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Thursday, April 12, 2001

## FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Mercy 3rd in tourney

Without all of its top players, Farmington Hills Mercy finished third in a 12-team girls golf tournament at Grosse Ile Saturday.

Despite windy, wet and cold conditions, Mercy senior Erin Borowicz shot an even-par 72 to top the individual field.

Sophomore Christina Cibrario had 86, senior Maureen McFawn 99 and senior Gretchen Andersen-Watts 107.

The Mercy juniors didn't compete, because they were taking the ACT test, and senior Katie Dinsmore was ill and didn't play.

Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, which edged Mercy by four strokes to win the Oakland County title last year, was first in the team tally with a 345.

"They're a good team; they're just solid," Mercy coach Vicky Kowalski said. "They're all in the 80s; they have no superstar."

Grosse Ile shot 366, Mercy 364, Livonia Churchill 375 and Livonia Stevenson 394 to round out the top five teams.

### Golfers win dual meets

Farmington won its first Western Lakes Activities Association match in girls golf Tuesday, defeating Walled Lake Western at Glen Oaks, 192-199.

Sarah Laird shot 46 to lead Farmington, 2-1 overall. Brittany Nucicelli carded 48, Kelly Raymond 49 and Jennifer Barriack 50.

Lindsay Bornhoffe shot 47 and Katie Jones 48 for the Warriors, who are 1-2 in the WLA and 2-2 overall.

Farmington Hills Mercy improved to 2-0 in Catholic League matches Tuesday following a 176-206 win over Livonia Ladywood at St. Johns in Plymouth.

Erin Borowicz shot two-over-par 38 to lead the Marlins, who also are 2-0 overall. Monica Pilzner followed with 44, Christina Cibrario 46 and Maureen McFawn 47.

Ladywood's Ashley Loyer post a 48, Rachel Andersen 49, Rachel Thomas 53 and Mandy Graves 56. The Blazers are 1-1 in the league and overall.

"I'm pleased, considering how wet the course was," Mercy coach Vicky Kowalski said. "We didn't let them do pick, place and clean; they played the ball down."

"All the girls said 'We can do better.' I love when they say they can do better. Overall, for the beginning of the season, it was a good score." Mercy defeated Ladywood in a JV match Tuesday, 212-277. Carrie Tashjian shot 50 to lead Mercy.

### Latra wins for CMU

Nick Latra of Farmington was the winning pitcher in Central Michigan University's 7-6 win over Eastern Michigan in college baseball Sunday.

The former Farmington High School ace pitched the most innings of his career (5). He struck out six and walked two while allowing just three hits.

CMU was 4-2 last week, winning a doubleheader from Oakland University, and splitting a four-game weekend series with EMU.

The Chippewas have won 18 of their last 24 games to improve their record to 19-12 overall and 8-4 in the Mid-American Conference.

Latra has appeared in 10 games this season and is 1-0 with a 2.70 earned run average, which is third best on the team.

### Ambassadors ousted

The Computware Ambassadors couldn't take advantage of their home-ice advantage in the opening round of the North American Hockey League playoffs, losing two of three games to the Cleveland Jr. Barons at Computware Arena.

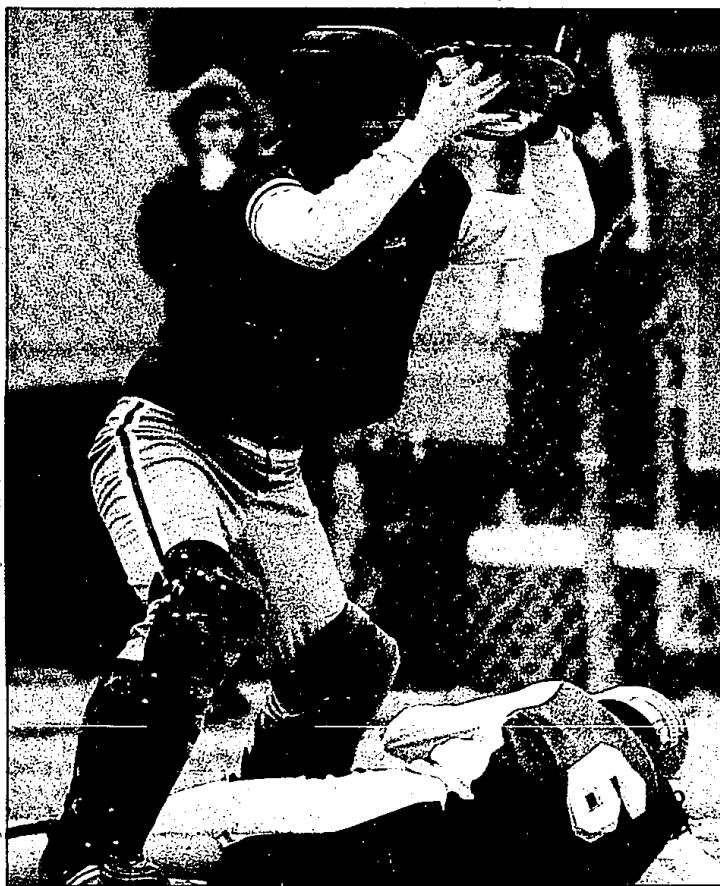
The opening game was the pivotal one, Cleveland winning 5-4 in overtime Friday. Jim Slater got the game-winning goal for the Barons.

