

SPORTS
SCENE

Roble named captain

Former Farmington Harrison High School athlete and 1998 graduate Amy Roble has been elected captain of the Indiana University women's rowing team for the 2001 season.

Roble, a junior, will help anchor Indiana's eight-women crew. The Big Ten championships will be April 28-29 at the University of Michigan.

While at Harrison, Roble was a four-year member of the girls basketball team and an All-Observer player. She also played on the softball team.

St. John receives honor

Gordy St. John of the Detroit Catholic Central hockey team was recently named Hockey Coach of the Year by the Michigan High School Coaches' Association.

The eight-year veteran of will receive his award March 4 at the MHSAA Coach of the Year banquet at the Holiday Inn South in Lansing.

St. John's CC teams won state titles in 1994, 1997, 1999 and 2000 and are currently ranked No. 1 in the state.

Farmington coaches

Farmington Public Schools has need for two cheerleading coaches and one pompon coach starting in the fall of 2001.

Interested persons should contact Bernie Call at Farmington High School at (248) 489-3455.

OCC women winners

Oakland Community College outscored visiting Alpena in the second half Wednesday, 30-18, to earn a 59-47 victory in women's basketball. It was tied at halftime, 29-29.

Michelle Blake scored a game-high 22 points to lead the Lady Raiders, who are 3-5 in the MCOAA Eastern Conference and 7-10 overall.

Shannon Storn had 16 points and nine rebounds, Debbie West 14 points and Kate Reed eight rebounds.

Roxanne Ewing came off the bench to score nine points for the Lumberjacks, 1-7 and 2-15.

In the men's game, OCC was outscored in the second half, 49-40, as Alpena claimed a 75-71 victory.

The Raiders, who led at halftime, 31-27, had a game-high 25 points and 17 rebounds from Cornelius Stanford. Kevin Williams Jr. added 19 points and Damon Allison 11 as the Raiders dropped to 3-5 in the MCOAA and 7-12 overall.

Alpena's leading scorer was Josh Walker with 21 points. Shawn Hines chipped in 11 and Nic Greenwood 10.

Rockers' streak ends

What the Rockers lacked Thursday night in Toronto against the expansion Thunder Hawks was an answer to Adolfo Mella.

Detroit blew a 5-2 halftime lead, and a 6-2 lead that held early in the third quarter, and lost 12-8 at Toronto's Hershey Centre.

The defeated ended Detroit's two-game win streak and left it 3-17, worst in the National Professional Soccer League.

The Rockers led 5-0 early in the game thanks to Paul Dailly, who netted a two-point goal and a three-pointer in a 55-second span of the first quarter. Mella's first goal scored midway through the second quarter, made it 6-2 at halftime.

A shootout goal by Dailly gave the Rockers a 6-2 lead 1:15 into the third quarter. But the momentum shifted and Toronto had third-period goals from Stathopoulos, Oliviero and Mella for an 8-6 lead.

Marlin Nash tied it at 8-all with a two-pointer, but the Thunder Hawks answered with a pair of goals by Mella to secure the victory.

The Rockers play their third game in four days today when they host the Buffalo Blizzard and former goalie Brian "Goose" Finnerty, who spent his entire NFL career with Detroit until the beginning of this season.

Vikings take command of 1st place



Walled Lake Central has sole claim to first place in the Western Lakes Activities Association basketball standings following a 51-36 victory Friday over host Farmington, now tied with two others for second place.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER
domear@oe.homecomm.net

Walled Lake Central's team picked the right time to have its best performance of the season in boys basketball.

The Vikings brought their A game with them Friday when they entered Farmington High School, and the outcome was a convincing, 51-36 victory for Central.

Coach Bob Shoemaker's ballclub took sole possession of first place in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Central improved to 5-0 in the league and 11-0 overall. Farmington drops back to a tie for second place with Plymouth Canton and Walled Lake West-

ern at 4-1.

"(The Vikings) gave their best for the best teams, and I still think we have a lot of room for improvement," Shoemaker said.

Central, which won eight games in Shoemaker's first season a year ago, has adapted to his coaching and become comfortable with his system. "It's been slow coming for this team," Shoemaker said. "We're 11-0, but it's been a hard 11-0."

