

FARMINGTON  
FARMINGTON HILLS  
SPORTS  
SCENE

Falcons need coach

Farmington High School is in need of a girls swim coach following the resignation of Lisa Collins. Anyone who is qualified and interested in coaching the team should contact Farmington High building athletic director Bernie Call either at school (248-489-3456) or home (810-229-4257).

Bawulski is top golfer

Ron Bawulski of Farmington shot a score of 73 and won the Elmira (Ohio) Open at Sugar Creek Golf Course Aug. 1. In addition to a championship trophy, Bawulski received a year's membership to Sugar Creek valued at \$600. More than 100 golfers competed in the tournament.

U.S. Amateur update

Four Farmington Hills golfers were close but unsuccessful in their attempts to qualify for the U.S. Amateur Championship. During 36-hole sectional qualifying Monday at the University of Michigan Golf Course, John Van Vleck shot 150. Doug Cumming shot 164 and Mark Holowicki 165 Monday at Jackson Country Club, and Michael Nolan shot 160 at Muskegon Country Club Aug. 3.

Froling finishes 19th

Despite a series of race mishaps Saturday, Jim Froling of Farmington Hills held on to finish 19th in the Meijer 300 at Berlin Raceway in Marne, Mich. Froling's Ford Thunderbird experienced a deflating front left tire with 30 laps to go, a carburetor problem and a spinout early in the race, and his car was also bumped from behind by another driver. Competing in his second American Speed Association AC Delco Challenge Series race, Froling qualified his Farmer Jack-Total Automotive Engineering Thunderbird in the 25th starting position, six tenths off the pole position. Froling, Flat Rock Speedway's 1996 Rookie of the Year, made his professional debut at Berlin Raceway in June when he finished 21st. The Pennsylvania native and Penn State University graduate is employed as a manufacturing engineer in the powertrain division of Ford Motor Company. His Thunderbird was prepared by JNR Racing, a division of Wolverine Motorsports. Additional sponsorship is provided by Baker's Gas and Welding Supplies and Herkimer Radio Service.

SoccerZone signup

SoccerZone of Novi is conducting mail-in and walk-in registration for its first indoor soccer and in-line hockey season, which begins in early October. The team fee for the eight-game soccer season is \$760 for youth teams and \$775 for adult teams, which includes referee fees. The individual fee for players who don't currently play for a team, is \$65 and includes a SoccerZone T-shirt, which serves as a jersey. The in-line hockey team fee is \$795 for youth teams and \$825 for adult teams, which includes referee fees. The individual fee is \$75 and includes two hockey jerseys. The season starts Oct. 15 and ends Dec. 13. For more information call Tom Faro at the SoccerZone at (248) 374-0500.

'Zone seeks referees

SoccerZone of Novi needs referees for soccer and in-line hockey games. Referees must be at least 16 years old. The pay scale varies based on ages officiated. To register for SoccerZone's training session call Tom Faro at (248) 374-0500. SoccerZone is located at Grand River and Meadowbrook roads in Novi. SoccerZone is accepting applications for positions in its concession area and pro shop. Individuals must be at least 16 years old. Applications are available at the facility office. To schedule an interview, call Tom Faro, (248) 374-0500.

Ex-players stay involved in game

Former prep and college stars Eve Claar and Mary Rogers remain involved in basketball as employees of the Detroit Shock.

As the National Basketball Association endures a players' lockout, a pair of former star athletes from Oakland County are helping fans look into some new excitement at the Palace.

North Farmington graduate Eve Claar and Birmingham Marian graduate Mary Rogers are two of the marketing leaders for the Detroit Shock, a first-year team in the two-year-old Women's National Basketball Association.

The Shock's target audience may be women and youngsters, but it's gaining its share of male viewers. Male chauvinists are in the minority, they say.

"Many more men support it than bad mouth it," Rogers said. "If they come out and see it and experience it, then they'll know they just couldn't keep up with these girls. They are a bunch of classy ladies and wonderful people."