On Saturday, the Ambassadors knotted the series at 1-all with a 4-2 victory, with Mike Walsh's power-play goal serving as the game-winner. Ryan Lessner, Jason Paige and Andy Greene also scored.

But Sunday's game was no contest, with the Barons rolling to a 6-0 triumph. Peter Harrold and Brandon Kalenecki each scored two goals for Cleveland, while Freeman Falea stopped 34 shots to get the shutout in goal.

Cleveland plays in the NAHL best-of-three semifinals in Sault Ste. Marie against the Soo Kewadin Canadiens Indians this weekend.

### Area softball powers clash



Play at the plate: Farmington Hills Mercy catcher Chloe Kraft shows the ball to the umpire after tagging out Livonia Ladywood runner Missy Mitchell attempting to come home on a hit to the pitcher Tuesday. Mercy lost two Catholic League games to Ladywood. See story Page D6.

## 4-0 Falcons top Raiders

Farmington pushed its early-season baseball record to 4-0 Tuesday by defeating host North Farmington, 5-1.

Tony Lutman was the winning pitcher, entering the game at the start of the second inning with the Falcons trailing 1-0.

Lutman shut down the Raiders, striking out eight and issuing just two walks over the next 4½ innings.

Ian Pardonnet got the final out of the sixth inning with one pitch and worked out of a jam in the seventh.

North loaded the bases on Pardonnet, who eventually retired the side without damage on three strikeouts.

The Falcons outlit the Raiders, 9-5. Nick Hippler put Farmington ahead with a two-run double in the second.

### BASEBALL

Brett Brown knocked in two runs with a groundout and a single; Bernie Brown was 2-for-2 and scored a run, and Kyle Burrell had an RBI single.

Jeff Vieder had two hits for the Raiders, who scored their run when Brian Smith beat a throw to the plate on a double steal.

North right fielder Aaron Drury had three outfield assists — all at home plate.

Farmington coach Pete Finn said the Falcons have to do better at running the bases and need to cut down on the number of fly-ball outs (nine).

"I can't complain too much; we were

all excited to play North Farmington," he said. "I'm just happy our pitching and defense did well."

"The pitchers threw strikes and the defense managed to pick the ball up and throw people out."

Finn added the Falcons started 5-0 last year, and it's too early to get excited about being undefeated.

"I think we're trying real hard to be competitive and stay focused," he said. "It's early so we'll try to play it down."

"The kids know we have work to do. It's just a question of how well we can accomplish the things we need to accomplish. Over spring break, we're going to have a real focused week."

On Saturday, senior Brad Barenie

Please see BASEBALL, D7

## Whalers make comeback in 4-3 win over Spitfires

BY C.J. RIRAK  
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It was there for the taking. In a one-minute span of the second period, the Windsor Spitfires had wrestled control of their Ontario Hockey League playoff game away from the host Plymouth Whalers and seemingly assumed command.

The Spits had scored three goals in that time, going from a 1-0 deficit to a 3-1 lead with 7:47 left in the second period. The importance of that lead cannot be minimized; Windsor already trailed two games-to-none in the best-of-seven series. A win on Whaler ice would mean a victory in tonight's game in Windsor could tie the series.

After Shawn Mather's goal put the Spits up by two goals, Whalers coach Pete DeBoer called timeout.

