

# Raiders remain regional champs



North Farmington won its third consecutive regional title in boys tennis Friday and will advance to the state tournament June 2-3 in East Lansing. The Raiders were runners-up in the Division 2 state tournament last year.

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK  
STAFF WRITER

coaches poll. "Everybody played very well."

"The match of the day came at No. 1 doubles. (The Raiders) came back from being down 5-2 in the third set to win. That should help them get a good seed at the state tournament."

The No. 1 doubles match for the regional crown was indeed a thriller. North's Brady Dwyer and Geoff Streit lost the first set to Northville's combo, 6-7 (5-7) in the tiebreaker, but won the second, 6-4, and forced another tiebreaker in the third set, which they won this time, 7-6 (7-3).

Wet court conditions at the Northville and Novi sites forced the regional indoors to the Sports Club of Novi and the Farmington Recreation Club.

"The players adjusted fine to it," Shenton said. "They didn't mind playing indoors."

Farmington Harrison's Ryan Shade took the No. 1 singles title, defeating North Farmington's Chris Erickson in the final, 6-2, 6-3.

The Raiders' Jay Berman captured the No. 2 singles crown, defeating Northville's Mark Thomson, 6-2, 6-3. At No. 3 singles, Northville's Dan Drake shaded North Farmington's Chris Copeland, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2, while North Farmington's Steve Jaffe was the No. 4 singles winner, 6-2, 6-4, over Northville's Kyle Dehne.

North Farmington and Northville

split the other two doubles.

The Raiders' Josh Wool and Andy Golaszewski outlasted the Mustangs' pair, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3, at No. 2 doubles.

But Northville's No. 3 team of Wilson-Arndt prevailed over North's Rob Frankel and Greg Boothroy, 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

"We knew, going into the meet, we were going to meet Northville a lot, because they're in our conference and we were the two strongest teams there," Shenton said.

"Chris Erickson had a good run to the finals before losing to Shade, who's a state-ranked player. Jaffe and Berman were solid in singles."

Next up for the Raiders isn't the state tournament. It's the conclusion Tuesday of the rain-delayed Western Lakes Activities Association tournament. Weather permitting, of course.

## Falcons are No. 1 among city rivals

*Farmington is public school soccer champ*

BY DAN O'MEARA  
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Farmington coach Steve Montgomery had conflicting emotions after his team defeated Farmington Harrison in girls soccer Friday night, 2-0.

He was happy for his players — the Falcons won the public-school city championship — but he was bothered by what he saw in his record book.

On a percentage basis, he thought Farmington should have scored more goals, and coaches always want to be as close to perfect as possible.

### GIRLS SOCCER

"It's very frustrating," Montgomery said, adding he had the Falcons for 49 shots and thought they outplayed the Hawks. "I ran out of room on the stat sheet for shots. We couldn't get the ball in the net."

"But we won the city championship, and I can't be disappointed with that." The Falcons managed to get two shots in despite a gritty effort by the Harrison defense and goalie Moira Morel, who made a lot of saves, obviously.

The Hawks were minus two starters, too. Stopper Lauren Liebowitz is a distance runner on the track team, which competed Friday night in a regional meet in St. Clair Shores, and midfielder Dianna Platt is injured.

"Emily Houser, Abbey Houser and Jenny Blashfield are the only three defenders we have," Harrison coach Greg Strickland said. "They have to play while 80 minutes."

"Without them (Farmington) probably would've had two or three more goals. We hung tight and Moira played a great game."

Strickland thought the Hawks should have scored the first goal, but Farmington's Anna Wautin stopped a close shot by Amber Kossis in the first five minutes.

"She hit it but not hard enough, and the goalkeeper just got a touch on it," Strickland said.

"When the game first started, Harrison came out ready and looked very intense," Montgomery said. "They scared us, really, and the girls had to settle down."

The game remained scoreless through halftime; however, Farmington



Falcons on the offensive: Beth Kolacki advances the ball upfield for Farmington while Harrison defender Abbey Houser gives chase Friday in a girls soccer game. The Falcons were 2-0 winners.

gained the advantage with Melissa Nino's goal less than 1½ minutes into the second half.

The ball was loose on the left side of the Harrison goal. Morel tried to cover it, but Nino kicked it into the net before Morel could wrap it up.

The Falcons (10-7) continued to carry the play and missed on several other chances, sending the ball over the goal and across the goalmouth.

Instead, Harrison nearly tied the score. Only some big defensive plays by Farmington players kept the ball from crossing the goal line.

Emily Jackson sent the ball through to Harrison forward Danielle Strickland on a breakaway. Wautin knocked

the shot down with a two-handed mid, but the ball caromed to her right.

Before Harrison's Alex Cicori could knock the rebound into the net, Farmington defender Molly Jud raced up to turn it away.

Subsequently, the Hawks (4-9) put the ball on net with consecutive corner kicks. Stephanie Arnold and Catherine Brouillette stopped it from going in at opposite corners.

Harrison had a couple other chances, but it was Farmington on the attack for the most part, especially Erica Rose, who had most of her team's attempts.

"We tried to move people around to create," Montgomery said, adding Nino

subbed in as a defensive mid, so Rose could move to forward. "It gave us more opportunities, but they're still not going in the net."

"That shows we're just not finishing well, and we're going to work on that. The important thing is we won and we're city champs."

The Falcons got a second goal with 8:05 remaining when Lorianne DeDomenico took a pass from Beth Kolacki, dribbled close to the goal and drilled a shot into the net.

