

## FARMINGTON— FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Post-season picnic

All coaches and managers from the 1998 South Farmington baseball season are invited to attend an appreciation picnic from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 29, at City Park. Bring the entire family out for a barbecue, baseball games and a day of fun. If you plan to attend, please contact Roxanne Fitzpatrick at (248) 855-2000.

### OCC needs coach

Oakland Community College has an opening for a men's soccer head coach to replace Phil Nielsen, who resigned Friday to take a job as head coach of the Kalamazoo College women's soccer team. Nielsen leaves the program after posting an 11-0-1 record last season and a 17-1-2 record in his two years at the helm. He has the most wins and best winning percentage of any soccer coach in OCC history. The position needs to be filled as soon as possible. The Raiders play their first game Monday, Aug. 31, at Hillsdale College. Anybody interested in coaching the team should contact OCC Athletic Director Bernie Little at 360-3165.

### YMCA soccer signup

It's time for the youth soccer season and the Farmington YMCA is looking for players. Boys and girls ages 3-6 will have the chance to learn basic skills and have fun at the YMCA. Practices are held for 30 minutes on Saturdays and games are 30 minutes long. The program begins Saturday, Sept. 12, and there is a \$30 fee. Young soccer players are requested to register at the Farmington YMCA between Aug. 20 and 25. For more information, call 553-4020.

### Hockey camps at STC

Suburban Hockey Schools will conduct its preseason conditioning camps Aug. 24-27 at the Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills. The Learn to Check program is geared toward squirt players moving up to the pee wee level and for current pee wee and bantam players who need instruction in the techniques of checking. The Learn to Check program is offered noon to 1:50 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 24 and 25, or Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 26 and 27. The Shoot to Score program is open to all ages and will show players proper shooting technique and will help players improve their scoring skills. The program is offered 2:30-5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 24 and 25. The Defense Clinic is open to all ages and will focus on the skills a defenseman needs to excel in the game of hockey. The program is offered 2:30-5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 26 and 27. The cost of each program is \$80 per player for the two-day sessions. Call Suburban Hockey Schools at (248) 478-1600 for information or to enroll.

### Chance for \$2 million

Golden Bear Golf Center in Royal Oak will be the site of the Seventh Annual Enterprise \$2 Million Dollar Hole-In-One Shootout Aug. 20-22. Together with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, the Children's Miracle Network will offer amateur golfers the opportunity to fire at a target green approximately 110 yards away. For \$1 per ball, contestants placing tee shots inside a three-foot circle qualify for the semifinal round and then the \$2 Million Final Round. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Children's Miracle Network.

### Soccer players needed

Soccer players are needed to play for a Little Caesars premier team to replace injured players. Players born after July 31, 1979, and before Aug. 1, 1983, are eligible. Interested players should call Mike Esparza at (734) 464-9114 for more information.

### Sorrows seeks players

Our Lady of Sorrows varsity football team still needs players for the upcoming season. There is a \$75 fee to play. Call head coach Ugo Abate at (248) 474-5880 or Athletic Director John Castine at (248) 470-5324.



Leading scorer: Senior Tim Rais (left) was one of the most prolific goal-scorers in the area last year during a 9-10-1 season and returns to lead the Farmington High soccer team again this fall.

## Falcons set for '98 opener



Farmington High will field a veteran soccer team when it starts the 1998 season Friday. Ten returning starters include forward Tim Rais, who led the Falcons in scoring with 26 goals and earned All-Observer recognition.

Led by one of the top players in the area, Farmington High School's first objective in the upcoming boys soccer season will be to improve upon a 9-10-1 record. The Falcons start the season Friday when they face Birmingham Seaholm at 4 p.m. in a tournament at Detroit Country Day. All-Observer forward Tim Rais returns for his final season, following an outstanding junior year in which he scored 26 goals and pushed his three-year varsity total to 54. "Tim is not just one of the best for-

wards in our league but probably the state," Farmington coach Luke Juncaj said. "I think he's going to be very crucial as far as our success. He's the main person for us as far as scoring is concerned. We're going to be providing him with a lot of balls and expecting him to come through for us. I expect him to have an excellent year." The Falcons have other forwards to take any heat off Rais. Juncaj will start with a 4-4-2 lineup but switch when necessary to a 4-3-3. Senior David Twendey scored two goals and had four assists, and sopho-

more Andrew Buck recorded three of each. Senior Kenta Tashima also brings back experience at forward. "Our forwards have a lot of speed, and that's going to be our strength up front," Juncaj said. "I think we'll be able to get a lot of breakaways because of that, which will give us quite a few goals this season." Farmington has a veteran midfield with three starters returning in senior captain Patrick Faloon, junior Jon Kambouris and sophomore Karl Lopata. Faloon, who scored two goals and assisted on eight, will play one of the center-mid positions, with Lopata and Kambouris on the flanks. "Faloon is our most experienced player in the midfield," Juncaj said. "We expect him to really take charge in

