

Sports & Recreation

The Farmington Observer

INSIDE:

Girls basketball, D2
Best swim times, D2

Page 1, Section D

Sunday, October 24, 1993

FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

OCC ends losing skid

The Oakland Community College volleyball team (11-14) broke a four-match losing streak Thursday by beating Great Lakes Christian College in five games, 15-1, 15-1, 15-0, 15-4, 15-3.

Jennifer O'Connor set a school record with nine service aces, and she also had 32 set assists.

Andrea Jones led the Lady Raiders with 10 kills. Brynn Allin had nine kills and six digs, Christine Skufka eight kills and three aces, Danielle Monette five digs and four aces.

Hawks top city team

Farmington Harrison had the best finish of the Farmington schools Friday in the Division II boys regional golf tournament at Dunham Hills Golf Course but none qualified for the state finals.

The Hawks (347) were eighth out of 19 teams; Farmington (353) was ninth and North Farmington (354) 10th.

Matt Lee shot 82 to lead Harrison. Chris Scott posted 84, Brian Grohman 90, Kenny Lee 91 and Mike Palmer 98.

Hartland won a tiebreaker over Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook to win the regional. Both teams had 313 scores.

STC offers programs

The Suburban Training Center offers three sessions for hockey players and skaters during the fall:

- Morning drop-in hockey (adults only), 9-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, 6:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesday, 9-10:30 a.m. Thursday, 6:30-8 a.m. Friday. Full equipment is required. The cost is \$7 per player.

- On the pond practice (all ages and ability levels), 3:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday. This program offers open ice time to work on your shooting, skating, passing and puck handling skills. Pucks, nets and shooter tutors are provided. No pick-up games are allowed. Full equipment is required. The cost is \$6 per player.

- STC lunch skate (all ages), 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. It's \$2 to skate or try the lunch combo: \$5 to skate and have lunch. No skate rentals are available. Call (248) 888-1400 for information.

Hockey skill sessions

The Farmington Hills Ice Arena is offering instructional sessions in stick handling on Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.

Participants will practice puck handling and passing skills. No games will be allowed. Full equipment is required for youths 18 and under.

The program is open to youths 12 and older. The fee is \$7 per session or \$32 for five sessions.

Ohio's best edges CC

Detroit Catholic Central's boys soccer team gave the No. 1 ranked team in Ohio, Toledo St. John's, all it could handle on Thursday before losing 1-0.

The loss dropped the visiting Shamrocks to 7-8-1 record; St. John's remained undefeated with a 12-0-1 record.

St. John's scored its goal with 11 minutes left in the first half on a rebound shot after CC goalkeeper Eric Sullivan dived to make the first save.

"He got a piece of the ball but someone was there and poked it in," CC coach Dana Orsucci said. It bounced perfectly for this guy, and two of our guys were there on either side."

CC's Andrew Kogut and Josh Brooks each hit the goal post with shots and a couple of shots by the Shamrocks were stopped at point-blank range in the second half, according to Orsucci.

CC had a 23-8 shot advantage, according to Orsucci.

"Tonight, as weird as it may sound, was the best 80 minutes we played this year," Orsucci said. "I'm extremely happy and proud of our team, from the defenders, midfielders and forwards. Everything was clicking."

A story in Thursday's Observer should have identified Josh Brooks as a CC goal scorer, not Andrew Kogut, Tuesday in a 4-2 loss to Brother Rice.

(Observer readers can fax information for the Farmington Sports Scene to Dan O'Meara at (734) 691-7279.)

Falcons shut down Spartans, 19-3



Farmington High remains on a roll in varsity football, winning for the third time in its last four games Friday and spoiling homecoming festivities at Livonia Stevenson, 19-3. The Falcons are 3-3 overall.

BY DAN O'MEARA

STAFF WRITER

DOMEARAGO@HOMECOMM.NET

Farmington High did what a good football team is supposed to do Friday and took advantage of its opponent's mistakes.

The Falcons turned three of host Livonia Stevenson's seven turnovers into touchdowns for a 19-3 victory — their third in four games.

Farmington improved to 3-1 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association and evened its record at 3-3 overall.

"Five-hundred is not our goal; it was

not from the start," Farmington coach John Bechtel said. "We were prepared to play today and we were successful. Now we have to prepare for next week. We're interested in improving every week."

"We know we can play this game. We can play better than we did tonight. That's nothing against Stevenson, because that wasn't their best game. They turned the ball over, and that was unfortunate for them."

The Spartans, now 2-3 overall and 1-3 in the division, fumbled away three punts, lost another fumble at the Farmington 7-yard line early in the

game and had three passes intercepted.

"It's hard to do much with the ball when you're giving it back to them," Stevenson coach Tim Gabel said. "We only scored three points; that's why we lost the game."

"All the turnovers are big, because you're not scoring and you're giving them field position. If they're punting, that means we stopped them, and we're giving the ball back."