"I really wasn't concerned," DeBoer would say later. "I know that sounds

cocky and arrogant, but I knew this team would work its way back into the game."

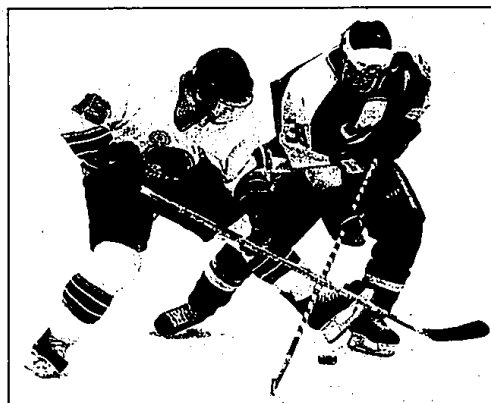
"I knew we'd get it back." He didn't know when — or rather, how quickly. But he knew his Whalers, who had overcome a 2-0 Windsor lead in the second game of the series, would manage it, and they did.

Plymouth knotted the score with two power-play goals before the second period was over, then won it on a pretty setup by Stephen Weiss, resulting in a shorthanded, game-winning goal by Chad Wiseman in the third period that gave the Whalers a 4-3 triumph.

And a 3-0 lead in the series. Game Four is at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Windsor Arena.

Please see WHALERS, D4

### HOCKEY



OHL playoffs: Plymouth's Damian Surma (15) and Windsor's Steve Hildebrand (39) get tangled up while vying for the puck.

## Farmington boys squad rolls to 5th win of year

Senior Brian Kozanecki raised his season total to 36 goals by scoring seven Monday in Farmington Unified's 16-5 victory over host Ypsilanti Lincoln in boys lacrosse.

Jeff Tosoian added five goals and Jason Close three as Farmington improved its record to 5-1. Matt Balla accounted for the remaining goal.

Tosoian also had five assists and Kozanecki three. Chris Kuclo and Brandon Thompson contributed one apiece.

### LACROSSE

"We didn't play as well as we should have," Farmington coach John Fillion said, adding his team had a season-high of 13 penalties with Lincoln having 11. "I think that's more than we had in all games combined. We'd been playing great up to that."

As far as the big picture, Fillion has no complaints about his team's excellent start.

"We're playing more as a team than as individuals," he said. "It's really helping because you never know who's going to come up with a goal."

"We have middies and attack guys scoring. Everybody is doing his job. After spring break, we come into some tougher games, however."

Farmington had its most one-sided victory in its previous game April 2, resulting in a 20-1 rout of host Auburn Hills Avondale.

Kozanecki and Tosoian scored five goals each; Close put three in the opposing net, and Nate Miller, Matt Ryder, Vince D'Angelo, Steve Wolff, Eric Kelly, Greg Diven and Ian Cole chipped in one apiece.

Kozanecki and Cole also had three assists each, Miller two, Close and Kuclo one. Francois Berranen was in goal for both Farmington victories.

"He's doing really well; he's coming up with some important saves," Fillion said of Berranen. "He's really showing good talent. Also, our defense seems to be pretty solid, so that's helping out."

"We're playing well; hopefully, we'll continue that after spring break and wind up in the playoffs."

MERCY 17, ANN ARBOR 6: Julie Holland and Stephanie Yuhasz scored three goals each Monday as Farmington Hills Mercy defeated host Ann Arbor in a Michigan Women's Scholastic Lacrosse Association Division B game.

Beth Choi, Lauren Berger and Barb Maczka contributed two goals apiece. The outstanding players of the game for Mercy (2-0) were Emma Woyda, Jackie Smith, Holland and Yuhasz, according to coach Kim Norton.

Mercy goalie Dana Karagiosian made 12 saves while the Marlins nearly tripled the number of shots at the opposing goal (34).

FARMINGTON 10, TECUMSEH 8: Farmington Unified rallied in the second half Friday to defeat the host Indians in a girls lacrosse game.

Farmington was behind at halftime, 6-3, but held Tecumseh scoreless in the second half while increasing its own offensive output.

Katie Ellis scored six goals to lead Farmington. Lindsey Hircal added two, Stephanie Yacoub and Stefanie Willemsen one apiece.

"We talked about our defensive play at halftime and tightened up our defense, and that dramatically changed the game," Farmington coach Mike Mehall said.

Please see LACROSSE, D6