a winning record next season.

The Raiders saw their record go to 6-6-4 Monday with a well-earned 3-3 tie against host Livonia Franklin. North overcame deficits of 2-0 and 3-2 to gain the tie.

"They hustled so hard," Franklin coach Dave Hebestreit said of North Farmington. "I've never seen a team hustle as hard as that."

"They had that desire to win. And, even though they didn't win, they fought really hard."

Steve Finnegan, assisted by Bill Wolter, scored with three minutes remaining in the first half to give Franklin a 1-0 lead. Brian Radcliffe scored an unassisted goal in the second half to make it 2-

0.

"We did a good job," North coach Ron Meteyer said. "We were down 2-0 and we could have rolled over. That was something. I didn't think we had it in us. They surprised me."

Following an obstruction call, North's Viktor Juncal, from the right corner, shot the ball up into the air. It went off three heads before Jeff Ibbetson headed it into the net to shave the deficit by half with 13:48 left in the game.

Just 31 seconds later, stopper Juncal broke through four would-be tacklers and passed ahead to Justin Street at midfield. The speedy Street went 50 yards and scored on the breakaway.

That tied the game and, although Fernando Cazares scored to give the Patriots a 3-2 lead, the

Raiders came back with two minutes left to earn the tie.

"We beat them physically and we beat them with skill," Hebestreit said, "but we got out-fought."

A foul outside the box gave Dan Gabriel the opportunity to quick-kick the ball to Craig Henry, who unleashed a 20-yard shot that struck into the net with 2:18 to play before Franklin's defenders knew what was happening.

"We've practiced the quick kick for years," Meteyer said. "Kids have a hard time doing it in games, but that one little kick is going to do more than all our practices."

Meteyer cited Ibbetson, David Beaver, Scott Shapiro and Matt Every for their work on defense and keeping Franklin off the scoreboard in the last five minutes.

The tie left Franklin with a 7-9-2 record

SOCCER