

## FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Falcons meet to run

Farmington High School's boys cross country team is meeting three days a week during the summer for conditioning workouts.

The team meets at 8:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at Drake Park on Drake Road between Grand River and Freedom.

If any other FHS boys are interested in running or have questions, call coach Chip Bridges at (248) 624-2197.

### Adult hockey signup

Registrations are being accepted for the Farmington Hills Hockey Association's 1999-2000 adult season.

The age groups are 18 and over, 30 and over, 40 and over. Team entries only are accepted for the 18-and-over league. There will be individual registration followed by a draft in the other two.

The fee is \$665 for all leagues if paid in full by Aug. 15. There will be an additional charge of \$50 after that date. The fee covers 44 games plus playoffs.

The season starts Tuesday, Sept. 7. Games will be played at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena and the Suburban Training Center. To register call Ken Fortier at (248) 471-6004.

### Soccer tryout dates

• Tryouts for the Farmington Soccer Club's under-17 boys Fury will be Monday and Tuesday, June 28 and 29.

• Tryouts for the under-14 girls Flash will be Wednesday, June 30.

All tryouts will be 6-8 p.m. at Pioneer Park. Both are Little Caesars Premier teams. For more information call (248) 851-7934.

• The Farmington Fury '86, an under-14 boys Little Caesars Premier soccer team, is looking for advanced players to complete its roster for the 1999-2000 season.

Players with birth dates between Aug. 1, 1985, and Aug. 1, 1986, are invited to call coach Alan Helisek at (248) 471-4475.

### Albion College softball

Alana Heikkinen completed her sophomore season and Piper Metz her senior year with the Albion College softball team.

The Britons, who won seven of their last eight games, finished 10-23 overall and were sixth in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

Heikkinen, a graduate of Farmington High School, was the team's top pitcher with a 6-8 record and 2.47 earned run average. She struck out 57 batters in 95 1/3 innings. She started 14 games and completed 10.

Metz, the only senior on the team, started all 28 games at catcher and had just seven errors in 125 chances and a .944 fielding percentage.

Heikkinen and Metz, who attended Farmington Hills Mercy High School, are former All-Observers players.

### Founders Fest sports

The City of Farmington Hills is accepting adult men's team registrations for the Farmington Founders Festival softball tournament.

Games will be played at Founders Sports Park on Eight Mile Road. The fee is \$160 per team. Softballs are included.

The tournament dates are July 16-18. The registration deadline is Friday, July 9.

The Founders Festival four-mile run, three-mile walk and one-mile kids run will take place Saturday, July 10, on the streets of Farmington.

The four-mile and three-mile walk start at 9 a.m. The kids run begins at 10:30 a.m. The fee is \$15 before the end of the day Friday, July 2, and \$18 after that. The kids-run fee is \$10.

For information on either event, call the Farmington Hills Recreation Division at 473-9570.

### Girls running camp

The Brighton Frontier Girls Running Camp 1999 will have two sessions: Aug. 1-7 and Aug. 8-14 at the Brighton Recreation Area.

The camp director is Gary Servais, cross country and track coach at Mercy High School; Kevin Donner (St. Francis College of Pennsylvania) and Guy Murray (University of Detroit-Mercy). For more information, contact Servais at (248) 476-2836 or Murray at (313) 993-1724.

# Shamrocks win at baseball, too

■ Catholic Central won its third state championship of the 1998-99 school year with an exciting, 6-5 victory Saturday over Troy in the final game of the Division I baseball tournament.

BY STEVE KOWALSKI  
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How's this for creating your own identity?

Charlie Haeger, Detroit Catholic Central's sophomore pitcher, threw 5 1/3 innings of scoreless relief as CC beat Troy, 6-5, in Saturday's Division I state championship game at Battle Creek's C.O. Brown Stadium.

Madonna University coach Greg Haeger smiles at the sight of his kid brother pitching at his alma mater, which he led to its last state title in 1987.

## STATE FINAL

He also understands he might not have a chance to coach Charlie, who has already caught the eye of NCAA Division I college coaches and professional scouts, at Madonna.

Haeger scattered three hits, struck out three and walked one in relief of ace Anthony Tomey. A 23rd-round selection of the Cleveland Indians in the recent Major League draft, Tomey gave up five runs on six hits and a walk in 1 1/3 innings.