"The teams we play in the league know my team better than I did (last year). Plus, all the games were on the road while they were redoing our gym."

It also helps having 6-foot-9 senior Mark Bortz, who missed all of last season with a knee injury, back in the lineup.

Bortz, who was being scouted by the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Friday, scored a game-high 24 points, pulled down nearly as many rebounds and was a dominating presence in the middle defensively.

"Mark Bortz was the difference tonight," Farmington coach Denny Mikel said. "We had no answer for him. He rebounded well and he scored inside."

"We knew we were going to have trouble with them. Mark presents a problem, because we have nobody who can match up with him."

"We were hoping to get him in foul trouble, but that didn't materialize either."

Steve Horn tossed in 13 points for the Vikings, who were 13-of-21 shooting free throws. Justin Spencer added

five and Chris Hart four.

It didn't help the Falcons to lose 64-44 senior Jeremy Mazes with a possible pulled hamstring muscle early in the game.

"Jeremy being our best rebounder, we needed him tonight to offset their size," Mikel said. "I just hope he's not going to be out too long."

Mike Griffie scored 13 points to lead Farmington, 8-3 overall. Matt Mikel followed with eight, Brad Barone six, Layne Bodily five and Curtis Tillman three.

The Vikings shot 43 percent from the floor, making 16 of 37 shots. The Falcons were 13-of-56 for 23 percent and 7-of-15 at the line.

"We got a little panicky with our offense and forced some things that didn't work," Mikel said. "Mark being a good rebounder and outlet passer, they were able to get some easy baskets."

Please see HOOP, B2

Stevenson
is division
champion

Victory over Flyers
secures hockey title

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER
bemon@oe.homecomm.net

It's been quite a year so far for new coach Ed Shepler and his Livonia Stevenson hockey team, but he hopes even better things are yet to come.

The state-ranked Spartans improved to 15-0-3 overall and wrapped up the Lakes Division title in the Western Lakes Activities Association by grounding the Farmington Flyers, 6-0, Friday at Edgar Arena.

HOCKEY

Four goals in the opening period by Stevenson was more than enough as the Spartans upped their division record to 4-0-1.

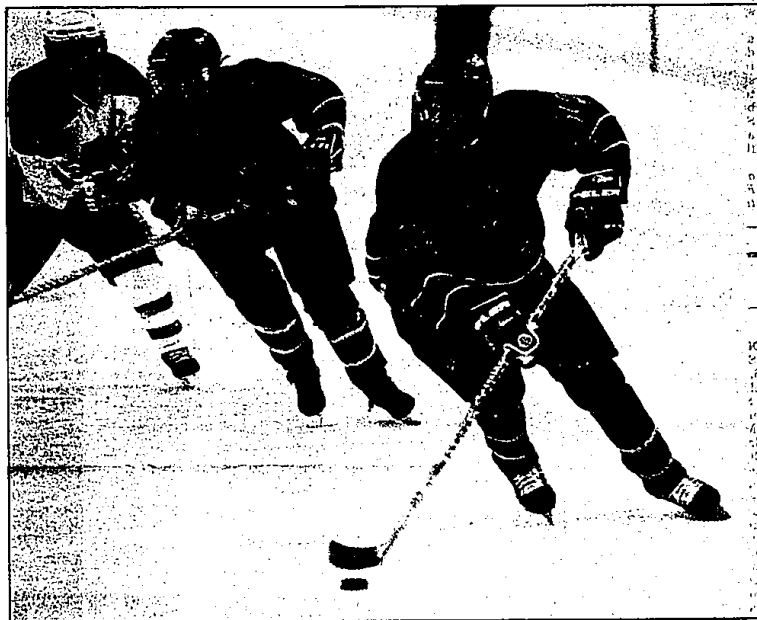
Farmington fell to 7-6-2 overall and 2-3 in the division.

"We clinched the division, but it really doesn't mean anything," Shepler said. "This is just a game. The (state) playoffs mean everything."

"We're just trying to improve on our weak points each game. We're concentrating on trying to improve."

