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Thursday, August 9, 2001

FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Twisters rout 2nd foe

Winning apparently isn't enough for the Michigan Twisters. So far, they've done so with emphasis.

The second game of their Lake Shore Football League season ended much the same as the first one — in a lopsided triumph. The Twisters scoring 21 first-quarter points Saturday en route to a 59-10 rout of the Motor City Cougars at River Rouge High.

The Twisters won their season-opener against the Lima (Ohio) Thunder by a 48-0 count a week earlier.

The passing of Rob Elswick was the difference in this game. He completed 16 of 28 passes for 268 yards and seven touchdowns.

Reggie Brandon (Wayne Memorial) was on the receiving end of four of those passes, covering 95 yards, with three of them going for touchdowns. Frank Niscoroni (Farmington) also caught four passes for 64 yards and two touchdowns.

The Twisters travel to Battle Creek for a game against the Michigan Rattlers at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Fall practices begin

The Farmington High School girls swim team will begin preseason practice 7-9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at the high school pool. For more information, call coach Jason Cavicchioli at (248) 470-4441.

Tryouts and preseason practice for the Farmington High School girls tennis team begin 10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at the high school courts.

Results of sports physicals should be submitted to the school office before Monday.

For more information, call team captains Katie Streit (477-6258), Adriane Grace (476-0293) or Stephanie Arnold (471-6799).

Tryouts and preseason practice for the Farmington High School girls tennis team begin 7:15 a.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at the high school courts.

For more information, call team captains Jenna Street (661-9344) or Bethany Nestor (661-3879).

Whalers need interns

The Plymouth Whalers are accepting applications for interns for the upcoming season. Interns will assist with game-night activities such as give-aways and promotions, running the matrix board and reporting game scores to the media.

While this is a non-paying position, interns will receive two tickets for each home game along with Whaler apparel to be worn on game nights. Interns will be required to work all home games and make outside appearances during the season.

Anyone interested in being an intern should call Scott Kelley at (734) 453-8400 or fax a resume to Kelley at (734) 453-4201 by Aug. 30.

Run Thru Hell races

The 10- and 4.8-mile Run Thru Hell road races begin at 8 a.m. Saturday at Hall Creek Ranch (located near Pinckney). Race-day registration is \$20 per person.

For directions, call (734) 878-3632. For more information, call the Pinckney Running Club at (734) 878-6640.

2002 baseball tryouts

The South Farmington Blues will have tryouts for age groups 10-16 for the 2002 season 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 25, at Founders Sports Park on Eight Mile Road.

Tryouts for the 9-year-old Blues will be the same day and time at City Park (Shiawassee and Power roads).

Questions should be directed to the appropriate manager: 9-year-old team, Steve Sutton, 538-4685; 10, Jeff Zanetti, 473-0133; 11, Steve Pelletier, 476-5958; 12, Jeff Scott, 478-1071; 13, Rick Tuyn, 474-8895; 14, Jay Cummings, 477-3623; 15, Ed Laabs, 478-3393; and 16, Al Zatkun, 477-4637.

The Farmington Tornados, an 11-year-old travel baseball team, will have tryouts 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 18, at Drake Park, Field No. 2. For information call David at 478-2114.

Tryouts for the Michigan Indians, a 13-and-under travel team, will be 4-7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26, at Massey Field in Plymouth. For information, call Mark Glover at (248) 349-3392.

Tryouts for the Michigan Indians 10-year-old team will be 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, at Massey Field in Plymouth. For more information, call Jim Gendron (734) 454-3708.



Fluid intake is crucial: North Farmington football players Justin Kasgorgis (left) and Troy Anderson stay hydrated in the 90-degree-plus heat Monday, the first day of regular practice.

It's a hot one

Gridders deal with heat, hydration



Fall kickoff: Lucas DiGiia (right) works his technique as an offensive lineman opposite Scott Bernstein Monday at North.

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER
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The two St. Agatha football players jogged around the practice field in the blistering late-afternoon heat.

