

# Sports

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The Farmington Observer  
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## FARMINGTON HILLS FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Youth goes distance

At age 11, David Koch of Farmington Hills was the youngest participant in the United States Track and Field Association's ultra-marathon last weekend at Olander Park in Syaria, Ohio.

Running with his father, Rob, the Kochs completed 50-plus miles in the 24-hour event, which started at noon Saturday and ended at noon Sunday.

Their initial goal was to run a *marathon distance*. When they achieved that, they decided to go for 50k and completed 31 by the time they stopped for the night at 10 p.m.

They slept in their own tent on the park grounds that night, started again at 6:30 a.m. and ran another 19 miles.

"Towards the end, I was slowing him down," Rob Koch, 45, said, adding he had developed blisters on his feet. "I told him it was OK for him to run on ahead, but he said 'No way, we're doing this together.' He really made me very proud."

It was David's first ultra-marathon, his longest previous race being eight miles. It was the 11th for his father, who has also done 10 marathons but not for some time.

"I think the significance of the achievement is in it," Rob Koch said. "It's a pretty amazing accomplishment for someone his age. To have the stamina and willpower to go through it is quite impressive."

The event was sponsored by the Toledo Roadrunners Club and served as the USTA's national championship. The overall men's winner and masters champion (40-44) logged more than 145 miles.

David Koch is a seventh grader at East Middle School and a member of the cross country team. A 13-year-old boy was the only other runner under 18 to participate in the ultra-marathon.

### Lady Raiders prevail

The Oakland Community College women's volleyball team ran its record to 8-2 overall and 3-1 in the MCCA Eastern Conference with a 16-14, 15-2, 15-11 win over rival Macomb CC Tuesday night.

Jessica Regentin (Walled Lake) had 15 kills, four blocks and hit at a .500 percentage for the Lady Raiders. Sarah Partlow had 29 set assists, six service aces and seven digs.

Sheri Dumbrell (West Bloomfield) and Christine Skuka (Holly) had six kills each, and Dumbrell also had eight digs. Kelli Ghiacuc (Oxford) had five blocks.

The Lady Raiders hit .600 in the second game, recording 15 kills on 25 attacks with no errors.

Livonia's Michelle Berry, who played at Clarenceville High School, had eight digs for the Monarchs, who are 2-1 in the conference, 11-7 overall.

### Regentin earns honor

Oakland Community College's Jessica Regentin was named MCCA Eastern Conference Player of the Week in women's volleyball.

Regentin (Walled Lake Central) had 29 kills and a .218 attack percentage, 12 service aces, including seven in one match, and served for an .849 percentage.

Her passing percentage was .909 with just seven errors in 77 attempts. She also had 20 solo blocks and 16 block assists in 17 games as the Lady Raiders went 5-2 on the week.

### OCC soccer team wins

The Oakland Community College men's soccer team defeated Lawrence Tech 4-2 Saturday.

OCC (1-1) built a 4-1 lead on goals by Andy Kaminski (Troy), Kevin Majeski (Rochester Hills/Lutheran Northwest), Eric Langdon (Waterford Mott) and Blake Hertz (Lake Orion).

The Hertz goal was his second of the season. Irvin Moran (Troy Athens) had two assists.

### Clinics at SoccerZone

SoccerZone in Novi is offering a free soccer and hockey referee clinic 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24, and Friday, Sept. 25. The clinic is for any individual 16 or older.

SoccerZone is hiring referees for its upcoming indoor soccer and in-line hockey season. The job offers flexible hours.

For more information call SoccerZone at (248) 337-9566.

## Falcons win bragging rights, 14-7

Farmington High earned its first victory of the 1998 season Saturday, scoring a late touchdown to defeat North Farmington, 14-7.

After slugging it out with rival North Farmington for most of four quarters Saturday, Farmington delivered the knockout punch late in the game with a long scoring drive.

Brinn Brinden's 1-yard touchdown run with little more than two minutes remaining gave the visiting Falcons (their first of the season) over the Raiders. Both teams are 1-2.

North was first on the scoreboard when tailback Todd Weira ran 49 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter.

"We lost contain on the corner and he was gone," Farmington coach John Bechtel said.

But the Falcons rallied to tie late in the first half. Grant Weber took the ball on a counter, pulled up and threw a halfback pass to Tim Smith for a 12-yard touchdown.

Stephen Wayne, who had just arrived from the Farmington soccer game, kicked the first of his two extra points.

Farmington (1-2) had two other scoring chances but missed field goals each time.

After the Falcons recovered a fumble, Scott Kneller passed 35 yards to Weber, putting the ball on the North 3. But Farmington lost yardage and the field goal was wide left. The other attempt was from 42 yards.

"We had some chances but didn't capitalize," Bechtel said. "The key to the game from our standpoint was special teams play and the turnover situation. We didn't turn the ball over, and Ben Lukas had a great day punting the ball."

Farmington's tying touchdown drive followed a 55-yard Lukas punt to the North 1. The Falcons held and got the ball back at the North 40.

Both teams were either short-handed because of injuries or less than 100 percent due to illnesses.

Farmington was minus a handful of players, including two-way player Scott Rycerz, who stepped on a nail last



PHOTO BY LIZ CANNON

Rivals meet on gridiron: Farmington running back Grant Weber protects the football as he prepares for a collision with a North Farmington defender Saturday. The Falcons won the game, 14-7.

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Farmington was minus a handful of players, including two-way player Scott Rycerz, who stepped on a nail last

week, and Justin Milus, who continues to be bothered by a hip injury.

"Other kids stepped in and played hard; that's what has to happen," Bechtel said. "The next guy has to be ready, and we're proud of that."

