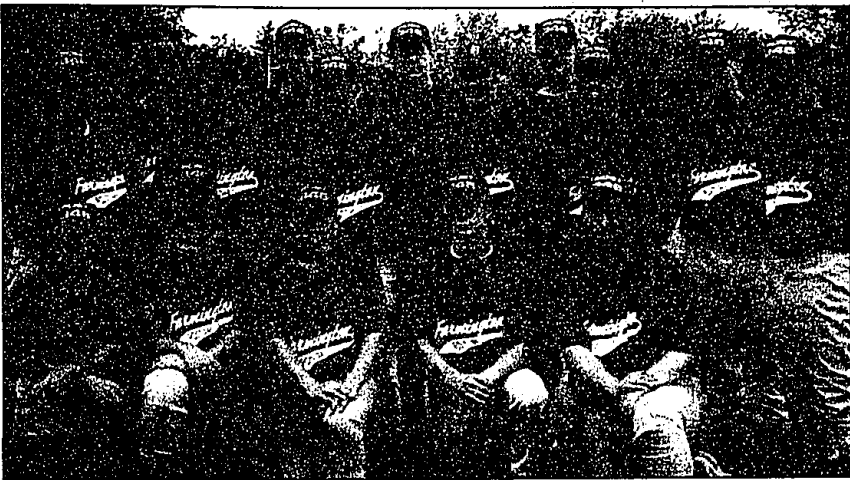




American Legion champs: Farmington Post 346 had a successful summer season, winning the district title and compiling a 19-5 record. Team members are (front row, left to right) coach Paul Olszewski, Zack Cornwell, Lenny Christoff, Mark Churella, Chuck Archambeau, (second row) manager Wally Christensen, Bill Kandilian, Jon Rospierski, Bob Wyss, Conner Krause, Shawn Morrison, Jim Carson, Matt Derocher, Tom Judd, Rob Kling and coach Larry Rospierski.



Spring champs: The Fireflies retained their championship in the Farmington Hills mini-mite spring hockey league with a 12-0 record. Team members are (front row, left to right) Kevin Rogers, Baxter Trapp, Eric Keast, David Caples, Brent Tate, (second row) Dallas Tucker, Josh Verhulst, Ryan Lash, Tommy Hamilton, Matt Vasko, Evan Jones, Kyle McKee, (third row) coach Jeff Lash, manager Kathy Lash and coach Art Jones.

Golf from page D1

take a varsity spot before the season is over," he said.

The Falcons also return juniors Brandon Mytty and Dan Kimmel, as well as sophomore twins Joe and Sam Kramer. First-year prospects include junior Justin Krueger, sophomore John Robinson and freshman Brad Baranie.

"I think we're significantly stronger, but I have no idea what other schools are doing," Miner said. "The early tournaments ought to be a good index which of the three schools in Farmington have developed the best over the last year."

"This year I'm a little more optimistic. We have a lot of depth and we should be stronger. We have the makings to be a pretty solid team, not just a bunch of individuals playing good golf."

North Farmington High

Coach Daryl Case has a solid nucleus of seven veteran players around which to build his team. The Raiders return sophomore Derek Spicer, seniors David Rosner, Greg Kozlowski and Andy Black, sophomore Brady Dwyer and juniors Brandon Finkel and Michael Barnett.

Case was also heartened by

the fact a half dozen of his players participated this summer on the Power-Bilt Tour and gained added experience.

Spicer, who averaged 42.5 strokes and shot 76 last week at Kensington Valley, has improved his game and will be expected to carry more of the load, according to Case.

"He played a lot of competition this summer and is a very consistent player," Case said. "He seems in control of his game and himself all the time."

Rosner worked his way into the varsity lineup last year, and Case anticipates him being an improved player, too.

"He worked at a golf course and had the opportunity to work on his game and get some instruction," Case said, adding he hopes Rosner can trim a couple strokes off his 43.5 average.

Finkel and Barnett have a lot of varsity experience, too.

"Brandon played a lot in the summer and shot some great scores," Case said. "He has a tremendous touch around the green; he has a good short game."

Barnett played more baseball this summer but wasn't at all rusty. He still broke 80 in three 18-hole practice rounds.

"He's hitting the ball extremely long," Case said. "Mike draws from his baseball experience with his swing."

Dwyer is the seventh man but has a "beautiful swing" and a lot of potential, according to Case.

"He needs to get more competitive experience, and I think he'll be a real good player," he said.

