

SPORTS

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1996

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Vellucci to coach stars

Farmington Hills native Mike Vellucci has been chosen to coach in the USA Hockey All-Star Experience in Waterloo, Iowa, Nov. 18-20.

Vellucci, the coach and general manager of the Computware Ambassadors, will coach the North American Hockey League's all-star entry in the round-robin tournament.

He is in his fourth season as coach of the Ambassadors, who are 8-0-0 and in first place in the NAHL this season.

Vellucci played major junior hockey with the Belleville Bulls of the Ontario Hockey League and was drafted by the Hartford Whalers in the 1984 NHL draft.

He took over the Ambassadors before the 1993-94 season and led Computware to consecutive Junior A national championships in his first two seasons behind the bench.

Vellucci has compiled a 100-30-12 record in NAHL regular-season play.

Mercy swimmers win

Elizabeth Posvar won two events and anchored the record-setting 400 freestyle relay team Wednesday, leading Farmington Hills Mercy to a 113-73 win over Birmingham Marian.

Posvar won the individual medley (2:15.84) and the 100 freestyle (55.24). Danielle Clayton, Jennifer MacDonald, Kelly Carlin and Posvar set a Mercy pool record with a first-place time of 3:44.48 in the relay.

The Marlins had other victories from MacDonald in the butterfly (1:01.71), Carlin in the 500 freestyle (5:20.44), Becca Gould in diving (216.40) and Caroline Kenna in the backstroke (1:33.44).

Mercy had second places from Betsy Lambert, 200 freestyle (2:05.02), Kenna, 60 freestyle (26.21); Erin Downs, butterfly (1:03.1); Katie Callan, backstroke (1:06.47); and Meredith Spiegel, breaststroke (1:12.23).

Posvar, Spiegel, MacDonald and Kenna were second in the medley relay (1:54.23), and Kenna, Carlin, Natalie Grivada and Clayton finished second in the 200 freestyle (1:44.93).

In a victory over Madison Heights Bishop Foley Oct. 24, MacDonald made the state cut in the 500 freestyle (5:27.25).

Other winners for Mercy were Downs, 200 freestyle (2:13.1); Molly Kilken, IM (2:27.47); Lambert, 50 freestyle (27.39); Carlin, butterfly (1:04.34); Gould, diving (218.2); Dana Dziakan, 100 freestyle (1:01.25); and Alison Desmond, backstroke (1:15.62).

Scot Tour update

Linda Handyside, president of the Detroit Curling Club in West Bloomfield, is headed for Scotland.

Handyside was recently selected by the United States Women's Curling Association to represent the United States on the 1996 Scot Tour. Handyside will take the position of Vice-skip and will join 19 other U.S. women on the tour.

Scotland is considered to be the cradle of curling. The United States team will compete in 30 matches during the tour.

Handyside is currently the president of the Detroit Curling Club and is the first woman in its 111-year history to hold this position.

Senior softball fitness

An eight-week fitness program for senior men's softball players will be from 9:45-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, beginning Nov. 20 through Jan. 29 (no sessions Nov. 27, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) at the Schoolcraft Community College Physical Education Building (main gym).

The sessions include flexibility, strength, aerobic and volleyball practice (instructed by Tom Teeters).

The cost is \$25 per person. For more information, call (313) 462-4413.

Boys basketball sign-up

Registration for Boys Class D basketball (18-and-under) for residents in the Livonia or Clarenceville public schools is under way.

A meeting for new teams will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Civic Center Library meeting room (A). League play begins in January.

For more information, call Livonia Parks and Recreation at (313) 261-2260.

Prep finals on PASS

Pro-Am Sports Systems will televise all four classes of the Michigan High School Athletic Association girls basketball tournament Saturday, Dec. 7, from Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek. Action will be televised at noon (Class D), 2 p.m. (A), 6 p.m. (C) and 8 p.m. (B).

The boys soccer state finals will be aired on a tape-delayed basis at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 11 (D); 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16 (B); 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 25 (C); and 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26 (A).

The football finals from the Silverdome will be broadcast tape delayed at 5 and 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8 (D and A); 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 (C); 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 (B); 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19 (DD); 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20 (AA); 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21 (CC); and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22 (BB).

Hawks stage tourney upset



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Defense and a determined effort enabled Farmington Harrison to topple defending champ Walled Lake Central Thursday in the Western Lakes Activities Association girls basketball tournament, 36-32.

Some wins are just wins; some are good wins, and then there are really big wins.

Farmington Harrison's girls basketball team had one of the latter Thursday in the first round of the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament.