"But the kids didn't quit. They were playing hard all the way to the end of the game."

After losing two fumbles in the first quarter, Stevenson was still first on the scoreboard when Dan West kicked a 23-yard field early in the second period. Eric Puninske's 45-yard run on first down at the Stevenson 20 sparked the drive.

"We were concerned about their ability to throw the ball, and we took that

away," Bechtel said. "In so doing, we gave them the fullback trap and counter, which we haven't in the past."

"But our goal-line package has been strong all year. When we got down to the goal line, we got after them and forced turnovers."

The Falcons rallied to take a 13-3 halftime lead. Dustin Gress and Rory Crittenden recovered fumbled punts at the Stevenson 20 and 36, respectively.

Farmington needed just four plays to score and go ahead, 6-3, with six minutes left in the half on Grant Weber's 1-yard quarterback sneak.

On first down after Crittenden's recovery, quarterback Scott Kneller threw a 36-yard touchdown pass to Weber and Stephen Wayne booted the extra point for a 13-3 score.

The Spartans had a 174-122 advantage in first-half total offense. The Fal-

Please see FOOTBALL, D3

Hawks vs. Chiefs



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL DECKER



Harrison swimmers: Taylor Goad (above) competes in the individual medley Thursday for Farmington Harrison, and Julie Kluka (left) swims the 60-yard freestyle. Both girls took second place in those races. Kluka also had one of Harrison's three first places. Plymouth Canton won the dual meet, 132-64. See Page D3 for more details.

Marlins will wait for coach

BY BRAD KADRUICH
AND DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITERS

Farmington Hills Mercy has experienced another sudden coaching change in its varsity basketball program.

Dave Collins requested and was granted a three-week leave of absence as head coach after he accepted a job with the Cincinnati Reds.

Collins, who played for 16 years in the major leagues, has taken a minor league coaching position in the Reds organization. He will coach bunting, baserunning and outfield play.

BASKETBALL

The Reds are conducting an instructional league, which required Collins' immediate presence at the Reds training camp in Sarasota, Fla.

"He signed with the Reds," said Tom Stauffer, who was an assistant coach under Collins in basketball and baseball at Lake Orion High School. "He and Buddy Bell are good friends."

Bell, the former Detroit Tiger manager, recently took over as the Reds' director of minor league field operations.

Mercy athletic director Nancy Malinowski said Collins told her the instructional league will end in two weeks, but he might have to say another week to work with individual players.

Collins plans to return and finish the season coaching the Marlins. Malinowski said she hopes Collins returns by Oct. 23 or Oct. 30 at the latest.

"He notified me Monday of the possibility and confirmed it Tuesday," Malinowski said, adding Collins coached the team Tuesday and told the players Wednesday.

Malinowski faced a similar situation when longtime Mercy basketball coach Larry Baker resigned just before the start of preseason practice in July, 1997.

"I don't know what other doors it will open for (Collins) in that organization,"

Please see MERCY, D2

City champs

Farmington claims title despite 4-4 tie with North

BY DAN O'MEARA

STAFF WRITER

DOMEARAGO@HOMECOMM.NET

North Farmington denied host Farmington a clear victory Wednesday when the two rivals met in boys soccer, but a tie was just as good for the Falcons.

Justin Street's goal in the final minute ended an exciting, second half of offense and enabled the Raiders to gain a 4-4 draw in the final tally.

But Farmington still claimed the city championship based on a greater goal differential in its game with Farmington Harrison.

The Falcons defeated the Hawks 4-0, and North won 2-1 over Harrison.

After Farmington and North tied for the city title two years ago, the athletic administration instituted a tiebreaking system, the first criteria being largest

goal differential versus the third opponent.

"A tie for us in this game is like a win, because it gave us the city championship," Farmington coach Luke Juncal said.

"I'm glad for the boys that we were able to accomplish this again. The last few years North has been able to play with us and it's been exciting. The city championship has bigger meaning than it did in the past."

North coach Ron Meteyer disagrees with the use of a tiebreaker, however.

"What it amounts to, if you beat up on Harrison, that's what wins it," he said. "It doesn't matter if you won or not. It means Farmington or North has to try

to pile on the score, and I don't think we should be doing that."

"If the goal of the city championship is to improve the quality of soccer in Farmington, then a tie should stand."

The Raiders (11-4-2) took their last lead with 12:11 remaining when Craig Hearn carried the ball into the left corner, dribbled along the baseline and, though surrounded by several defenders, fired a hard shot into the Farmington net.

"He's certainly the master of the one-on-one — or the three-on-one, or the four-on-one!" Meteyer said.

But the Falcons, 10-4-3 overall and ranked No. 9 in Division II, rallied to score the next two goals to take the lead and come within a half minute of winning the game.

Please see SOCCER, D3