

# SPORTS

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1997

## FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### U.S. Open qualifying

David Van Lozen of Farmington Hills shot a 72 to lead the field Monday in local qualifying for the U.S. Open at Franklin Hills Country Club. Van Lozen was one of eight qualifiers who advance to a 36-hole sectional qualifying round starting the week of June 2.

The other Franklin Hills qualifiers are William Lyle (Ann Arbor), Jeff Ferry (Clinton Township) and Michael Anderson (Saginaw), 74; Bill Grooms (Troy) and David Hall (Royal Oak), 75; Kurt Lang (Rochester Hills) and Kevin Muir (Wixom), 76.

Three other Farmington Hills golfers attempted to qualify. Mark Holowicki and Michael Nolan were among eight tied at 85, and three-time Observer & Eccentric golf winner John Van Vleck was part of a five-way tie at 86.

### Rockets conduct sign-up

The Farmington Rockets will conduct junior football and cheerleading registration from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. Saturday, June 7, at Farmington High School.

The registration fee, which covers the cost of equipment, physical, banquet and trophy, is \$80. Boys and girls age 8 to 14 are eligible. The weight limits for football players is a minimum of 65 pounds and a maximum of 165 pounds.

The Rockets will play eight league games in the fall. Practice begins in August.

For football information call Lee Luttman (477-9322) or John Sawulski (477-9082). For information about cheerleading call Sheila Miracle at (313) 697-0151.

The Rockets received special recognition earlier this year at the annual conference of the Michigan Recreation and Park Association.

The State of Michigan paid special tribute to communities, individuals and hometown organizations, including the Rockets, for 30 years of community service.

### Livonia city tournaments

Baseball and softball will fill the air Saturday at Ford Field for the seventh annual Livonia City tournaments.

Baseball action begins at 10 a.m. with defending champion Churchill taking on Stevenson. The second game is slated to start at 1 p.m. and pits Franklin and Clarenceville. The final game is set for 4 p.m.

Churchill is also the defending champion in softball. The Chargers take on Stevenson at 10 a.m. Franklin and Clarenceville play at 1 p.m. with the final set for 4 p.m.

### Senior Fitness Fair

Senior citizens can make big fitness gains without big pains at a Senior Fitness Fair on Thursday, May 22, at the West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation Center.

Activities include demonstrations of stretch and tone at 9 a.m., yoga at 10:15 a.m., a seminar on preventing and treating minor injuries at 11 a.m., line dancing at 1 p.m., and a walk on Meadow Haven Trail in Civic Center Park.

To register call Parks and Recreation at (248) 739-2500 or visit the office at 4640 Walnut Lake Road, east of Farmington Road.

### Get your kicks at camp

Madonna University will be host for the Irish Summer Soccer Camp, featuring international players and coaches from Ireland.

Camp sessions will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 7-11 and 21-25, at Madonna. The cost is \$170. Each camper will receive a T-shirt and soccer ball.

There will also be a camp from 8-8:30 p.m. July 7-11 at Livonia Clarenceville High School. The cost is \$99.

For more information, call Madonna University head coach and U.S. Soccer Federation B licensed coach Pete Alexander at (313) 492-5607.

### Nike's Hoop-It-Up

Detroit will play host to the Nike Hoop-It-Up—the National Basketball Association's official 3-on-3 basketball tour—for the fourth consecutive year. Area youths age 8 and older are invited to participate in the event planned for June 14-16.

The non-stop action takes place at The Palace of Auburn Hills parking lot, where 40 basketball courts will host nearly 1,500 players.

Interested participants can register for the tournament by calling a special hotline number, (810) 377-8727. The deadline to enter is June 6.

### Prep coaches needed

• Mercy High School is searching for coaches for the following girls sports: varsity and JV tennis, varsity and JV cheerleading, assistant varsity volleyball and freshman volleyball.

Anyone interested in coaching should contact Mercy Athletic Director Nancy Malinowski at (248) 479-2836 or write to Mercy Athletics, 29300 Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

• Walled Lake Western needs to fill the following coaching positions: assistant varsity girls basketball, varsity aiki, varsity boys soccer, varsity hockey and girls swim assistant. If interested call Western Athletic Director David Yarbrough at (810) 960-8374.



Safe at home: Farmington senior Pat Hickey slides around Central catcher Rob Dutcher and scores a run Monday for the Falcons in their title-clinching victory in the Lakes Division.

## Farmington earns share of Lakes Division crown

BY BILL PARKER  
STAFF WRITER

### BASEBALL

The last time Farmington High won a Lakes Division baseball championship Tim Schafer was a junior struggling through a mediocre season on the varsity baseball team at Holt High School. That was 1991.

This is 1997 and Schafer is now the head coach of the Farmington baseball team, which returned to the top of the Lakes Division Monday with a decisive, 14-4 victory at Walled Lake Central.

The win gives the Falcons a 7-2 record in the Lakes Division (16-6 overall) with one division game remaining, Friday at home against Livonia Stevenson.

Central, which would have stayed in contention for the Lakes title with a victory, slipped to 5-4 in the division.

