

# Sports & Recreation

The Farmington  
Observer

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Sunday, January 30, 2009

## FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Adult hockey sign-up

The Farmington Hills Adult Hockey Association is conducting registration for its spring season, which begins Wednesday, March 29. Games will be played at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

Team entries will be taken for the 18- and 30-and-over leagues, individual entries for the 40-and-over league. The team entry fee is \$2,350; the individual entry fee is \$260.

The sign-up deadline is Friday, March 10. There is a discount for teams and individuals who register early.

Registration forms are available at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena. For more information call the FFAHA at (248) 471-6004.

### Palombo wins tourney

Kristen Palombo won the Deer Lake Athletic Club Junior Girls Winter Classic tennis tournament in Clarkston.

The Farmington Hills Mercy High School sophomore played No. 1 singles for the Marlins last fall.

### Fletcher paces OCC

Mahogany Fletcher of Farmington Hills scored a game-high 18 points Wednesday to lead the Oakland Community College women's basketball team to a 52-39 victory over visiting Macomb.

Fletcher (Harrison High School) shot 50 percent (6-of-12) from the floor and was 5-of-8 shooting free throws. She also led the Lady Raiders in rebounding with 12.

Fletcher was one of four OCC players who played all 40 minutes. Others — Sara Wesa, Nicole Schulte and Christine Nordstrom scored 10, eight and six points, respectively. Michelle Blake tossed in seven.

Breanna England was the only Macomb player in doubles figures with 14 points. OCC led at halftime, 19-14.

The Lady Raiders are 3-5 in the MCCA Eastern Conference and 5-13 overall. The Monarchs are 2-7 and 4-13.

OCC lost its previous game Jan. 22 to Henry Ford, 57-53. Fletcher had 16 points and Nordstrom 15. Lindsay Livorno and Jessica Guerard led the Hawks with 13 points apiece.

### Macomb downs OCC

Joe Kohl's game-high 27 points sparked Macomb Community College to an 89-75 win over host Oakland in men's basketball Wednesday.

Reno Thompson netted 20 points for the winners. Chad Gira 15 and Shaun McClain 10. Kohl also had 13 rebounds as the Monarchs outboarded the Raiders, 60-45.

Edward Wallace led OCC in scoring with 24 points. Tim Swafford followed him with 18; Eric Smith added 12 and Walter Malone 11.

Swafford had 13 rebounds and Wallace eight. Macomb held a 45-41 half-time lead.

The Raiders fall to 1-7 in the MCCA Eastern Conference and 6-13 overall. The Monarchs are 2-7 and 5-13.

Jeff Townsend's game-high, 29-point effort was wasted Jan. 22 when OCC dropped a 104-84 decision to host Henry Ford.

Townsend made 10 of 15 field goals, including four of six from three-point range, and five of eight free throws.

Wallace scored 23 points, Swafford 16 and Malone 10. James Driscoll scored 23 points for the Hawks; Daryl Mason and Jeff Kvaloy had 21 points each and Rob Collins 19. Henry Ford led at halftime, 47-38.

### Madonna hosts author

Jon Entine, an independent television producer, columnist and author of the new book, "Taboo: Why Black Athletes Dominate Sports and Why We Are Afraid to Talk About It," will speak on "The Promise of Perils of 'Socially Responsible' Management and Marketing" at the next Madonna University McManus Distinguished Business Lecture 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9, at Kresge Hall.

Admission is free. A "Meet the Author" session will be from 3:30-5 p.m. Wednesday in MU's Executive Classroom, Room 2213 on campus. There will also be a book signing at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 7, at Borders Books in Ann Arbor. For more information, call (734) 432-5366.

## Falcons gain share of 1st place

■ Farmington High created a three-way tie for the lead in Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball Friday by defeating North Farmington on the latter's court, 44-41.

BY DAN O'MEARA  
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Farmington High made sure the race for the Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball championship won't be a runaway.

The Falcons made it a contest Friday night when they toppled first-place and host North Farmington, 44-41.

Farmington's victory creates a three-way tie for the WLAA lead between itself, Walled Lake Western and North. All three teams are 4-1.

"I didn't know how we would play tonight, because we hadn't been playing all that well," Farmington coach Denny Mikel said. "But I had a feeling about this one."

"Our kids wanted this one pretty bad. We were playing for the mythical city championship; we wanted to get back in first place, and we knew this game would get us that."

The Falcons improved to 9-2 overall while the Raiders, who are defending regular-season co-champions with Western, slipped to 6-5.

It would be expecting a lot of a team to go undefeated in the WLAA, according to North coach Tom Negoshian.

"A tight race was predictable," he said. "They're talking now you could win the league with three losses. It's as level as I've ever seen it, and I've been in the league since it was started (in 1982)."

