

## FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Froling in race series

Jim Froling of Farmington Hills will move one step closer to fulfilling a dream Friday when he and his associates enter the world of professional motorsports by competing in their first American Speed Association-sanctioned AC Delco Challenge Series race at Tri-City Speedway in Auburn (near Bay City).

The AC Delco Challenge Series is a championship stock car racing series that promotes 21 races in 13 states across the United States.

Past champions include Mark Martin, Rusty Wallace, Darrel Waltrip, the late Alan Kulwicki and Michigan native Johnny Benson, Jr.

Froling will be driving the Farmer Jack-sponsored Ford Thunderbird prepared by JNR Racing, a division of Wolverine Motorsports. His associates at Wolverine are Bob Hoffman of Monroe and Karl Ketchum of Westland.

Froling, the Flat Rock Speedway Street Stock Rookie of the Year in 1996, finished 14th overall in 1997 and is currently seventh in the points.

The Pennsylvania native is a graduate of Penn State University and is employed as a manufacturing engineer in the powertrain division of the Ford Motor Company.

### Mallon assists Mercy

The Eighth Annual Meg Mallon Golf Outing for the benefit of Mercy High School will be Monday, June 16, at Shenandoah Country Club on Walnut Lake Road in West Bloomfield Township.

Mallon is a graduate of Mercy and Ohio State University who has had a successful career as a member of the Ladies Professional Golf Association.

At the awards dinner that evening, the Mercy Hall of Fame will have three new members: Sr. Constantine Banks (posthumously), Sr. M. Maurita Sengelaub of Grand Rapids and Patricia A. Thull of Northville, a 1970 graduate of Mercy.

For anyone wishing to participate in a day of golf, a morning round (breakfast, golf, lunch) costs \$175. The afternoon session consists of lunch, cocktail reception and dinner for \$225. The reception/dinner is \$50.

A birdie sponsorship offers two tickets for golf, lunch, reception, dinner and a tee flag with your corporate or family name for \$750. An eagle sponsorship includes an additional two golf tickets for \$1,500.

For more information, contact Marilyn Corbet at Mercy High School at (248) 476-8020, ext. 253, or 476-8922.

### Tzros in Windy City

Jeff Tzros of Farmington Hills will join the nation's best amateur ball players in Chicago for the 1998 Jewel-Osco National Amateur All-Star Baseball Tournament sponsored by Pepsi-Cola June 22-26.

One hundred-twenty players, ages 16 to 18, from across the country will compete in a 16-game tournament at the University of Illinois at Chicago's Flames Field.

In addition, they will participate in Mayor Daley's Youth Baseball School, teaching baseball skills to 1,000 at-risk children from the Chicago area.

The championship game will be televised live nationally by Fox Sports Net at 1 p.m. (CST) Friday, June 26, and will be rebroadcast on Fox Sports affiliates.

The tournament was established in 1992 to give premier amateur players a national showcase. For ticket sales and information call (800) 622-2877.

Tzros, a senior at North Farmington High School, signed with the University of Michigan and was drafted by the Kansas City Royals in the 26th round.

### College softball tryouts

Madonna University will hold an open softball tryout for 1999 grantee high school seniors or any softball athlete with college eligibility from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 14, at Madonna University Softball Park, located off Newburgh Road (south of Five Mile), next to the Ladywood High School softball field.

All participants need to come prepared for practice. For more information, call head coach Jerry Abraham at (734) 432-5612.

(Readers can fax information for the Sports Scene to (734) 591-7279.)

## Regina denies Mercy once more

■ Farmington Hills Mercy lost another game by a run to Harper Woods Regina in a state quarterfinal contest Tuesday, 5-4.



If you were rooting for Farmington Hills Mercy's softball team Tuesday, your first thought was likely "Oh, no, not again!"

Another controversial play at the plate goes against the Marlins, resulting in yet another narrow loss to Harper Woods Regina in another big game.

When Shayla O'Mara was called out, it ended a fifth-inning rally and denied Mercy the tying run in a Division I quarterfinal contest at Kyte-Monroe Field in St. Clair Shores.

The score never changed after that as the Saddletites advanced to the state semifinals with a 5-4 victory, having won five of six games from the Marlins this year.

Regina defeated Mercy twice by 1-0 scores in the regular season and then 4-3 in the Catholic League championship game May 18 — their last meeting until Tuesday.

"I wanted that run on the board," Mercy coach Jack Falvo said, "because against Regina and their pitchers (every run matters)."

"I thought 'Let's get the game tied and then worry about getting a lead,' because I was worried about the end being what it was."

Mercy had rallied for two runs in the fifth on RBI singles by O'Mara and Erin Carson to make the score 5-4. Kelly Moug singled to load the bases with one out, chasing Regina starter Tara Sheridan.

With two outs, Beth Ann Nowak hit a pop-up in front of the plate that was dropped by the catcher. O'Mara, who was 3-for-4 with two RBIs, tried to score on the play and appeared to do so.

But the umpire ruled she had missed the plate. After some confusion by the Regina players, one of them tagged O'Mara, who was now at the backstop.