Please see FALCONS, C4

## Michigan Bulls 3rd in Series

The Michigan Bulls baseball team took third-place honors in the American Amateur Baseball Youth Alliance 16-year-old World Series in St. Louis. The Bulls, a travel team based in Farmington Hills, defeated Columbus (Ohio) in the last of 10 games to finish in third place, 13-3. Their overall record in the seven-day tournament was 6-3-1. The Bulls opened pool play in the 17-team field with a 6-3 loss to eventual tournament champion Georgia.

### BASEBALL

The Bulls bounced back with a 12-7 win over Maryland and an 11-3 victory against Washington. Adam Harris and Brent Schoenbach, both of Farmington Hills, were the winning pitchers, while Mark Flinchebaum (Orchard Lake), Mitch Maior (Novi), and Takeshi Saito (West Bloomfield) delivered key run-scoring hits. After losing 12-4 to Columbus, the Bulls beat the Michigan Indians 6-3 on the arm strength of pitcher Ross Patterson (Farmington Hills) and a three-run homer by Jason Kavalauskus (Eastpointe). Brian Lafer (Farmington Hills) batted in the go-ahead run and scored the insurance run in the victory against the Indians, the Bulls' cross-town rival from St. Clair Shores. The Bulls tied St. Leon (Ohio) in a game highlighted by Brendan Hadley's run-scoring double, 3-3. Hadley (Novi) also had two triples in the tournament. The Bulls closed out pool play with a 10-2 victory over St. Louis with Brian Nelson (Farmington Hills) taking the win and Justin Shaw (Novi) closing the door in the late innings. In the single-elimination championship round, the Bulls beat previously unbeaten Cincinnati 9-4 behind the pitching of Aaron Rowe (Novi) and a grand slam home run off the bat of Kevin McVay (Farmington Hills). The Bulls lost to Georgia again 4-3 despite a two-hit pitching performance by Schoenbach. The Bulls avenged the earlier loss to Columbus by beating the Ohoians for the third-place finish in a game that ended at 2 a.m. The Bulls, who are coached by Den-

Please see BULLS, C2

## Panush leads North to city championship

For a guy who almost didn't get to play in the varsity match, sophomore Jon Panush certainly proved he belonged there Monday.

Panush was the best player on the Huron Meadows course, shooting 74 to earn medalist honors and lead North Farmington to first place in the annual Farmington city meet.

The Raiders recorded a 392 team score at the Brighton course, Farmington Harrison 409 and defending champion Farmington High School 419.

Panush was a JV player last year and began this season as the seventh man, but the Raiders were minus one starter who was participating in the Macomb Games. That made room for Panush in the varsity lineup.

"Jon has been hitting the ball better but nothing like he shot today," North coach Brady Case said. "I didn't expect Jon to be playing that well and to shoot that kind of score."

Jon filled in and did a wonderful job. He would have been playing but probably in the JV tournament. As it turned out, we needed him today and he came through."

The Raiders came through as a team, too, and Case was pleasantly surprised. "I thought Farmington and Harrison were the favored teams based on last year's performance," Case said. "My kids played up to their potential and shot excellent scores, and I don't know if Farmington and Harrison did."

At the end of last season, Farmington was runner-up (416) in the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament; Harrison finished fifth (419) and North 11th (428).

### BOYS GOLF

In addition to Panush, North juniors Brady Dwyer and Derek Spicer earned all-city honors, which go to the top five players.

Harrison's Matt Lee was second (76) and Dwyer third (78). Farmington's Dan Kimmel, Spicer and North senior Brandon Finkel tied for the last two spots, and the first handicap hole was used as the tiebreaker.

A mere six strokes separated the five golfers whose scores the Raiders used to achieve their team total as junior Mike Barnett completed the score with an 80.

"We haven't had that kind of balance in several years, and I hope it continues," Case said.

"A couple years ago, I thought, if we could keep these guys together, along about their junior year we could put a pretty good team together."

Finkel is one of only two seniors on the varsity and will serve as the team captain.

"Brandon really worked hard on his game this summer, and it's showing up in his play," Case said. "I hope he provides great leadership for us."

Spicer, who also was active in the summer playing on the Power-Bilt and Max-Fit tours, and Dwyer begin their third seasons on the varsity.

"Dwyer made a tremendous jump last year and improved his average by 10 strokes," Case said. "He's starting out real well this year, and I look for-

Please see GOLF, C4



All-city golfer: North Farmington junior Derek Spicer was one of five boys to earn all-city honors Monday in the city tournament.