

# Sports & Recreation

The Farmington  
Observer

INSIDE:  
Dumars' tennis, D2  
Outdoor calendar, D4

Page 1, Section D

Sunday, July 26, 1999

## FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Kendallwood swim

Swimmers for Kendallwood Swim Club made a good showing at the July 20 "B" Finals.

Kelly Lamson took first place in the Girls 9-10 50-meter breaststroke for the best showing by a Kendallwood contestant.

Also in the Girls 9-10 age group, Lauren Wolff placed 10th in the 60 backstroke and Andrea Park was 12th in the 60 butterfly. In the Boys 9-10, Tim Lehto was fifth in the 60 breaststroke.

Kristi Bendick took fifth in the Girls 11-12 50 backstroke and placed 14th in the freestyle in the same age group.

Melanie Bendick was ninth in the Girls 13-14 100 IM and Ashley Connor took 10th in the same event. Kara Lamson was 11th in the Girls 13-14 50 breaststroke with Connor 12th in the Girls 13-14 50 backstroke.

### Beechview swimming

Coach Lisa Collins reports her Beechview Swim Club members won 24 heats and recorded 40 personal bests in the "B" Finals.

Erin Grubbs took second in the 8-under 25-meter backstroke with a 23.91 clocking.

Don Timmer was second in the 8-under 25 freestyle (20.34) and fifth in the 8-under 25 breaststroke (29.71).

### Harrison practices

The Farmington Harrison girls swimming and diving team will begin practice Aug. 16 at Harrison High School.

Practices will be held from 3-5 p.m. at the high school.

Any girls interested in swimming or diving should contact Lindsay Fettes at (248) 473-7613.

### Mercy Pom Pon

Farmington Hills Mercy's Pom Pon squad had an honor-laden trip to the Mid American's Pom Camp.

The team returned with places in speed learning and kick line plus a second place in original home routine. Coach Melissa Frey (Livonia) squad was also chosen as the team with the most unity and with the best speed learning.

Team members include seniors Emily Butler, Angela Corsi, Christa Davis, Kelli Fortuna, Tanya Giroux, Beth LeCroix, Antoinette Mazzoni, Maribeth Phillips and Jessica Stoller; juniors Lauren Burnie, Amy Frick, Linda Karbo, Katie Landabro, Alexis Theobald and Katie Valenti; sophomores Ashley Armbruster, Eliza Brunetto and Shauna Barczewicz; and freshman Christina Corsi.

### Kendallwood wins

Kendallwood defeated Beechview Swim Club, 307-264, in a meet held July 12.

Girls double winners for Beechview were Lisa Blaszczak in the 8-under 25-meter butterfly (22.66) and 25 breaststroke (23.96); Ronnie Jones in the 9-10 age group 50 butterfly (43.49) and 50 backstroke (48.41); Linda McErlan in the 13-14 age group 50 butterfly (32.01) and 50 freestyle (25.46); Lindsay Fettes in the 15-18 age group 100 IM (1:14.27) and 60 breaststroke (37.37); and Julie Kluka in the 15-18 50 backstroke (35.13) and 100 freestyle (1:05.13).

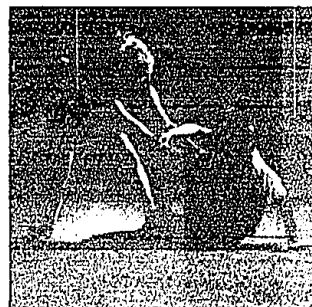
McErlan's time for the 50 freestyle was a team and pool record.

Boys double winners were David Kammerman in the 8-under 25 breaststroke (29.47) and 9-10 age group 60 breaststroke (1:04.81) and David Stoff in the 9-10 50 butterfly (51.23) and 50 freestyle (59.02).

Girls single event winners included Erica Frasier in the 8-under 25 backstroke (25.84); Kristen Kluka in the 11-12 50 freestyle (32.74); Katie Stoff in the 11-12 50 backstroke (37.03); and Sarah Paske in the 13-14 100 IM (1:17.84).