Farmington thought it had a third goal with 1:42 to play. Kolacki's shot off a DeDomenico pass hit the upper

Please see SOCCER, B4

### FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

#### U-13 soccer champs

Dave Ujick of Farmington Hills is a member of the under-13 Vardar soccer team that won its second consecutive national indoor championship.

Vardar, which won the under-12 title last year, is one of only two teams to repeat as national champions during the SuperClubs tournament in Cleveland, Ohio.

Vardar was among the more than 250 teams in the under-13 age group representing 27 regions from the United States, Canada and Mexico.

In early-round play, Vardar defeated championship teams from Wisconsin, 7-0, Indiana, 9-1, and New York, 6-3.

In the quarterfinals, Vardar blanked HBC Andorlecht of New York, 3-0, and trounced the Ohio Internationals in the semifinals, 9-3.

Vardar had its toughest game in the final against Cleveland Football Club but prevailed with a 6-4 victory. Other Oakland County players on the Vardar team are Luke Burns, Tim Daws, Mike Mastracci and Mike Szymula of Troy, Mike Holody and Mike Klemm of Clarkston and Jon Bailey of Oxford.

#### Player of the Year

Craig Kowalski, star goalie for the Compuware Ambassadors of the North American Hockey League, was named Junior Player of the Year by Michigan Hockey Magazine. The 19-year-old Kowalski, a 5-foot-9, 190-pounder, was named MVP in his final nine regular-season appearances with a 2.11 goals-against average and a .931 save percentage.

He finished the season with a 33-12-3 record and a 2.38 goals-against average and a .923 save percentage with four shutouts. Kowalski will attend and play hockey at Northern Michigan University in the fall.

#### Events postponed

The Western Lakes Activities Association boys tennis tournament will resume at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Livonia Stevenson.

The tournament began Tuesday, but only one round was completed before rain caused it to be postponed.

More rain last week forced the event to be delayed again until this week. The action resumes with the semifinals Tuesday.

A pair of baseball and softball doubleheaders were postponed because of rain Thursday.

The Farmington-Plymouth Salem baseball games were played Saturday. The softball games will be played 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Farmington at Canton.

The Harrison-Plymouth Canton baseball twinbill has been rescheduled for 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Harrison.

The softball games will be played at 3:30 p.m. either Tuesday or Thursday at Canton.

The girls golf regional at Monroe, which involved the Farmington United team, has been postponed from Friday until Monday.

#### Soccerzone signup

Soccerzone, an indoor soccer and inline hockey facility in Novi, is conducting registration for its upcoming summer programs.

Soccer camps will be June 19-23, July 10-14 and July 31-Aug. 4. The times are 9-10:45 a.m. (ages 6-10) and 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. (11-14). The cost is \$60.

A soccer goalkeeper camp for ages 8-18 is scheduled for 9:30-11:30 a.m. July 24-26. The cost is \$60.

Hockey camps for ages 6-14 are planned for June 26-30 and Aug. 21-25. The times are 9 a.m. to noon and 6-9 p.m. The fee is \$90.

A multi-sport camp will take place 9 a.m. to noon July 17-21. The fee is \$90.

Adult drop-in soccer is 7-9 p.m. every Tuesday for \$7. Adult drop-in hockey (16 years and older) is noon to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10-10:30 p.m. Thursday nights for \$10 per visit.

A drop-in hockey session (16 years and younger) is 2-4 p.m. Monday through Friday for \$10.

The W.I.H.A. Cup In-Line Hockey Tournament will be July 24-25 in men's and midge divisions. Registration ends June 18.

Call the Soccerzone at (248) 374-0500 to register. The Soccerzone is located at 41650 Grand River, Novi.

(Readers can submit Farmington Sports Scene information to Dan O'Meara by fax at 734-591-7279.)

## Marlins overcome poor weather to win

BY MICHAEL L. GARCIA  
STAFF WRITER

It was wet. It was cold. It was nasty. But it was also a victory.

"I don't know how we won, but we did," coach Vicky Kowalski said after the Farmington Hills Marlins golf team won the regional tournament Friday at Forest Lake Golf Course.

The Marlins' 10-7 record was more to brag about than the team's record, which stood at 10-7.

The Marlins were absolutely dominant. "We shot a 77 and a 78," Kowalski said. "We shot a 77 and a 78, and that's not a bad thing."

### GIRLS GOLF

until 7:15 (p.m.). "It was one of the longest days I've ever had."

"It was raining when we started. We were supposed to have a 9 a.m. shotgun start. But they decided to wait, and we had our coaches meeting."

"We didn't tee off until after 11:30 and there was still standing water all over the place."

For one of the few times this year, Mercy Junior, Erin Borowicz didn't medal in the meet. She shot a 77 and finished second to Regina's Amanda

Pettit, who carded a 73.

"But team depth prevailed for the Marlins, who are the defending Division 1 state champions."

Marcy's Lindsey Denanore put up a 91; Katie Dinanore added a 95; and LaTanya Foster turned in a 96.

All will compete in the team competition at the state meet June 2-3 at Forest Lake Golf Course on the campus of Michigan State University.

Actually, due to the weather, they could consider themselves fortunate to have gotten the regional completed at all.

The regional at Monroe was washed out and has been rescheduled for

Monday — when there again is a chance for rain.

"Mercy's team depth helped pull the Marlins through to the regional crown."

"What I've always told our girls, Kowalski said, is that every single shot counts. Obviously, they knew that now, because we won by three shots. I've always felt we had more depth than other teams."

Pettit's low score gave Regina four strokes to work with. Her second-best individual score was 83, but after that there was a big dropoff to a pair of 103s. That disparity opened the door just enough for Mercy to sneak in.