The Hawks produced a shocker with their 36-32 defeat of defending champion and host Walled Lake Central.

It just might be the biggest victory in Harrison history, but the Hawks might not find that so surprising.

Harrison, which lost by three to the Vikings in the regular season,

played with a collective confidence and a defensive intensity that limited all-state center Becky Cummings to 11 points.

In the locker room, nobody was nervous; everybody was relaxed," Harrison coach Pete Mantyla said. "If we ran our system a little better, with the same kind of effort we had last time, we knew we could be right there at the end with a chance to win."

It was also Harrison's first tournament win during Mantyla's six-year tenure. His teams have been in the playoffs the last five years.

The fifth-seeded Hawks (11-6) advance to the semifinal round Tuesday and will play at top-seeded Northville. Central (11-6) plays host

to Livonia Stevenson.

Harrison double-teamed Cummings, a Miss Basketball candidate averaging 18.3 points, fronting her with a guard and putting either Amy Jenkins or Kerstin Andzrejewski between her and the basket.

Cummings was limited to 10 field-goal attempts. She made four (one in the second half) and was 3-of-3 shooting free throws.

"Early in the first half, she got loose for a couple of easy baskets," Mantyla said, "but over the last three quarters I don't think she had a solid look without at least a couple kids on her."

In the last game, Becky was the one player who consistently scored, and we had to stop her. In the second half, we had to make sure she wasn't the one who was going to score.

"The difference in the game is her getting 11 instead of 20 (as she did in Central's 39-36 victory Oct. 15)." The Hawks countered with eight

points apiece from Mahogany Fletcher, Amy Roble and Andzrejewski; Joni Stewart and Michelle Barta added six points each for the Vikings.

Despite giving away size to 6-foot-1½ Cummings and 6-2 Bortz, Harrison rebounded aggressively and shot the ball with confidence, letting it fly from three-point distance. Fletcher, Kristine Knutson and Roble had one triple each.

"I thought all year long, in our big games, we took gutsy shots," Mantyla said. "The whole team played with a lot of heart and guts."

It was a difficult defeat for the Vikings, who came into the game with a six-game winning streak and having scored more than 60 points in each of their last three.

"We basically played not to lose instead of playing to win," Central coach Steve Emert said. "We just didn't score tonight. We didn't shoot

See HAWKS, C3

Shaieb sparks victory

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

In sports vernacular, it's called having a career day, especially if you're the Farmington Harrison full-back.

Senior Nick Shaieb, better known for his blocking and tackling, rushed for 304 yards and two touchdowns Saturday as the Hawks defeated visiting Detroit Country Day, 34-27.

"It was fun to get the ball a lot," said Shaieb, who carried 18 times. "I used to be a running back in Little League, and it brought back some memories."

"The line did a great job; they were opening holes left and right. I just read my blocks and went for the openings."

The 5-foot-9, 190-pound Shaieb's rushing yardage is the second highest single-game total in Harrison history. Jason Granger set the record last year with 317 against Walled Lake Western.

In one game, Shaieb also surpassed his rushing total for all of last season when he had 239 yards on 44 attempts.

"We didn't go into the game planning that; it just worked out that way," Harrison coach John Herrington said. "Our game plan was to throw underneath the coverage. We did a little of that, but it seemed the traps and veers were working."

The Hawks finished the regular season 8-1 and qualified for the Class A playoffs for the fourth straight year.

Shaieb electrified the home crowd on the final play of the third quarter with an 83-yard touchdown run that broke a 14-14 deadlock.

