All-Observer soccer

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Honor Society (3.7 grade point). He's also a drummer in the school band, sings in the school choir and performs in school musicals.

"He does it all," North coach Ron Meteyer said. "He's just a great kid. He's the kind of kid you'd want your daughter to meet.

As a soccer player, "He's the whole package. He's an excellent playmaker and scoring threat, and he comes back to play defense, too. He's a leader on and off the field."

DEFENDERS

Josh Ray, Sr., Red. Thurston: Ray volunteered to play defense after playing midfield his junior year but it didn't keep him from contributing to the Eagles' offensive attack.

A first-team Division I all-state choice, Ray scored 10 goals and 11 assists, joining the Eagles' offense on most re-starts. A three-year starter, he was a solid presence on the Eagles' back line, deterring many opponents' opportunities to score.

His offensive production wasn't surprising since he scored 17 goals as a junior at midfield.

"We moved Josh up for a lot of free kicks, pushed him up on a lot of corner kicks, got him involved as much as we could in the attack," Thurston coach Jeff Neschich said. "He unselfishly moved back to defense and really made a huge difference in the overall performance. He has good reads and organizes matchups out there."

Justin Gerwatowski, Sr., Farmington: Gerwatowski was a four-year varsity player and an all-Western Lakes defender this year.

While his forte was stopping opposing forwards, he contributed two goals and two assists to the team scoring total.

"I think Justin is the best defender to play at Farmington in the last nine years," Farmington coach Luke Juncaj said. "He's just a very intense player, very competitive, very quick.

"He was very consistent all year. Justin didn't have a bad game. He was able to shut out some of the best players in our league.

"Usually, his assignment was to guard the best offensive player on the opposing team, and he did well each game."

Gerwatowski, who played forward as a freshman, is an A student and plans to try out for the University of Michigan team next year.

Keith Schenkel, Jr., Plymouth Salem: How big a piece was Schenkel to the Salem puzzle? Put it this way — when he returned from a broken foot suffered in a pre-season exhibition, the junior sweeper enabled the Rocks' defense to jell.

They eventually shut out 11-straight opponents, including five in the state tournament. His talent was strong enough to earn him a slot on the all-Observer team, despite his missing eight games.

"He should be one of the top 10 or 15 players in the state next year, if he stays healthy," predicted McCarthy. "No question about it. He really is a true sweeper, it's his natural position. But next year, with all his speed and ability, we're just going to have to get him more touches on the ball."

That means opponents can expect to see Schenkel moving forward on the attack more often next season. He had three assists this year and was a WLAA all-division selection.

GOALKEEPERS

Joe Zawacki, Sr., Liv. Stevenson: In his first full year as a starter, Zawacki posted 12 shutouts with a 17-3-1 record. He allowed just 15 goals all season averaging less than one per game.

Zawacki was also first-team All-State Division I and All-WLAA selection.

"Joe waited patiently for his turn," Richters said. "He's a first-class keeper with first-class character."

This week Zawacki was in Florida competing for a spot on the U.S. National team for his age-group. He is an Olympic Developmental Program player.

"Michigan is very interested in Joe and he'll play college soccer and possibly beyond," Richters said. "He's recognized as one of the top goalkeepers in the country for his age group."

T.J. Tomasso, Jr., Ply. Canton: The WLAA alone had several top-notch keepers, but Tomasso was one of the best.

An All-WLAA pick and third-team All-Stater, Tomasso allowed 0.84 goals per game along with 10 shutouts.

On a team loaded with underclassmen in most of the key positions, his efforts were typical.

"He played some real solid games for us," Canton coach Don Smith said. "We had a tough time scoring, but when we did T.J. kept us in there."

His brother George, now a starter at Eastern Michigan University, was also an All-State keeper. George helped the Chiefs capture the state title in 1994.

"T.J. is an enthusiastic kid," Smith said. "He has already been selected team captain next year.

"He's a little bubbly than George was. T.J. is more of a leader out there. He gets you excited."