North Farmington is 6-3 in the Lakes.

If the Raiders win and the Falcons lose on Friday, the teams will tie for first place, but Farmington will win the tiebreaker based on its two-game sweep of North.

"It feels great," Schafer said of his team's opportunity to meet the yet undetermined Western Division champ in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship game on May 21.

"The kids have worked hard; they earned it. At the beginning of the season, we said defense and pitching would win it, and today was typical of that."

It certainly was. The Falcons backed sophomore Charlie Avery's six-hit, three-walk pitching performance with error-free defense.

"In my estimation, Farmington is the best team in the Lakes Division," Central coach Chuck Froning said. "We came in (this season) hoping to contend for the division championship, and they handed us our lunch twice."

Avery pitched a good game today but not as good as the first time we met. He shut us down (10-0) the first time. He's done a nice job with us."

The Vikings actually held an early lead, 2-1, after one inning, following a single by senior Bill Kandilian, a walk to senior Raj Mittra and a two-run double by senior Derek Moore. It was all Farmington after that.

Avery aided his own cause with a two-run double in the second inning, keying a three-run rally that put his

Please see WIN, C4

## Falcons fill spot in final

■ Farmington's 10-3 win over Walled Lake Central Monday gave the Falcons a share of the division softball title and a berth in the conference final.



BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER

Farmington High began the softball season with underdog status, but five weeks later the Falcons have shown themselves to be championship caliber.

Coach Jerry Osborne's team clinched a share of the Lakes Division title and a berth in the Western Lakes Activities Association final Monday by beating Walled Lake Central, 10-3.

The Falcons, who can win the division crown outright Friday by beating Livonia Stevenson, are 8-1 in the Lakes Division and improved to 16-9 overall with the victory.

Farmington will face either Plymouth Canton or Livonia Franklin for the WLAA championship on Wednesday, May 21.

Central, which had its string of seven straight WLAA final-game appearances snapped, slips to 7-2 and 17-7.

"This is something the girls just dreamed about three months ago," Osborne said.

"We talked about it, but it was just a dream until two weeks ago when we realized, when we play defense, we're a tough team to beat, especially with someone like Alana (Heikkinen) on the mound."

Unlike the first meeting between the teams, which Farmington won 2-1, this one wasn't a classic pitchers' duel as both teams produced 10 hits.

But defense played a crucial role as Osborne predicted.

Two first-inning errors helped the Falcons take a 2-0 lead, and a third kept Farmington alive in the fourth and led to a five-run spurt.

"I don't think we were mentally prepared," Central coach Gordon Glennie said. "We didn't come out and play."

That's not to take anything away from Farmington. They executed and we didn't, and the best team won.

Farmington made one error, in the sixth inning, after it had already scored seven runs.

Please see SOFTBALL, C3

### Falcons win share of city title



Two-goal scorers: Jamie Jabacki (taking the shot) and Emilie Villeneuve scored two goals each in Farmington's 9-0 victory Monday over North Farmington. See C2.

## Marlins still No. 1 in Catholic League

Farmington Hills Mercy won its sixth consecutive Catholic League girls golf championship Tuesday with its lowest team score since going to an 18-hole tournament three years ago.

The Marlins shot 362 at St. John's Golf Course in Plymouth to easily outpace runner-up Harper Woods Regina (383).

Also competing were Birmingham Marian (397), Livonia Ladywood (424), Dearborn Divine Child (460) and Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes (518).

Mercy was the only team under 400 last year when it won by five strokes over Ladywood, 395-400.

All five Mercy golfers scored well enough to earn All-Catholic honors even though the Marlins didn't count a 101 by Heidi Wegmueller, who was 11th overall.

Mercy's Jennifer Borowice, who was the runner-up last year, was the match medalist with an 85, shooting her third 39 of the season on the front nine.

"When I was watching her play on the front nine, I said 'She has that look in her eyes. It's the same look she had at the Oakland County tournament,'" Mercy coach Vicky Kowalski said. "She lost it a bit on the back nine, but 85 is still a real good score."

### GIRLS GOLF

Mercy's Angela Harbar broke 90 for the first time and was second with an 89. Kristen Smith was fifth (92) and Sarah Cahill seventh (96).

Harbar was tied with Regina's Gena Artymovich after 18 holes but won the tiebreaker based on the highest handicap hole.

"I feel like the other teams are out to get us at this point, but we have too much depth," Kowalski said. "Most teams have two good players, but we have five. We have the depth to carry us through."

Mercy finished 10-0 in league dual meets and 11-1 overall Monday with an 195-205 win over host Regina.

Regina freshman Amanda Pettit was the match medalist with a 43, but Cahill shot 47, Borowice and Smith 49 and Harbar 60.

"We thought we were doing Regina a favor," Kowalski said. "We didn't play well; we gave them a chance."

The Marlins hope to break 360 and Borowice will try to win her third major tournament Friday in the regional at Sylvan Glen in Troy.

"The girls played well (Tuesday), but they know they can still play better," Kowalski said. "They're not satisfied; they want to do better."