The score sheet revealed Stevenson once again used balanced scoring. Five different players found the net. "The first period we came out hard, controlled the puck and made passes," Shepler said. "We wanted to get more passing between the lanes."

"One of things about this team is that we don't have any superstars. Nobody is going to carry us by themselves. We need to play as one instead of being individual. That's been our



Hockey action: Keith Hay (foreground) advances the puck for the Farmington Flyers Friday night. The offensive success, however, belonged to the Stevenson Spartans, who claimed a 5-0 victory.

whole concept since day one. We're teaching them to win as a team. The team attitude is the key."

At 2:25 of the opening period, Stevenson's Tommy Zagata took advantage of an odd-man rush for the game's first goal. Jon O'Neill and Bobby Zagata drew the assists.

Mark Blazek then knocked home a rebound at 4:44 from Ken Koehler and Rob Grisius to make it 2-0. The Spartans also got an unassisted goal from defenseman Matt Cieslak with 2:44 left in the period and Bret Vessey capped the first-period scoring with just one

second remaining on assists from Dave Bonello and Blazek.

Farmington changed goaltenders after the Cieslak goal and the Flyers settled down both offensively and defensively during the final two periods.

Stevenson, which outshot Farmington by only one, 23-22, got a goal in the final period, Johan Edlund from Dave Westernman and Chris Jarvis.

As far as penalties, Farmington had 10 to Stevenson's six.

"In the second period we took some bad penalties; we didn't move our feet

as a team," Shepler said. "And there were no bad calls."

"We also changed some things on penalty-killing, and we were able to work on that tonight."

Meanwhile, Stevenson third-year netminder Kevin Marlowe was solid, notching his fifth shutout of the year.

"Kevin plays well when we need him," Shepler said. "And our defense has been doing the job to this point. Kevin keeps us in there, and no doubt he's an all-state goaltender."

(More hockey coverage on Page B4.)

Farmington keeps pace with league win

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Farmington improved to 3-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 15-6, 16-12 win over visiting Livonia Franklin in volleyball Wednesday.

The Falcons breezed through the first game but suffered a meltdown in the second that nearly cost them the victory.

Farmington hit a 12-4 lead in the second game, but Franklin rallied to get within a point, 13-12.

"You could see the girls' intensity just evaporated," Falcons coach Alex Perrin said.

"Not every single player but enough players. At the same time, Franklin really dug in. That was a bad combination from our point of view."

Farmington ran out of substitutions and finished the game with defensive specialist Kelsey Guisbert playing in the front row.

"We used our last at 13-12 with Kelsey going in to

serve," Perrin said. "I gambled that we would score two points on the next serve. It worked out, because we scored the winning point with her in the front row."

Farmington's Lyndey Howard was 13-of-18 hitting with six kills. Jessica Janowicz 10-of-11 with four kills and Jess Halliday 10-of-12 with two kills.

Setter Randin Brown had 14 kill assists. She and Howard served five points apiece with one ace, Halliday nine points (three aces).

"In the first game, they weren't hitting the ball over the net, and the second game we weren't playing well," Perrin said.

"We dominated the first game and a half, and they dominated the middle part of the second game. At the end, a couple breaks just went our way."

The Falcons (12-8-3) have a big week ahead. They play Plymouth Salem on Monday and Walled Lake Central on Wednesday, and they're in the Schoolcraft Invitational on Saturday.

"It'll be a good measure of where we are," Perrin said.

Warriors defeat Raiders in WLAA match

North Farmington lost to host Walled Lake West on Wednesday, 6-15, 2-15. However, the Raiders did win the third-game consolation, 15-13.

Christine Grasiniski was 5-of-5 receiving serves and

Please see VOLLEYBALL, B2

USED POOL TABLES
KADARON'S
BILLIARD & POOL TABLE SERVICE
MOVING & RECONSTRUCTION
Residing in Farmington at 248-901-2573
610-288-3800
Residing in Farmington at 248-901-2573
M-F 9am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm

HUGE INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE
100 Tables Must Go!
★ FLOOR MODELS AVAILABLE
★ NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED
NEW SLATE TABLES FROM \$769⁰⁰
FOOSBALL
Commercial Quality Made in U.S.A.
From **\$269⁹⁵**