The Falcons had 200 yards rushing and 63 passing. Robert Champion rushed 12 times for 64 yards, Mark Ostach seven for 69, Brinden six for

30 and Weber eight for 25.

Kneller completed five of 10 passes for 55 yards, Weber one of one for 12. Weber also caught three passes for 46 yards.

"We're close offensively to doing some great things," Bechtel said. "It's just a little breakdown here or there that's

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## Hawks coast to 3rd-straight shutout

BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER

The second-half running clock has become a weekly feature of Farmington Harrison football games.

For the third time in as many games, the Hawks invoked the mercy rule Saturday during a 35-0 win over visiting Northville.

Harrison (3-0) has not allowed a point while scoring 130, but coach John Herrington said the Hawks won't make a big deal about the shutout streak.

"Not being scored on isn't something we're going to play up big," he said, "because when you give up the first score the other team goes crazy. When someone does score, it isn't going to be the end of the world to us."

Herrington gives the reserve defenders a large share of the credit for the consecutive shutouts.

### FOOTBALL

"A big part of it is that our second-team defense is good," he said. "At times, when you sub early, teams go right down and score. We have some seniors on the second defense, and they've been holding their own."

"Usually, the second defense has some young kids, and they give up some scores. This year, because we have some older players, we feel we owe it to them to give them a chance to play, and they're pretty good players."

"Each closer game was anticipated Saturday as the Mustangs (1-2) had only lost to Class AA-ranked Brighton by a 10-3 score."

But the Hawks took charge right away, driving the ball 73, 80 and 64 yards for touchdowns on their first three possessions.

"I thought the Northville defense would be too tough to score 28 points on in the first half, but we got the interception for one," Harrison coach John Herrington said.

Senior quarterback Blake Buesky returned an interception 20 yards for a touchdown and a 28-0 halftime lead.

Buesky (6-7, 155) had a second interception before the half ended and broke up a key fourth-down pass in the second half after Northville had reached the Harrison 10-yard line following a fumble recovery.

"Because they have tall receivers, we thought about not playing him as much this week," Herrington said, "but Blake looked really good in practice and ends up having a great game."

"Instead of trying to over-coach and go with somebody else, we decided to stay with him, and it proved to be a good decision."

Senior receiver Ricky Bryant, who caught four passes for 72 yards, scored a rushing touchdown on what can best be described as a reverse reverse.

He started to the right, cut back to his left, when he saw a wall of Northville players and ran 25 yards for a 21-0 lead following the fourth of five extra points by Joe Ghanam.

"I called a terrible play because they had it covered on that side," Herrington said, "and it ends up being a great play, so (Bryant) can make a coach look good."

Senior Matt Reed scored the first two touchdowns on runs of 1 and 3 yards. It was Dave Pesci's 43-yard pass to Andre Davis that set up the first one, and Blake Ashley's 39-yard run on first down got the second TD drive started.

"We thought, if we could keep it

Please see SHUTOUT, C3

### Mercy wins swim meet over Shrine

Farmington Hills Mercy followed its victory in the Troy Invitational Saturday with a 90-12 win Tuesday over Royal Oak Shrine in a dual meet.

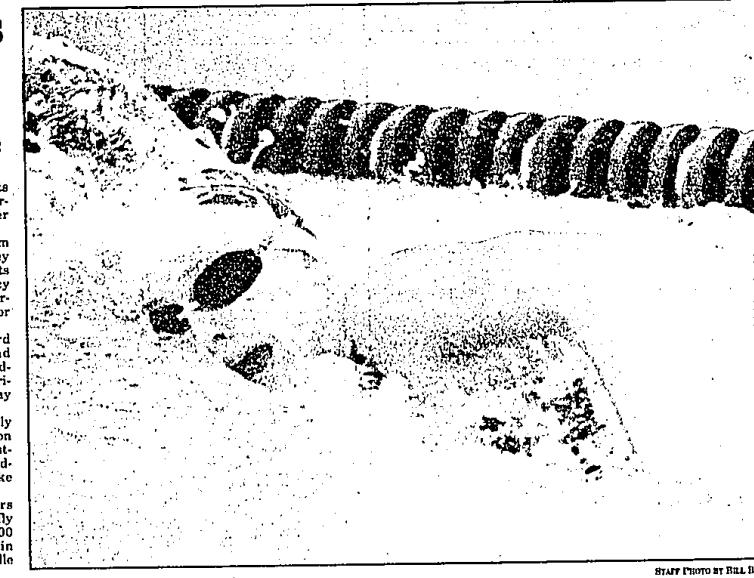
"Some of the kids who normally swim exhibition got to swim for the money today and were able to pick up points toward their varsity letters," Mercy coach Jim Downs said, adding the Marlins also qualified more swimmers for the Oakland County meet.

Annie Nepiuk won the 50-yard freestyle with a 27.42 time and anchored the medley relay that included Elizabeth MacDonald, Kristen Loria and Martin Obregon. The relay time was 2:05.47.

Jenny Barrowcliff and Michelle Kelly were double winners. Barrowcliff won the 200 freestyle (2:08.79) and breaststroke (1:51.17). Kelly won the individual medley (2:29.63) and backstroke (1:07.68).

Mercy's other individual winners were Martha Obregon in the butterfly (1:08.39), Lauren Yagola in the 100 freestyle (59.78), Courtney Skiles in the 500 freestyle (5:55.77) and Danielle Darling in diving (107.50).

Elizabeth Povar, MacDonald, Amy



Double winner: Jenny Barrowcliff won the 200-yard freestyle (above) and also the 100 breaststroke Tuesday in Mercy's 90-12 win over Royal Oak Shrine. The Marlins are 4-1 in dual meets.

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