The boys single winners were Zack Jones in the 11-12 50 butterfly (48.26) and Craig Loyer in the 13-14 50 backstroke (51.20).

Beechview's 52-year combined 200 medley relay for girls won with a time of 2:24.09. The splits were swum by Stoff, McErlan, Paske and Kristen Kluka.



STAFF PHOTOS BY SILENO LASSIUS

**It's Over: Hornets' second baseman Ellen Doughty finishes off a Diamond batter with a throw to first (left) and Allissa Stanbridge of the Diamonds is tagged out by Hornets' shortstop Abbey Cleland (above) in final Incredible Girls Fastpitch Softball season action.**

## Hornets stung by Diamonds

If it wasn't incredible, it was at least pretty good.

The North Farmington Diamonds wound up their Incredible Girls Fastpitch Softball League season Thursday by taking both ends of a doubleheader from the Farmington Hornets, 10-0 and 9-1.

Both Danielowicz pitched a no-hitter in the five-inning mercy first game. She walked just one batter and struck out seven.

Danielowicz is an incoming freshman at North Farmington.

Kristina Colombo pitched a two-hit-

ter to win the second game, striking out nine.

The Diamonds ended the season with a 10-6 record good for fourth place in the National Division.

The Livonia Knights finished first, with the Plymouth Lightning second and the Franklin Lasers third. Finishing behind the Diamonds, in fifth and six place, were the Livonia Cyclones and Lancers. The Hornets finished seventh with a 5-11 record.

The Livonia White Sox won the American Division, beating out the Farmington Hills Mustangs.

The losing pitcher in the first game of the Diamonds-Hornets doubleheader was Jennelle Welling. Kristen Schrock pitched the second game and took the loss despite striking out nine.

Jackie Smylie and Welling caught both games for the Hornets, who got good games from Ellen Doughty and second base and Abbey Cleland at shortstop.

Colombo went 2-for-3 in the opener, scoring two runs and driving in one. Samantha McComb had a sacrifice fly.

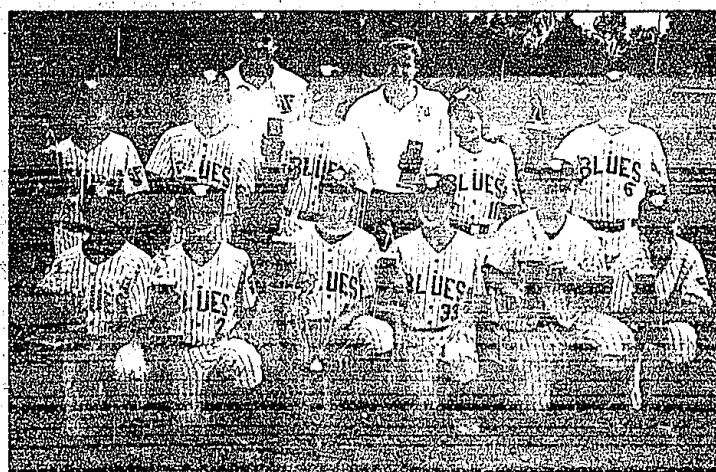
The Diamonds capitalized on 12 walks and four hit batters in the mercy shortened first game.

They scored six runs in the third, with McComb's sacrifice fly and Colombo's RBI hit keying the inning.

Stacey Russell went 2-for-3 in the second game, scoring a run, while McComb scored twice and went 1-for-2. Danielowicz went 2-for-2 with a run scored.

The Diamonds scored two runs in the first inning and wrapped it up with six in the third. McComb had her hit in the third while Russell connected for one of hers in the frame.

Wells kept the rally going for the winning team.



