

SPORTS & RECREATION

Week Ahead C3

Sunday, December 30, 2001

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Gaines leads Vermont

Senior Trevor Gaines scored a game-high 27 points Thursday to lead the University of Vermont to a 69-64 victory over Florida International in college basketball.

The 6-foot-7 former Farmington High School standout made 12 of 15 field goals, pulled down six rebounds and was 3-of-3 shooting free throws.

Taylor Coppertan added 20 points and T.J. Sorrentino 16 for Vermont. Taurance Johnson and Carlos Morban scored 17 apiece to lead Florida International.

Gaines returns to his home state when Vermont plays at the University of Michigan on Sunday, Jan. 27.

JCC upgrades facilities

The Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit has updated and newly-renovated fitness centers at its West Bloomfield and Oak Park facilities.

During the "Club at the J" membership drive, which continues through Feb. 28, the initiation fee of \$75 will be waived.

Those who join will be entitled to use either facility. Prospective members will receive a free, five-day guest pass when they take a tour of the facilities at either location.

For more information or to join, call 1-888-MY-CLUB in West Bloomfield at (248) 967-4030 in Oak Park.

Indoor soccer champs

The under-15 Livonia Soccer Club Wings, recently captured the six-on-six K Division indoor season with a 7-1 record at Total Soccer at Wixom.

Members of the Wings, who outscored their opponents 65-25, include: Chad Dougherty, Mike Jewel and Matt Morry, all from Livonia; Stevenson High; Jon Hupp, Brad Jackson, Danny Kuras, Dave Kroll, Nate Regan, Greg Ostrosky and Ryan Raickovich, all from Livonia; Churchill; Brendan Diehl, Plymouth Canton; J.R. Lang, Walled Lake Western; Billy Navas, North Farmington; Andy Well, Redford Catholic Central; Jamie Luoma and Pat Treppa, Livonia Holmes Middle School.

The Wings are coached by Lou Suvee and Jim Morry. The head trainer is Adam Pichler.

MU girls softball clinic

Madonna University will be conducting a girls fast-pitch softball clinic four consecutive weeks from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26; Feb. 2, 9 and 16; also 2:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24, at the school's Activities Building.

The cost is \$85 for four weeks or \$20 per session. Pre-registration is required (maximum 30 girls per session).

The camp consists of all phases of fast-pitch softball including hitting, bunting, infield-outfield, base running, pitching-catching and defensive positions.

For more information, call MU head coach Al White at (734) 432-6783 or (734) 495-3718; also assistant coach Curt White at (734) 728-3074.

OU baseball camps

Avery's All-Star Baseball Camps (ages 10-18), sponsored by Reebok, will run five consecutive weeks starting Jan. 12-13 at Oakland University.

The camps will teach the fundamentals of catching, hitting and pitcher. The cost is \$215.

The clinic staff includes OU baseball coach Mark Avery, Fraser coach Mario Borrocci and minor league players John Picco (Yankees) and Aaron Shrewsbury (Mariners). For information, call Avery at (810) 362-3583.

YMCA sports classes

The Livonia Family YMCA is offering a variety of after-school sports classes including soccer, basketball, hockey and sports sampler for ages 4-11.

Classes are held during the week in a variety of time slots to accommodate all participants.

The session starts Jan. 2 and will run through Feb. 24. Registration is on-going or until deadline or classes fill. For more information, call (734) 261-2161.

To submit items to the Sports Scene, write 36251 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, MI 48150, or send via fax to (734) 591-7279, attn. Dan O'Meara.

The best and the brightest

2001 was filled with great sports highlights

BY DAN O'MEARA
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The past year was one filled with many successes and triumphs by Farmington sports teams and individual athletes. The following is a summary of the champions of 2001 and what they accomplished.

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Observer has selected six of the most successful to be highlighted in this year-end story followed by a roundup of others and a review of the top sports news stories.

Mercy Golfers

The Marlins were crowned state champions for the second time in three years after winning the Division 1 title in East Lansing.

Mercy shot a 355 team score on the first day of the 36-hole tournament and had a 20-stroke lead over Traverse City Central. Mercy finished at 698; TCC was second at 732.