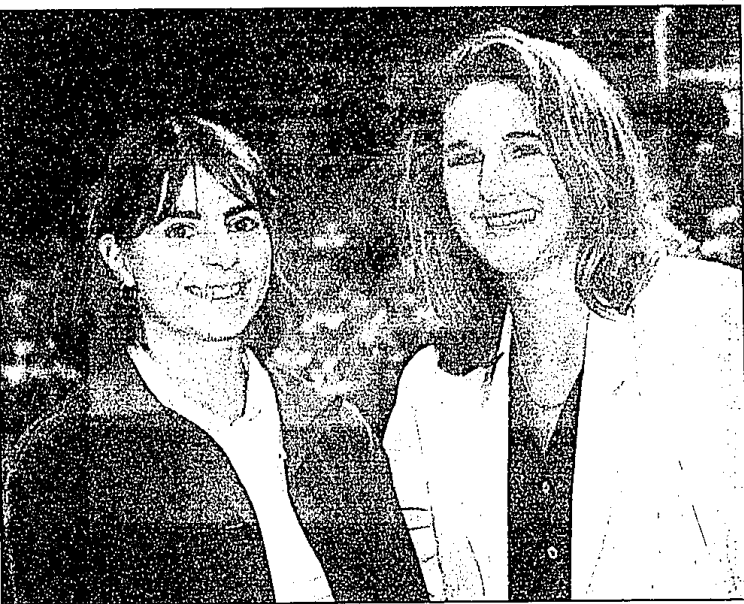
"The public has really taken to it, and it gives girls playing in grade school and high school something else to achieve."

Claar was a star guard at Central Michigan University, where she earned a business degree, before earning a master's degree in business and spending two seasons as a graduate assistant coach at the University of Detroit-Mercy.

Claar, who also coaches the Lake Orion girls varsity basketball team, was hired a year ago as an account representative for the Pistons and Palace Entertainment, which also owns Meadowbrook and Pine Knob music theaters. She became youth programming coordinator of the Shock when Detroit was named one of two expansion teams for the 1998 season.

Rogers, 28, graduated from Wayne State as the school's all-time leading scorer and has been employed by the Palace for six years, starting with an internship. She too was an account representative for the Pistons and Palace before her title changed to director of community relations for the Shock with their arrival into last year.

"Just to walk into this building and



From players to promoters: Eve Claar (left) starred at North Farmington High School and Central Michigan University; Mary Rogers was a standout at Birmingham Marian and later Wayne State.

work was great," said Claar, 25. "When I was younger I loved the 'Bad Boys' — during commercial breaks I'd emulate Isaiah (Thomas) out on the driveway. Working for a WNBA team is like being on the cake. I'm already here and you give me this, too? It's outstanding to work with players and coaches who are really great people."

Ironically, Claar almost took a job in a similar capacity with the Detroit Tigers before opportunity knocked at the Palace. The Lake Orion coaching

job and an opening at the Palace came simultaneously.

She credits John Ciszewski, an executive vice-president at the Palace and an AAU girls basketball coach in Lake Orion, for helping her land a job at the Palace.

"The day I was supposed to start, Lake Orion called and wanted to hire me as a coach," Claar said. "The commute (working for the Tigers and coaching at Lake Orion) was just not going to work."

During the three-month long season, which covers most of the summer, it's not uncommon for Claar and Rogers to work 60-70 hour weeks.

"We just try to be places and be seen," Claar said. "When I started researching the WNBA back in November, I would spend 30 to 45 minutes on the phone with people who just wanted to keep talking. I didn't understand it then — now I do."

Please see SHOCK, C4

Puerto Rico ends Rams' CABA title hopes

The Michigan Lake Area Rams capped a winning season with an extended appearance in the Continental Amateur Baseball Association 15-year-old World Series in Crystal Lake, Ill.

The Rams advanced to the fourth round of the championship losers bracket Aug. 6 before falling in 11 innings to Puerto Rico, 6-4.

With two runners on base in the 11th, Puerto Rico's Luis Escobar ripped a two-out hit to right field that scored Johnny Rivera from second with the winning run.

The Rams, who take most of their

BASEBALL

players from communities and schools in the Observer and Eccentric coverage areas, were 7-4 in the tournament and ended the season with a 44-23 record.