See FOOTBALL, C3

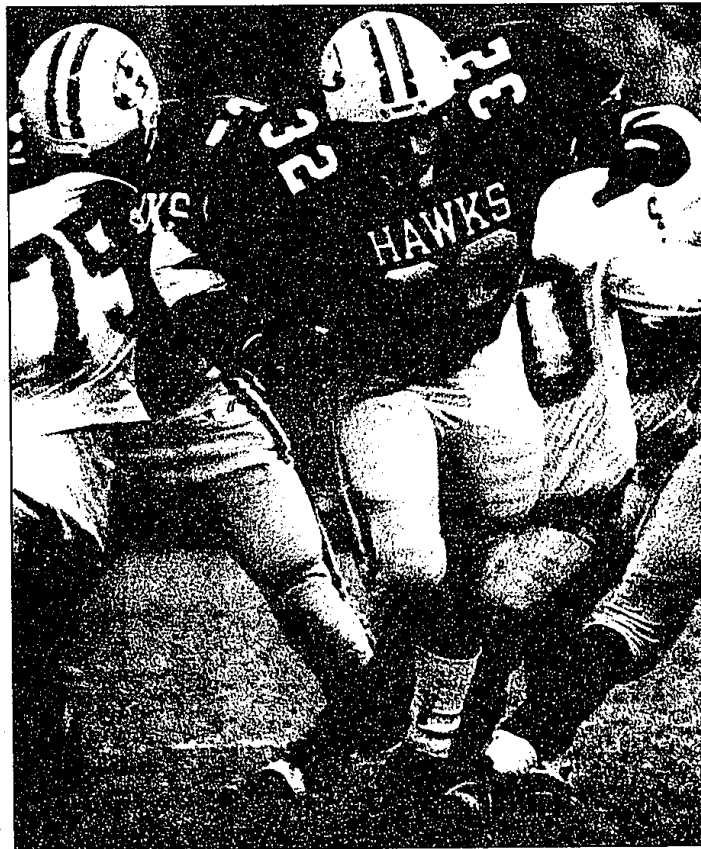


PHOTO BY BILL BARNES

Big ground gallop: Senior Nick Shaieb rushed for 304 yards and two touchdowns Saturday to lead Harrison to a 34-27 victory over Detroit Country Day and a Class A playoff berth.

Shamrocks win rematch with Warriors, 28-0

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Just last month, a Catholic League championship game appeared remote for the Detroit Catholic Central football team.

But on Sunday night, the Shamrocks earned both with a 28-0 victory over Birmingham Brother Rice in the Prep Bowl championship game at the Pontiac Silverdome.

The Shamrocks are 7-2 and the fourth seed in Class AA Region 3. Westland John Glenn, 9-0 and the top-seeded team, will host the Shamrocks at 1:30 p.m. Saturday in a first-round game.

The league championship was the ninth for CC coach Tom Mach and the Shamrocks' fourth in the last five years.

This is the same team that blew a 14-0 halftime lead and lost to Rice, 21-14, in overtime in the Ryan Bowl on Oct. 6.

But not really the same team. "We've been getting a lot better in practice, but I didn't know the score would end up this way," Mach said. "It seemed like this year has been a must-win game every week. It's been a rough season, and the kids have held together. I can't say enough about them."

All is not lost for the Warriors, who take an 8-1 record into the Class A playoffs and will play at

CATHOLIC LEAGUE

Grosse Pointe North on Saturday.

CC senior quarterback Greg Call scored on a 3-yard run and threw an 18-yard touchdown pass to junior tight end Don Slankster.

The Shamrocks also scored on a 10-yard run by senior tailback Greg Alcala and junior fullback Chris Duwecke's 1-yard run. Placekicker Aaron Rock made all four extra-point attempts.

Senior fullback Milan Brooks led the Shamrocks with a career-high 144 yards in 11 carries. Alcala had 75 yards in 11 carries, and Duwecke had 69 yards in 17 carries.

Brooks credited the blocking of linemen Brian Douglas, Brian Baaki, Chris Koss, Ben Herman, Mike Bowen and rotating tight ends Kurt Camdon, Jeremy Jakary, Mike Danerak and Slankster.

"I felt like I could drive a truck through there," Brooks said.

The passing combination of Call to Slankster proved effective on the Shamrocks' first scoring drive, which covered 66 yards. Slankster caught a 19-yard pass over the middle on third-and-11 from the CC own 33. He was wide open in the

Rice secondary when he caught his TD pass with 3:15 left in the first quarter.

"I came out and said to Don, 'You've got to make a big play today' and he did," said Call, who was 3-of-5 for 52 yards. "You could tell after that TD catch, it loosened things and opened up everything. We've been playing better and better each week, and we topped it off this week. I think we're going to make another run."

CC scored on drives of 66, 62, 72 and 75 yards. The Shamrocks led 14-0 at halftime and were nearly impossible to stop in the second half. They took the kickoff and drove 73 yards in six plays, Alcala scoring with 9:02 left in the third quarter.

A 10-play, 75-yard drive was capped by Duwecke's plunge late in the third quarter for a 28-0 lead.

The only thing that stopped the Shamrocks on their last possession was the clock, which expired after they drove the ball 64 yards in 15 plays in the last 9:04.

Rice senior tailback Brian Marshall was held to 67 yards on 15 carries. Twice, the Shamrocks stopped him for gains of less than a yard on fourth-and-short plays in CC territory.

The Shamrocks preserved the shutout when Gino DiGiamdomenico batted down an Eric Marcy pass on fourth down at the CC 6 with 9:04 left.