Kozlowski and Black were JV players who hope to earn varsity positions. Kozlowski played in summer tour events, worked on his game "and, hopefully, it's going to show up in his play this year," Case said.

Black is the sixth man but is capable of shooting some good scores, he added.

New players include sophomore John Panush, who went to golf camp and came back much improved after failing to make the team last year, sophomore twins Brian and Brent Bortman and freshman Mike Patterson.

"I think we will be a better team than we were last year," Case said. "We're a little deeper and, if we can get consistency from our kids, we'll be competitive."

"We're looking forward to the season, and we're going to have a lot of fun."

YOUTH GOLF RESULTS

15TH ANNUAL NORTHWEST PARKS AND RECREATION JUNIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT
(Aug. 14 at Oak Glen Golf Course)

15-17 AGE GROUP
Johnny Lia, Farmington Hills, 37
Anthony Domol, Farmington Hills, 39

12-14 AGE GROUP
Nick Zinn, Birmingham, 40
James Trumbell, Royal Oak, 45
Benjamin Brown, Farmington Hills, 46
Bryan Proven, Farmington Hills, 40
Mike Armstrong, Farmington Hills, 48
Michael Reasid, Farmington Hills, 48
Ben Miller, Farmington Hills, 48
Pat English, Farmington Hills, 53

11-12 AGE GROUP
Joe Ritter, Farmington Hills, 53
Andy Brown, Farmington Hills, 54
Matt Cebula, Farmington Hills, 50
Dan Ostin, Farmington Hills, 59
Craig Roehl, Royal Oak, 60
Aaron Cole, Farmington Hills, 61
Bobby Turkovich, Farmington Hills, 61
Tom English, Farmington Hills, 65
Ashley Kelko, Farmington Hills, 68
Holly Fusco, Farmington Hills, 69
Jason Cline, Farmington Hills, 78

11-UNDER AGE GROUP
Andrew Soley, Farmington Hills, 39
Kyle Glenn, Royal Oak, 44
Mark Feeney, Birmingham, 40
Jeff Bailey, Birmingham, 48
Kevin Singer, Birmingham, 48
Ryan Stoner, Birmingham, 48

John Bauldous, Birmingham, 50
Shane Loch, Farmington Hills, 51
Peter Bach, Birmingham, 53
David Merchant, Farmington Hills, 53
Kyle Miller, Farmington Hills, 53
Jordan Johnson, Birmingham, 57
Kent Stevens, Farmington Hills, 57
Adam Dingardner, Farmington Hills, 58
Joel Adams, Birmingham, 59
Cameron Duff, Birmingham, 62
Bruce McKenna, Royal Oak, 62
Ryan Harbison, Farmington Hills, 63
Wesley Forbes, Birmingham, 64
Mat Demerle, Royal Oak, 67
Casey Stanton, Farmington Hills, 78
Maria Palatin, Farmington Hills, 79
Angela Palatin, Farmington Hills, 80

New coach takes charge of Garden City program

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

It's the first week of football practice at Garden City High School and all the players want to be like Mike.

Their imitation is about respect, not hero worshiping.

Mike Salter, a varsity assistant coach the last four years at Garden City, has been promoted to head coach of the Cougars. Salter, 26, replaces Bob Eisiminger, who resigned last month after recording a 24-57 record in nine seasons. He became the defensive coordinator at Ann Arbor Pioneer.

Salter's enthusiasm and dedication is contagious, senior tailback Mike Wrobel said. Practices this week have been an enthusiastic experience right to the end when they are ended with a huddle called "Break it down."

"I think everyone is excited to play, the team's a lot more fired up, we have a new start," Wrobel said. "He's closer with the team and everything. He gets excited when we do good and brings us

in to 'Break it down.' Last year, the players would 'Break it down' at the end of practice, now he does. I think we're going to win some games, surprise people."

Salter makes no predictions other than to assure the Cougar faithful they'll be prepared for the season opener.

"We have one goal in mind and that's to beat Crestwood, get the parents involved and go from there," Salter said. "All we look for is to play hard and win some games. We're going to work hard at this and do whatever it takes."

Salter is a teacher in the Garden City school system at the Burger Center. He was a substitute science teacher at the high school, where he hopes to return someday as a full-time teacher.

Another former Eisiminger assistant, Erol Solomet, will remain on Salter's staff as offensive coordinator.

Salter, who graduated in 1988 from Garden City and 1993 from Ferris State, will double as defensive coordinator.

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