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# Hawks look to veteran quintet

## SOCCER

Coach Frank Ivezaj's 1998 Farmington Harris boys soccer team is expected around five returning players.

Seniors Jay Mentzel, J.R. Mankoff and Scott Moore, Junior Chris Wong and sophomore Tony Alice bring back varsity experience as the Hawks try to improve its 3-7-2 record.

Mentzel, a co-captain with Wong, is a four-year varsity player and will start at the pivotal center midfield position.

"He and Chris are two of the best players when it comes to understanding the game and doing a lot for our team," Ivezaj said. "He uses his knowledge to help others."

"He distributes the ball very well, and he has very accurate short and long passes."

Wong returns at the stopper position but isn't limited to playing defense. He also will join the attack at various times.

"With his speed and understanding of the game, he can help offensively a lot, and he's very good on long passes," Ivezaj said. "His experience makes a big difference. He talks a lot, too. Whenever he dribbles the ball, he tells people how to move, how to get open."

Playing alongside Wong on defense will be Mankoff at sweeper and Alice at fullback. "Alice) was a freshman on the varsity, so he's a good soccer player," Ivezaj said. "He has

good ball control and is well equipped with soccer skills.

"Mankoff) has great speed and is a very aggressive player. He's vocal and gives direction to other players, too. On the high balls, he's always there."

The other defenders are senior Dan Turso, junior Dave Licht and sophomores David Marshall and Eddie Cleland.

Turso, had never played soccer but was inspired to try it after playing this summer during a trip to Italy.

"He doesn't have much playing experience, but he has a lot of speed," Ivezaj said, adding Turso has been on the track team for three years. "He's paying attention, asking a lot of questions. Once he started to play, he really liked it."

Also playing midfield positions will be senior Sam Daydor and juniors Ead Krjesporac, Adam Richards and Phasnan Killu. "(Phasnan) is learning a lot from Jay," Ivezaj said. "His specialty is he can go around players very easily, then looks up and passes the ball. He's good in the air, heading the ball, too."

Krjesporac, who lived in Bosnia previously, and Killu, who was raised in Iraq, learned the game on foreign fields and played last year on the JV.

"(Killu) knows exactly what to

do with the ball and is an accurate passer," Ivezaj said. "He understands the flow of the game. (Krjesporac) brings a European flavor to our team. He brings a lot of excitement to the game as well."

Richards is a versatile player who can also play forward.

"He can run a lot, so that's why we put him at midfield," Ivezaj said. "As a midfielder, you have to know how to defend and convert to offense. He does the transition very smoothly."

The Hawks have first-year Junior Eric Springer and a pair of Brazilian exchange students, Marcel Tucci and Ricky Henriki, at the forwards.

(Springer) can't rip the ball from 20 or 30 yards with no problem," Ivezaj said. "He's enthusiastic about the game."

Tucci and Henriki "play typical Brazilian soccer, give and go, short passes. They'll contribute a lot to the team."

Moore, who was a forward and backup goalie last year, is now the regular keeper.

A realistic goal for the Hawks, who opened Monday with a 7-0 loss to Millford, is to finish around .500, according to Ivezaj.

"We want to develop our program and play to our potential," he said. "We studied our schedule and there are certain teams we feel we can tie or beat. Our goal is to play very close with them."

## Raiders romp to victory over Eagles

Senior Justin Street scored three goals and assisted on two others Monday as North Farmington routed visiting Lakeland in boys soccer, 9-2.

Heading into a Wednesday game with Bedford Thurston, North was 4-1 overall after winning three of four tournament games Saturday.

"The kids are doing what we've asked them do and are playing a really unselfish game," North coach Ron Meteyer said Monday.

"They're moving the ball around and developing a lot of confidence in the midfield. They know, if they make passes, they're going to get some of them back. We were really pleased with what we saw tonight."

The Raiders led 6-0 at halftime, starting the scoring with a Viktor Junaj goal 1:10 into the game with an assist from Craig Hearn.

Hearn scored the first of his two goals after Kyle Meteyer hit him at full stride with a pass. Dan Mooney's long shot from the right side followed a Brian Horr corner kick.

North's defensive wall stopped a Lakeland direct kick; Street knocked it down and passed to Hearn, who had a breakaway goal.

Chris Erickson then lifted a direct kick over the Lakeland goal, and Street headed the ball into the goal.

Don Shumer passed up the left sideline to Andrew Hathaway, who took the ball within 18 yards of the Lakeland goal before burying a shot in the corner for a 6-0 score.

"We wanted more scoring out of the midfield, and we certainly got it," Meteyer said, adding he put offensive limits on his players at halftime and told them to work on the passing game.

Lakeland's Rob Sotocinski converted a penalty kick and later scored his team's second goal for an 8-2 tally.

Between those goals, Shumer fed Street, who lifted a long, hard shot over the goalie, and Street assisted on a goal by Glenn Hearn, who one-touched the ball into the upper corner.

Street finished the scoring, burying a penalty kick after Craig Hearn was tripped in the penalty box.

Tony Munaco played the first half in goal and Nick Jordan the second half.

North played four 50-minute games Saturday in a 30-team tournament in Warren, losing to Saginaw Heritage (2-1) but defeating Flushing (4-2), Pinnacle (3-2) and Lansing Everett (6-0).  
Craig Hearn and Street scored six goals apiece, including three each against Everett, and Hearn and Glen Hearn had two apiece.

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