The Lake Area roster consists of Scott Miller, Farmington Hills; Mark Lundquist, West Bloomfield; Kevin Entsminger, Canton; Justin Gervatowski, Northville; Charles Haeger, Plymouth; Anthony Coratti and Thomas Larson, Novi; Garrett Ignasiak, Waterford; Joshua Odom and Bob Wilson, Livonia; Gary Pearson, Dear-

born Heights; Brandon Siemens, Riverview; Sal Papp, John Picco and Robert Tessier, Ontario.

Coratti, Entsminger, Haeger and Pearson attend Redford Catholic Central High School; Lundquist, Miller and Ignasiak, Orchard Lake St. Mary's; Gervatowski, Farmington; Larson, the University of Detroit-Jesuit; Odom, Franklin Road Christian; Wilson, Churchill; and Siemens, Riverview.

The Rams are managed by Dick Miller of Farmington Hills. The coaches are Greg Haeger, Sr., of Plymouth and Todd Miller of Farmington Hills. The business manager is Dennis

Lundquist of West Bloomfield.

The Rams started the CABA World Series with a 2-0 victory over Georgia, scoring both runs on a throwing error by the opposing catcher.

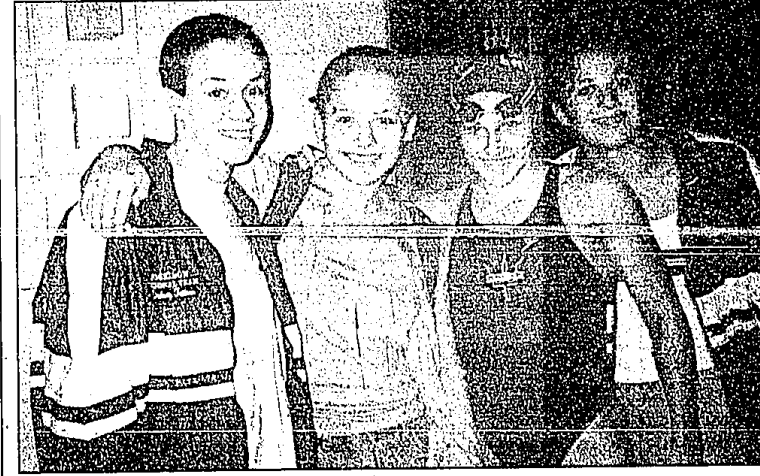
After a 15-12 loss to Florida, the Rams won their next three: 4-0 over Crystal Lake, 12-4 over Wisconsin and 6-3 over Virginia.

Following an 11-9 loss to Washington State, the Rams edged Hawaii (1-0) and Arkansas (8-7) but lost to Alabama, 11-4.

Michigan stayed alive with a 7-4 win

Please see RAMS, C2

Prep athletes combine talents to set records



Record-setting team: Lindsay Fetters (from left to right), Hannah Pawlewicz, Elizabeth Posvar and Amy McCullough set state records in two relays and placed in a number of individual swim events.

Four swimmers from Farmington Hills high schools combined to set two Michigan relay records Aug. 1-5 in the United States Swimming national championships in Buffalo, N.Y.

The foursome — Harrison High School's Lindsay Fetters, North Farmington's Hannah Pawlewicz and Mertry High School's Elizabeth Posvar and Amy McCullough — finished 13th and in the 400-meter freestyle relay and broke a decade-old state record with a time of 4:04.72.

SWIMMING

The girls, all of whom were first-team members of the All-Observer team and earned all-state honors last year, also broke the state record in the 800 freestyle relay with a time of 8:55.71.

Representing the Poseidon Swim Club of Royal Oak, the swimmers also competed in individual events. Posvar placed 11th in the 50 freestyle (27.42); McCullough placed 15th in the 1,500 freestyle (17:32.57) and 24th in the 200 freestyle (2:09.51). Pawlewicz finished 19th in the 100 butterfly (1:05.96), and Fetters placed 25th in the 200 breaststroke (2:46.52).

The girls, who are coached by Dave Neck, rejoined their high school teams this week in preparation for the start of the 1998 fall season.