Senior Erin Borowiec won the individual state title with a two-day total of 155 and a three-stroke margin over Grand Blanc's Mandi McConnell.

The Marlins regained the Oakland County title in April, winning for the fourth time in five years. With Borowiec taking medalist honors, Mercy shot 382 to edge Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood by one stroke.

Mercy also won its 10th consecutive Catholic League title in May. Three days after she shot a state-record 66, Borowiec posted a 2-under-par 69 to win the individual crown.

The Marlins won the regional at Carrington Golf Course in Monroe with a 330 team score, which put them well ahead of Livonia Stevenson (362) and Saline (373). Borowiec was the medalist at 1-over-par 73.

Harrison Boys Track

The Hawks brought back the championship trophy from the Division 2 state meet in Grand Rapids last June after scoring 84 points to edge runner-up Stevensville-Lakeshore by three.

Harrison had to win the final event to win the title. It did so as Fermon Tate, Brian Coats, Terrill Mayberry and Agim Shabaj set a school record of 3:25.6 in the 1,600-meter relay.

Shabaj, Charles Pickett, Chris Roberson and Marcus Woods set a meet record by winning the 400 relay in 42.66, and Mayberry broke his own school record with a second-place finish and time of 49.6 in the 400 dash.

Harrison won a regional title for the second year in a row, racking up 123 points to best runner-up Warren Woods-Tower (103).

Marcus Woods won the 100 dash, Mayberry the 400 and Shabaj the 200. Kunk Laird also achieved first place in the pole vault. The Hawks won every relay but the 3,200.

Mercy Softball

The Marlins earned a return trip to Battle Creek and another berth in Please see **YEAR, C2**



So far: Mercy's softball team advanced to the semifinals in Battle Creek.



Farmington soccer: All-state junior forward Matt Konopinski goes airborne after colliding with an opponent.



Hawthorn football: All-state receiver Agim Shabaj helped Harrison win another state title.



State champ: Erin Borowiec won the Division 1 title and led Mercy to the state crown.

Tourney to decide city championship

BY DAN O'MEARA
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A true city champion will be crowned in the sport of volleyball Thursday when the four girls high school teams compete in an all-Farmington tournament.

It marks the first time in any sport Farmington Public Schools and Farmington Hills Mercy have made a joint effort to arrange such an event.

"Obviously, we're excited to bring the whole city tournament concept back," North Farmington coach Deb Calanchi said, referring to the old three-team, FPS-only format. "I think it's great recognition for our girls."

The three Farmington high schools competes in such a tough league that we've all had some athletes who deserved recognition and didn't get it. It's a great opportunity to give them the recognition they deserve.

With Mercy being included, we're excited because it will be a true all-city championship, although I've heard they're pretty tough this year.

The tournament will have a round-robin format and will be played at North Farmington starting at 4 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Farmington defeats Holly for 1st victory

BY DAN O'MEARA
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The members of Farmington High's boys basketball team didn't need miracle and holly to make the season bright. Just a win over Holly was all.

The Falcons earned their first victory of the hoop season Thursday by defeating the host Branches in a holiday tournament, 52-45.

BASKETBALL

Senior center Robert Nagy scored 16 points and senior guard Ryan Kosinski 13 to lead Farmington (1-3).

Junior guard Jeff McCullough led the Falcons with seven rebounds and added six points. Brandon Tenner was high scorer for Holly (1-3) with nine points.

Farmington made 11 of 16 free throws, and Holly was 14-of-17 at the line.

The Falcons had to be content with runner-up honors after losing to Pontiac Notre Dame Prep in the tournament finale Friday night, 43-36.

Farmington had just eight points in the first half and trailed at the end of three quarters, 30-12.

Ryan Chatman and Dru Frechette came off the bench to give the Falcons a boost of energy in the fourth.

"We came out flat," Farmington coach Steve Korpusik said. "They played a matchup zone and we were holding on to the ball for three or four seconds. By then the zone had shifted."

"Suddenly, our passing was crisp and we ended up scoring more points in the fourth quarter than we did the first three combined. (Chatman and Frechette) played great in the fourth quarter, but by then we were kinda out of it."

Nagy, who made the all-tournament team along with Kosinski, and

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