Haeger came in with runners on second and third and promptly struck out the first hitter he faced, the cleanup batter, to end the inning.

Troy pitcher Matt Leston pitched courageously, allowing eight hits and three walks with two strikeouts. The Colts, playing in their first state final, finished 29-7 overall.

"We were feeling pretty good when we got on Tomey," Troy coach Paul Diegel said. "He's a great pitcher but he was up in the strike zone and our kids were kind of teeing it up. I could not be prouder of this group of young men. They certainly rose to the occasion. I thought it was a classic championship game."

Haeger hadn't pitched for more than two weeks after suffering bone chips in his elbow in a car accident. He threw one inning of hitless relief in a 12-1 semifinal win over Portage Central on Friday, which let the CC coaches know he was healed.

"I figured we had lost him for the season (after the accident)," CC coach John Salter said. "Friday was his test. He's a quick healer."

Greg Haeger, a former University of Michigan pitcher and Detroit Tigers' farmhand, has been Charlie's inspiration.

"Ever since I've been 11, he's been teaching me mechanics; he knows everything about pitching, the way to play the game," Charlie said. "I threw



Player reactions: CC seniors Dave Lusky (center) and Mark Cole of Farmington Hills (6) react to Casey Rogowski's slide into first base, which kept the Shamrocks alive in the seventh inning.

with all my heart. It was the biggest game of my life, and I gave it all I had."

The Shamrocks scored the winning run in the bottom of the seventh in a bizarre turn of events.

Senior Mario D'Herin started things with a one-out single to right field. D'Herin appeared to score the winning run on Bob Malek's double to left-center field but was called back to third

base when the hit was ruled a ground-ruled double.

The next batter, Bryan Williams, was intentionally walked, which made sense because it loaded the bases and made a force at each base. It also didn't make sense because that brought CC slugger Casey Rogowski to the plate.

The strategy almost worked to perfection. Rogowski hit a hard grounder

to first baseman Kris Krstich, whose throw to home forced out D'Herin. Rogowski just beat the throw back to first base with a head-first slide.

That brought up Tomey, who watched as a wild pitch went to the backstop to bring home Malek with the winning run.

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# Farmington's Avery has role in all-star win

BY BRAD EMONS  
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Who needs Comerica Park?

As far as six area Observerland players are concerned, they'll stick with Tiger Stadium.

In Tuesday's Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association East-West All-Star Game, the corner of Michigan and Trumbull looked mighty good.

The East squad, which scored a 12-7 win over the West, got some significant efforts from Observerland players:

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

• Redford Union pitcher Joel Halliday, headed for Madonna University, started and pitched three strong innings to pick up the victory.

• Westland John Glenn's Dale Hayes, also likely bound for Madonna, got the thrill of a lifetime when he deposited a pitch into the right field upper deck. He also pitched two scoreless innings.

• Livonia Stevenson's Roy Rabe, going to Saginaw Valley State, doubled and pitched a scoreless sixth.

• Farmington High right-hander Charlie Avery, who will play at Henry Ford Community College, picked up a save by blanking the West over the final two innings to go along with a strikeout.

• Redford Thurston's Pete Zigouras, going to the University of Detroit-Mercy, walked in the eighth inning and scored



All-star pitcher: Farmington's Charlie Avery threw two scoreless innings in the East's win.

# Ultimate Precision wins title

The NFWB-Ultimate Precision Cobras 16-under girls fastpitch softball team started its summer season by winning the Horton Invitational NSA Level A tournament in Hartland.

After being on the brink of elimination, down 9-3 in the sixth inning of the semifinal game against the Downriver Travel-Blast from Trenton, the Cobras rallied for six runs to tie the game.

## SOFTBALL

Then, in the bottom of the seventh inning, the Cobras won the game, 10-9, when Katrina Vitanis singled home Kelly Taylor, who had singled and stole second to get into scoring position.

The comeback win came against a tough Downriver team that had beaten the Cobras in the first day of action, 7-6.

The victory put the Cobras into the final against Finesse, which had also beaten NFWB earlier in the tournament, 10-4.

Once again, the Cobras avenged that loss with a 5-1 victory to win the tour-

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