

Sports & Recreation

The Farmington
Observer
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FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Youth soccer tourney

The Michigan State Youth Soccer Association in conjunction with Tido (detergent) is sponsoring a recreational tournament in Midland on Saturday and Sunday, May 20-21. All Michigan recreational teams are invited to play. Team managers should call the MSYSA at (248) 557-8220 for an application or visit its website at www.mysa.net.

Lacrosse team on roll

Farmington United improved its record in boys lacrosse Wednesday to 4-1 by defeating host Utica, 8-6.

Matt Ryder scored the first two goals to get Farmington started. Brian Kozanecki led the team with four goals; Ian Cole also scored twice, and Jeff Tosolan had one assist.

Appropriately, since the date was April 14, Farmington scored 14 goals in a shutout win over visiting Auburn Hills Avondale.

Cole and Kozanecki led with four goals each. Tosolan scored three; Jason Close, Jake Kauffman and Mike Hoss had one goal apiece.

Assisting on those goals were Matt Webb (two), Phil Lubliner, Dan Robin, Ryder and Krishna Reid.

Farmington goalkeeper Francois Berranen earned his second shutout.

The team's lone loss occurred April 12 at Huron Valley, 8-4. Kozanecki scored three goals and Cole one. Robin, Lubliner and Tosolan had one assist each.

"I don't think we've hit our potential yet," coach John Fillion said. "I think we're going to peak in a couple more games, and we should end the season with a really good record."

Farmington has added an assistant coach, Michael White, a former Michigan State University and University of Detroit-Jesuit High School player.

Girls achieve 1st win

Stephanie Ford scored three goals Wednesday to lead the Farmington United girls lacrosse team to its first victory in its inaugural season.

Lindsay Hirzel, Carolyn Skimin, Jessica Ever and Sarah Bejak also scored goals as Farmington (1-4) defeated Macomb at L'Anse Creuse Central High School, 7-4.

Farmington's four stars of the game were Ford, a defensive wing; cover point Catherine Audette, Bejak, a defender; and goalie Wendy Bakken. Selections are used to help coaches determine all-league players at the end of the season.

"It was difficult to pick the top players, because the girls played as a team," coach Mike Mehall said, adding Kristen Westlund, who moved from goalie to point, could have been one, too.

"The girls are starting to jell and understand the game. They're playing at a higher level than they did at the beginning of the season."

Mustangs top Falcons

Two second-half goals lifted visiting Northville to a 3-1 victory over Farmington in girls soccer Wednesday.

The Falcons scored first and led for most of the first half on an unassisted goal by Beth Kolacki.

But the Mustangs scored with under two minutes remaining for a 1-1 halftime score.

Maggie Ofola, Carlisa Fill and Katie Jones scored the goals for Northville, which is 5-3 overall.

Farmington is 4-4.

Coach Steve Montgomery cited the player of goalkeeper Dana Wantin, sweeper Shanna Barkums, midfielder Lorianne DeDomenico and stopper Julie Gottlicher for the Falcons.

"Our defense was pretty solid," Montgomery said. "We just had a couple breakdowns. At this level, if you make a mistake, it will cost you."

Rockets registration

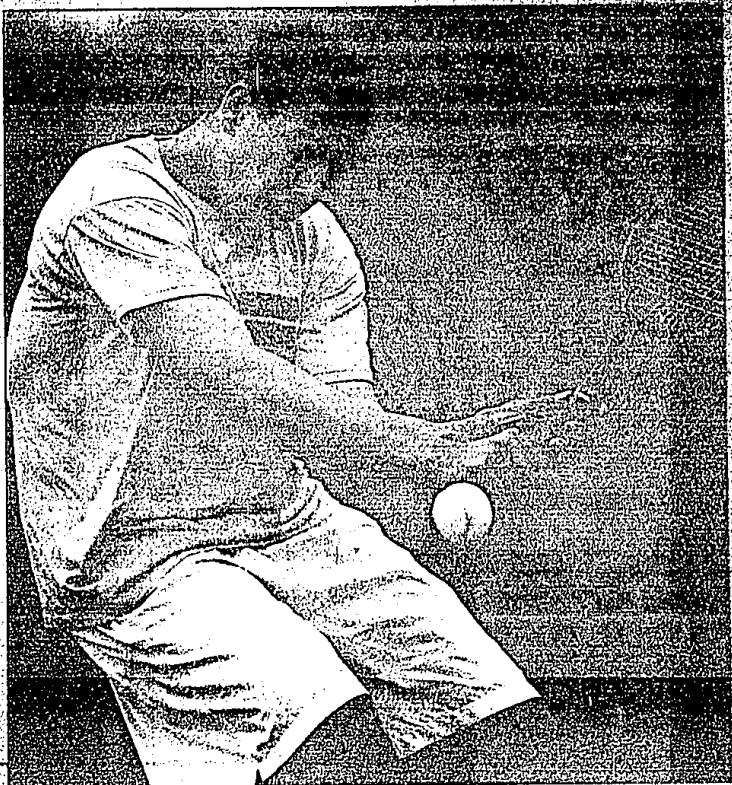
The Farmington Rockets will register players for the 2000 football season Saturday, May 20, and Sunday, June 3, at Farmington High School.

Returning players can register from 9 a.m. to noon either day, new players from 1-3 p.m. Youths between the ages of 8 and 14 are eligible.