Andy Gilesman, Sr., Lutheran Westland: The 6-foot Gilesman shared Metro Conference Co-MVP honors with Grosse Pointe University-Liggett's Dan Ferrin, the Dream Team keeper who led his team to the Division IV state championship.

The first-team Division IV All-Stater posted 13 shutouts this season and allowed just seven goals in 19 games. The All-Region and All-Metro selection had four career shutouts.

He also carries a 3.9 grade-point average.

"Andy is very athletic and very knowledgeable of the game — he understands every position," Lutheran Westland coach Rich Block said. "He was like a coach on the field and he punts the ball extremely well. He can keep it down in a heavy wind by drop-kicking the ball, which you don't normally see.

"He redefined the position for us and nobody played the position like he did. He was very agile, good hands and a tireless worker. He will surely be missed."

Flyers

from page B1

Then with just three seconds remaining in the period, Chris Holmes scored unassisted.

West Bloomfield notched its lone goal with 10:05 left in the game.

Brandon Tomish scored the only goal allowed by Logan McLean.

Farmington held a 36-23 edge in shots on goal, including margins of 15-9 and 13-6 in the final two periods.

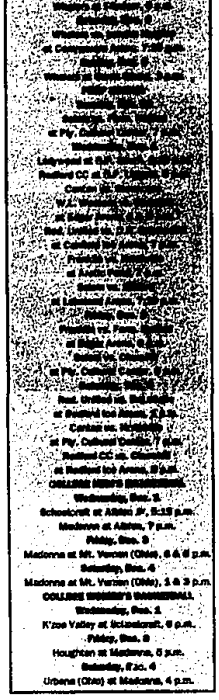
"It was penalty-filled game, 20 of them in all," Breuhan said. "There was just no flow to the game.

"We were having a problem getting the kids' intensity up because of the penalties and the shifting of lines.

"We won, but it was not our best performance by any means. Plus, we were coming off three games in four nights.

"Saturday's game was really intense."

Farmington plays the fledgling Plymouth Salem team on Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center. Salem is at the stage Farmington was last year.



OUTDOORS CALENDAR

SEASON/DATES

DEER
Archery season runs Dec. 1-Jan. 2 statewide. A late antlerless-only season will be held Dec. 18-Jan. 2 on private and public land in DMU 452. A late antlerless-only season will also be held Dec. 18-Jan. 2 on most private land in the Lower Peninsula. Muzzleloading season runs Dec. 3-12 in the Upper Peninsula and Dec. 10-19 in the Lower Peninsula.

DUCK
Duck season runs through Nov. 30 in the North and Middle zones and through Dec. 7 in the South Zone.

ELK
Late elk season runs Dec. 7-14 by special permit in limited areas of the northern Lower Peninsula.

GROUSE
A special late season runs Dec. 1-Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula.

PHEASANT
A special late season runs Dec. 1-15 in much of the southeastern part of the state.

RABBIT
Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

SQUIRREL
Squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

CLASSES/ CLINICS

FLY TYING
Hook Line & Sinker bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fly tying classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

ROD BUILDING
Hook Line & Sinker bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fishing rod building classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

FLY TYING
Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

MORE FLY TYING
River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tyers. Classes will be held at various times. For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

CLIMBING CLASS
An introductory climbing course for the novice and first-time climber is offered at various times at REI in Northville. The class covers basic indoor climbing safety, technique, equipment and terminology. The course is free and available to adults and children. Call (248) 347-2100 for current schedules and additional information.

ARCHERY

LIVONIA RANGE
The newly renovated Livonia Archery Range is open to the public. The range features seven field lanes and one broadhead lane and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Cost is $4 for adults and $2 for children. Livonia residents shoot free of charge. The range is located on Glendale Avenue, east of Farmington Road. Call (734) 466-2410 for more information.

JUNIOR OLYMPICS
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

JUNIOR ARCHERS
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. the first Saturday in November at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

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