### Blues Brothers

**League champs: The 11-year-old South Farmington Blues travel baseball team finished their season with a 16-2 record, capturing the WABA league crown. "We accomplished all the goals we set for ourselves, because the guys came to play every game," Blues head coach Jay Cummings said. The Blues players are (front row, left to right) Adam Dubois, Matt Cummings, Luke Nemes, Jason Cummings, Kevin Brennan, Danny Crawford, (second row) Brandon Chomko, Stephen Fink, Ryan Mills, Harrison Silverman and Evan Silverman. The coaches are (back row, left to right) Jay Cummings and Rob Chomko.**

## Berg retires as Stevenson mat coach

By BRAD EMONS  
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For a guy who didn't know much about high school wrestling when he started out, Don Berg certainly got a lot out of the sport.

Berg is calling it quits after 19 seasons as Livonia Stevenson's varsity coach. During his tenure, his program became one of the area's strongest.

He wanted his exit to be quiet, tending his resignation after the team banquet last spring.

But his teams made a lot of noise, especially during the 1990s.

Berg's final numbers are impressive:  
•134-11-4 dual meet record;  
•Seven team dual district championships;

•Four Western Lakes Activities Association crowns;

•Three Observerland Invitational titles;

•Two team regional dual crowns;

•One state semifinal berth (1995) followed by another quarterfinal berth (1996);

•Thirty-three state qualifiers and 27 state placers;

•Two state champions (Craig Martin,

### WRESTLING

twice, and Josh Gunterman);  
•Earned Regional Coach of the Year and Observerland Coach of the Year honors.

"It's a good time to leave," Berg said. "Don Krueger (of Plymouth Salem) said when you leave, 'don't leave the kitchen empty,' and because of the good kids and the good coaches I've had with me at Stevenson, it's far from empty."

"I also appreciate the good support I received from Dr. (Dale) Collier (Stevenson's principal) and Roger Frayer (Stevenson's athletic director).

Berg, who has taught both alternative and adult education in the Livonia Public Schools since 1982, plans to retire from teaching in December.

"My wife (Joyce) just retired from the Farmington (Public) Schools after 27 1/2 years and I have three grandchildren. It's time to let somebody else do it," Berg said. "I'll still be around to help out, but when the cold weather hits, I just might decide to go south."

"I'll miss the kids more than anything else because in wrestling they're so dedicated. It's a sport where if you work real hard, you'll reap the suc-

cess."  
"And you really don't have to make any decisions like when you cut kids in baseball. It's the best kids at each weight and there's no question about it and no decisions in that regard made by the coach."

Joel Smith, who has been Berg's assistant the past three seasons, will take over the position.

Ironically, Berg had little knowledge of the sport when he was asked to take over the program by Frayer.

"I learned as I went through," Berg said. "I always had fine assistants. I went to clinics, read books, looked at tapes."

Berg, who also coached baseball at Stevenson, had a minor setback in 1987 when he suffered a heart attack.

He decided to quit coaching baseball and stick with wrestling.

"It was either inside or outside, and I decided being inside was best for me," Berg said.

Berg played baseball and football at Berkley High School where he was a high school teammate of former major league pitcher Dick Radatz.

He went on to obtain a degree in education from Eastern Michigan University before taking a job 14 years with

the Crestwood Public Schools in Dearborn Heights.

"When Don started at Stevenson nobody really wanted it," longtime Spartan assistant coach Bob Moreau said. "Don kind of grew into the position. He was the glue who kept the puzzle together."

"He's very organized and put a lot of years and a lot of dedication into it. We weren't very good at the beginning, but we worked our way up and Don was the captain of the ship, the guy who held us together."

Berg let his assistants get heavily involved in practice, demonstrating wrestling moves and technique.

And when the Stevenson coaches walked into a gym, they were always easily identified by their matching blue coaching shirts.

"He treated all of us (the assistants) with dignity and respect, we all worked well together," Moreau said. "He treated us like our own sons. And he treated the kids the same way."

"If a kid was having academic problems, Don would set aside time to tutor him."

"He was a good guy and a pleasure to be around."