"I was definitely there," O'Mara said. "My foot was on the plate and I made contact with (the catcher) and tripped over the plate after I touched it."

"There was a wide corner to get my foot in there, but the ump didn't see it.



Happy times: Mercy senior Shayla O'Mara (center) is congratulated by teammates Erin Carson (left) and Lauren Monterey after hitting a home run Saturday in regional play. See story on C5.

The ump just aren't with us on those plays at the plate."

The play was reminiscent of a similar one in the league final. In the seventh inning of that game, Mercy's Terri Schroeder was out sliding into home plate. If the run had counted, the Marlins would have won, 4-3.

"That only makes it worse — two blown calls at the plate," Falvo said, adding he not only saw O'Mara touch the plate but heard it. "I'm not claim-

ing it; I know she hit the plate!"

The Marlins (29-11) threatened again in the top of the seventh when O'Mara and Carson had back-to-back singles with one out, but Kristin Bultinec retired Moug and Monterey on strikes to end the game.

Sheridan earned the win despite allowing four Mercy runs on eight hits through 4½ innings. Bultinec went the final 2½, giving up two more hits but no walks while fanning four.

"My assistant coaches thought I should have (made the pitching change) sooner," Regina coach Diane Laffey said. "I said Saturday, 'When the other pitchers, you have to be five pitches ready at all times.' When Tara got in trouble, I said to Kristin 'Are you five pitches ready?' and she said 'Yeah.'"

Senior Leah Moeller started for

Please see MARLINS, C5

## Hawks humbled in loss to Eagles

It was the stuff dreams are made of. Sweet dreams in the case of Redford Thurston, nightmares for Farmington Harrison.

A very loose band of Thurston Eagles stunned Harrison's highly-ranked Hawks, 7-2, Saturday to advance to the quarterfinals Tuesday in the Division II baseball tournament.

"We've got a great bunch of competitors," said Thurston coach Emil Majeski of his junior-junior team. "They're a great bunch of guys."

Nick Dedeluk held one of the hardest-hitting teams around to just four hits, walking one and striking out four, by keeping Harrison off balance through seven innings.

Pete Zigouras slammed two home runs to drive in five runs against the Hawks after hitting a home run in Thurston's 11-6, semifinal victory over Detroit Renaissance.

Harrison outslugged Allen Park to win its semifinal game, 15-10.

The story of the championship game was the catching job done by Joe Madi-gan and the hurling of Dedeluk.

Dedeluk repeatedly started Harrison's hitters off with a curve on the outside part of the plate for a strike.

### BASEBALL

Then, he'd come back with two different fastball speeds or go low-high to get the out.

Or the right-hander would start his pitch sequence with an outside fastball for a strike, then get a fly-ball out with a high fastball out of the strike zone.

"I've never seen us hit so many fly balls up in the air," said Harrison coach John Harrington, whose No. 4-rated team ended its season 23-7. "We're a good hitting team, and he shut us down."

"Dedeluk pitched a super, super game against a super hitting team," said Majeski, whose Eagles continued with a 19-7 record. "And Zigouras got a lot of big, big hits for us."

Josh Boven led off the bottom of the first against starter Joe Ghanann with a double to left-center for Thurston. One out later, Zigouras stunned the Hawks with a blast over Riverview High School's left-field fence.

Andy Gutierrez doubled to center with two out in the second and scored

Please see HAWKS, C4



Safe landing: Harrison junior Blake Boesky slides into home plate Saturday in the regional final against Redford Thurston.

## Bulldogs bomb Warriors in regional final

### BASEBALL

Mary Carrow is accustomed to spending part of every wedding anniversary watching baseball.

She must if she wants to see her husband, Brighton High School coach Mark Carrow, who is usually coaching the Bulldogs in a post-season tournament on June 6.

But No. 28 was extra special for the Carrows, who had another reason to celebrate Saturday after Brighton won its first regional championship.

"It was my mother's birthday last week," Mary Carrow said, referring to the district tournament. "What's Tuesday? We'll have to think of something (for the quarterfinal game)."

The top-ranked Bulldogs (38-2) won the Division I regional at Brighton by defeating Walled Lake Western in the final, 12-4, and Birmingham Brother Rice in the semifinals, 6-1.

"I'm just thrilled," Mark Carrow said. "We've come so close in the past. I told the kids Friday 'We need to do something no other Brighton team has done. If we don't win Saturday, all the other wins don't mean a thing.'"

Brighton batters came out swinging in the champi-

onship game, having an incredible first inning, and left little doubt about the outcome by taking an 8-2 lead after two innings.

The Bulldogs stunned the visiting Warriors by hitting four home runs off Western pitcher Kevin Thomas in the top of the first.

After a walk to leadoff batter Drew Summerill, Eric Biehl hit a two-run homer. All-everything Drew Henson, who was 2-for-2 with two walks and two RBIs in both games, followed with a solo shot.

With one out, Brighton's Brent Miller and Jeff Biehl hit back-to-back homers before Thomas retired

Please see REGIONAL, C4