Registration will take place at the blue equipment shed next to the Farmington football field. The fee is \$180 per player.

Sports news items can be faxed to Dan O'Meara at (734) 591-7279.

Shade leads Hawks to victory



Star player: Farmington Harrison senior Ryan Shade makes a return shot Wednesday during the No. 1 singles match with Livonia Stevenson's Brady Crosby. Shade won in two sets to remain undefeated this season. Shade was a state quarterfinalist last year and is a serious contender for the state title this year. The Hawks are unbeaten in dual meets, taking a 7-0 record into spring break after defeating the Spartans, 7-1. See Page B3 for complete results.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BOEKER

Pitcher's arm, bat lift team

BY DAN O'MEARA
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It's not too much of an exaggeration to say Lindsey Emmett did it all Wednesday in leading the Farmington Harrison softball team to a come-from-behind victory.

Emmett came to the team's rescue with her pitching arm and practically carried the Hawks with her bat, playing a huge role in Harrison's 9-4 win over host Walled Lake Central.

From the pitching angle, she entered the game in the fourth inning with the bases loaded, nobody out and the Hawks trailing 3-2.

SOFTBALL

Emmett gave up one run that wasn't charged to her before pitching out of the jam.

She allowed just one more hit — the Vikings had seven total — struck out four and walked one over the final four innings to improve her personal record to 4-1.

At the plate, Emmett went 3-for-4 with a double, a triple (her fourth of the season) and five RBI. She also stole two bases and scored two runs.

"That's what you ask of senior captains," coach Mike Teachman said. "She was much healthier than last week (sore back), and it showed."

"She spent time in the batting cage with her dad last night, and that showed."

Emmett's father noticed a flaw in her batting stance, and she corrected it. Emmett had been curling the bat around her head and putting a loop in her swing, according to Teachman.

Jenelle Welling had two of Harrison's eight hits. The Hawks made four errors, the Vikings three.

"We didn't play real good defense behind (starter) Kristin (Schrock)," Teachman said, adding two Central runs were unearned. "They were start-

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OHL names DeBoer top coach again

BY C.J. RISAK
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HOCKEY

Pete DeBoer will sometime in the next month complete his fifth year as coach of the Whalers. In that span, DeBoer has accomplished more than most coaches manage in a couple of decades.

And like most coaches, DeBoer will say without hesitation, "I'd trade 'em all for a championship any day."

Last week, DeBoer was named the Ontario Hockey League's coach of the year. It was the second straight year, the 31-year-old former Windsor Spitfire has been so honored.

And it is certainly a well-earned honor. Last season, the Whalers had a lineup that was difficult to match; four of those players are currently playing in the NHL.

With so much missing from that team, DeBoer — who has recounted his thoughts prior to the season countless number of times the past few months — figured "this would be a year like '96-'97, a rebuilding year."

"We finished fourth that season and made the playoffs, but lost in the first round. That's the kind of year I

thought this would be. We were just hoping to make the playoffs and get some of these young guys some experience."

One problem: DeBoer had some elder statesmen, namely defenseman Shaun Fisher and forwards Randy Fitzgerald and Eric Gooldy, who had different ideas. All three are average players, and all three have provided the leadership necessary in transforming a rebuilding team into a Memorial Cup challenger.

Which is what the Whalers are. They began their best-of-seven OHL Western Conference final against Sault Ste. Marie last night at Compuware Arena;



Pete DeBoer

a win in that series would put them in the OHL finals.

During the regular season, this team that expected to be scrapping to make the playoffs put together a league-best 17-game win streak and posted a West Division-leading 45-19-4 record. For the second consecutive year, the Whalers had the league's best record.

Please see DEBOER, B6



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BOEKER

Hurdles winner: Harrison senior Nick Hall demonstrates the technique that enabled him to win both hurdle events Wednesday.

Raiders remain on roll; Hawks defeat Chargers

BY DAN O'MEARA
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North Farmington had another impressive victory in boys track and field Wednesday, rolling into the spring break with a 3-0 record in dual meets.

After defeating Plymouth Salem the previous week, the Raiders don't visit Livonia Stevenson its first loss, and it wasn't all that close. North won, 79-58.

"I'm really proud of the team," coach Jeff Simpson said. "The kids are stepping up and performing tremendously well. We really competed today, and that's a great thing to see."

"(The Spartans) didn't hold back; they came after us. But every time we turned around we were having some personal bests."

Senior distance runner Charlie Stamboulion, who won the 1,600-meter run, wasn't feeling all that well but still did what he could to help the team, according to Simpson.

"The kids were gutting it out," he said. "We challenged them and they stepped up to the challenge."

BOYS TRACK

The Raiders are 2-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association. Stevenson is 1-1 in the division and 3-1 overall.

North senior Anthony Beal won the 100- and 400-meter dashes and anchored the winning 800 relay team. Junior Blair Weiss won the 100 and anchored a North victory in the 400 relay.

Farmington Harrison had a close call Wednesday but bounced back from its loss to Plymouth Canton the previous week to beat visiting Livonia Churchill, 69-68.

Both teams are 1-1 in the WLAA Western Division and 2-1 overall.

The Chargers pulled within a point after the final event, earning five points by winning the 1,600 relay, but the Hawks clinched the win with John Keller's third-place finish in the 3,200 run.

"It was a great track meet; it went

Please see TRACK, B6