After the Falcons closed a seven-point deficit early in the second quarter, the game was close all the way.

Farmington took the lead and held it when senior Chad Seaborn sank back-to-back triples for a 39-36 lead with 3:45 remaining in the game.

Seaborn, who finished with 11 points, wasn't known for his three-point shooting, but he made three in the second half Friday.

"He probably won the game, and then he gets the last rebound," Mikel said. "I guess he kinda sewed it up for us."

"He wasn't (a noted three-point shooter) last year, but he worked on his outside shot a lot, to the point we give him the green light if he has the open shot."

Farmington sandwiched a Milus free



Hoop rivals meet on the hardwood: Farmington's Mike Griffie (left) and Mark Green (right) and North Farmington's Phil Watha (center) tumble to the floor in a scramble for a loose ball Friday.

throw and a Garlin Gilchrist layup around a putback basket by North's Emir Medunjanin for a 42-38 lead with 1:36 to play.

But the Falcons made a potentially costly error when a lane violation prevented them from adding two free throws with 25 seconds on the clock.

Phil Watha responded with a three for North, but the Raiders had to foul on the inbound play.

They fouled junior Matt Mikel, who

blocked out the crowd noise and made both shots with 6.2 seconds remaining, assuring Farmington nothing less than overtime.

But that became a moot point when Brian Shulman's three-point attempt for North bounced off the back of the iron as time expired.

"That was our intent, to get the ball to Matt," Denny Mikel said, adding his son makes 85 percent of his free

throws.

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## Zepp stones Spitfires in Whalers' win

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Between the second and third periods of Friday night's Plymouth Whalers game against the Windsor Spitfires, a lucky fan was given the opportunity to win a shiny new Dodge Intrepid if he could shoot a puck half the length of the rink into a four-inch-wide slot.

Not surprisingly, the fan missed the mark — but he did come closer to scor-

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ing than the Spitfires did against Whaler goalie Rob Zepp.

If given a choice, the Spitfires probably would have rather tried to score into that four-inch slot than face Zepp, whose flawless play in front of the net led the Whalers to a 4-0 victory.

It was the second consecutive shutout victory for Plymouth, which

whitewashed Owen Sound, 7-0, on Jan. 22.

"The guys in front of me played great," said Zepp, who modestly deflected away any post-game praise like he would a wriston from the blue-line. "I only had to face 14 shots, so that tells you how well our defense played."

The win boosted the Whalers' record to 25-16-4, and left them just three points shy of first-place Sault Ste.

Marie in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division standings.

Couch Pete DeBoer's icers are in the midst of a two-month, 180-degree overhaul that started in late November when their record was a lackluster 12-13-3.

"We started slowly this year, but we keep playing better as the season wears on," DeBoer said, commenting on his team's red-hot surge. "We only

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Closing on the play: Farmington's Tom Close prepares to put the puck past Stevenson's Josh Latzman Friday.

## Lone goal lifts Spartans to Lakes win over Flyers

BY BRAD EMONS  
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There was only one goal in the game, and it proved to be golden for the Livonia Stevenson hockey team.

Junior Mike Perrino scored with 7:36 left in the second period from Mark Nebus, and goaltender Kevin Marlowe got his third shutout of the season as the Spartans clinched the Lakes Division title in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 1-0 victory over Farmington Unified at Edgemoor Arena.

Stevenson is 11-5-1 overall, 9-2-1 in the WLAA and 4-0-1 in the Lakes. Farmington Unified is 11-6, 7-5 and 3-2.

Stevenson outshot Farmington Unified by a 24-1 margin, 30-15, but Flyers goaltender Logan McLean, a senior, was spectacular in goal with 29 saves.

"Our guys knew they were playing for a division title and they didn't want to leave anything less than their best out on the ice," Stevenson assistant head coach John Fenech said. "I thought we played a good defensive game holding them to 15 shots. And Kevin Marlowe did an outstanding job."

Farmington went 0-for-4 on the power-play. "Stevenson's high pressure penalty killing disrupted us," Farmington coach Glenn

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Brehnan said. "The first two periods Stevenson fore-checked us to death and took us out of our game offensively."

"But I thought we had a good third period with some quality scoring chances. Our kids knew going in that by winning this game the division (title) was in their hands ... we came up a little short."

Fenech said Stevenson's scheme against the power-play was more than normal defensive posture of clearing the puck out.

"We attacked on the power play, we wanted to go on offense," Fenech said. "We didn't want them to set up. We wanted them to force a pass or make a play."

"And our defensemen did a good job of clearing out out in front of our net."

Meanwhile, Stevenson came up empty on six power-play chances of its own.

"We've been putting a lot of shots on the net, but not getting a lot of scoring," Fenech said. "We hit a post, had some other good shots, but didn't put them in."

"We've had over 40 shots in a couple of

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