Sweat was pouring off them in buckets and you could see the heat rise off the grass, baking itself into a golden brown.

"Hoy," one of them yelled to no one in particular. "Is it just me, or is it cold out here?"

"It's cold, dude," a teammate answered back. "It's cold."

FOOTBALL

Sarcasm aside, the first three days of football practice for area high schoolers were anything but cool — with temperatures in the 90s, dewpoints not far behind, and the heat index hovering in the 100s.

And after last week's death of Minnesota Vikings' offensive lineman Korey Stringer to heatstroke, every coach made sure their players could beat the heat with plenty of water and some kind of modification to their practice schedule to give players whatever edge they could.

"We have some big, shady trees and we load up on lots of water," said Wayne coach Floyd Carter. "We usually give them five-minute breaks and have them take their helmets off. But we've also increased our breaks

Please see FOOTBALL, D6

Hippler returns to USA

Injured ballplayer is welcomed home

BY DAN O'MEARA
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If Nick Hippler isn't quite back to being his old self just yet, at least he's back in this country and the familiar surroundings of home.

Hippler, 18, returned to Farmington last Friday night after spending 3½ weeks in a European hospital recovering from a head injury.

He was injured July 10 when he was struck above the right ear by a line drive during a baseball game in Apeldoorn, Holland.

"I'm feeling better and my spirits are a lot better because I'm home," Hippler said. "I'm not able to do a lot."

"I don't go very far without knowing I can come back to lie down. The doctors told me to take it easy."

A June graduate of Farmington High School, Hippler was pitching for the United States Baseball Stars on a tour of western Europe, even though he was a catcher throughout his prep career.

Ironically, the opponent was another American team, from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn.

"I had pitched three innings before it happened," Hippler said, adding he has pitched in the past. "I was throwing strikes and doing well. I guess that last one got me."

Hippler underwent three medical procedures during his hospital stay in Zwolle, the most crucial being surgery to relieve the pressure on his brain.

"The medical treatment was extremely advanced," Hippler said. "The facility I was taken to is well known for neurosurgery, and the nursing staff was unbelievably accommodating."

He allowed my mom to stay in the room at night, and they gave her every meal I got. They treated her really well.

"If they didn't speak great English, they tried as hard as they could."

Hippler's mother, Jan, who also is a nurse, flew to Holland on July 13 and returned with her son last week.

"I don't think I would have been able to do as well as I did if my mom had not been there," Hippler said, adding the correspondence with family and friends at home was appreciated.

"The phone calls and packages meant



Nick Hippler

Please see HIPPLER, D3

YOUTH SWIMMING

YMCA-Stingrays duo in zone meet

A pair of Farmington Hills girls will compete today through Sunday in the USA Swimming Central Zone meet at Oakland University in Rochester.

Ashley Cohagen and Katya Bachrouche will represent the Farmington Family YMCA-Stingrays in the age-group championship event.

The Central Zone includes Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. The Oakland Live Yers and Michigan Swimming are co-hosts for the long-course meet.

Cohagen, a student at High Meadow Elementary, will compete in the 50- and 100-meter backstroke in the girls 9-10 division.

She improved her qualifying time in the 50 at the Michigan long-course state championships in Holland Aug. 2-5 with a time of 37.31, which gives her a No. 7 national ranking and a No. 2 seed for the zone meet.

The winning time in last year's zone meet was 36.31, which should put Cohagen in good position to earn a medal. She posted a qualifying time of 1:19.28 in the 100 at the state meet, making her the No. 2 seed for the zone meet, too, and ranking her 10th nationally.

Cohagen had qualified previously with a 1:23.59 time at the Frezzo or Fry competition in Dearborn on June 23, which also was her birthday.

She had won both events at the state short-course meet March 1 in Rockford. She will be a first-time competitor in

Please see SWIMMING, D4



Quality swimmers: Katya Bachrouche (left) and Ashley Cohagen, who are coached by Rich Bennetts (right) will compete in the USA Swimming Central Zone meet.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BEEZLER