

## Sidelines

### College golf

Lindsey Densmore (Farmington Hills Mercy) was one of three members of the Albion College women's golf team to be named to the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Academic honor roll for the second straight year. Densmore compiled a 3.7 grade point average while making the All-MIAA first team.

In the first tournament of the fall season, Densmore shot a team-low 170 to lead the Britons to a ninth-place finish in an 18-team field at the Ferris State Fall Invitational played on the 6,174-yard Kalks Golf Course Aug. 31 and Sept. 1. NCAA Division III Albion's 36-hole team score of 698 was bested only by Division II teams.

### Harrison golf

Farmington Harrison defeated Birmingham Seaholm in an Oakland Activities Association Division II boys golf match Wednesday, 181-164. The Hawks had balanced scoring with Matt Kjolhede, Chris Fitzgerald and Danny Dolg shooting 40s at San Marino Golf Course. David Koch and Paul Mazanika posted a pair of 41s and Eddie Bellamy shot 44. A 40 by Chris Grant was the low score for the Maples. Top, Jeff Bickley shot 41. Kevin Collins 41, Chris Corby 42 and Mike Hills 43. Harrison is 1-1 in duals.

### Mercy swimming

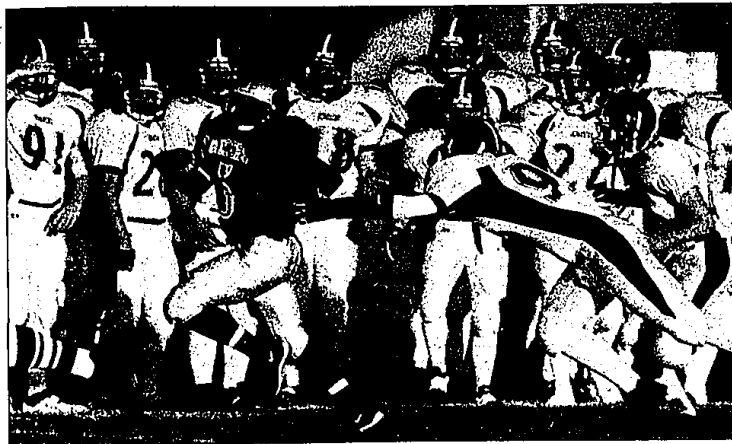
Farmington Hills Mercy began the girls swim season Tuesday with 82-20 and 89-13 wins over Grand Blanc and Clarkston, respectively. The Marlins, who made 12 state cuts, had double winners in Elizabeth Garlow, Caitlin Kelly and Eloise Page. Garlow won the individual medley (2:17.25) and breaststroke (12:25); Kelly was first in the 50 and 100 freestyle races in 25.28 and 54.41, respectively.

Page won the 500 freestyle (5:15.69) and the backstroke (6:03.39). Katie Naglick won the butterfly (5:09.00) and Aria Kaspulis the diving (160 points). Page, Naglick and Kelly combined with Garlow to win the medley relay (1:53.75) and Kara Small in the 400 freestyle relay (2:45.36). Carrie Roble, Small, Kara Loniewski and Garlow comprised the winning 200 freestyle relay team (1:44.08).

### OCC volleyball

The Oakland Community College volleyball team dropped its opening match of the season Wednesday to St. Clair in MCCA Eastern Conference action, 30-16, 30-13, 30-14.

The Lady Raiders were led by Lelays Burrell (Farmington Hills/Harrison) and Christina Giannandrea (Milford) with four kills each. Giannandrea also had three blocks. Brittany Helms (Berkeley/Southfield) Christian had six assists. St. Clair rallied fifth in the NJCAA Division II preseason poll, improved to 8-7 overall and is 1-0 in the conference.



BILL BRESLER | OBSERVER

North Farmington running back Marcus Thornton is headed for the end zone Thursday against Royal Oak Dendoro. Thornton went 89 yards on the first play from scrimmage for a touchdown.

## Raiders chop down Oaks, 17-7

BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER

The North Farmington football team remains a work in progress, but there was one major difference between its first and second games.

The Raiders were on the right side of the score Thursday, registering a 17-7 victory over visiting Royal Oak Dendoro in an Oakland Activities Association crossover contest.

North was its own worst enemy at times, being penalized 12 times for 85 yards, but it was in control of the game after taking a 14-0 lead in the first quarter.

"Ninety percent of the football game is mental," North coach Rich Burrell said. "This team has tremendous potential."

"We just have to understand a lot of things that get in the way of us being successful are under our control. All those things we can correct, which is a cause for optimism."

North (1-1) gained the upper hand right away when tailback Marcus Thornton dashed 89 yards for a touchdown on the first play from scrimmage.

Kyle Lambert kicked a pair of extra points and a 24-yard field goal midway in the fourth quarter that made the score 17-7.

The Raiders capitalized on a fumble recovery by Safet Cunningham for their second touchdown. Quarterback Bryan Smith capped the eight-play, 30-yard drive with a 1-yard sneak. Thornton finished with 160 yards rushing on 21 carries, but the Oaks didn't give up another big play. His next longest run was 19 yards.

"We shut ourselves down with mental mistakes," Burrell said, referring to the penalties. "We were doing well and then the offense was three-and-out for a long time. I don't know if we relaxed because it was 14-0 instead of



BILL BRESLER | OBSERVER

Fullback Ken Uy is upended here but contributed 72 yards on 10 carries in North's 17-7 victory Thursday.

PLEASE SEE RAIDERS, C3

## Herrington gets 300th career win

BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Harrison gave coach John Herrington his 300th career football victory, but it looked for the longest time as if he wouldn't get it Friday.

The Hawks trailed visiting Rochester for nearly two quarters, but they scored two late touchdowns for a 21-14 win.

The game also marked Harrison's debut in the Oakland Activities Association. Both teams are 1-1 overall.

"For a long time, I thought we would have to wait another week," Herrington (300-58-1) said. "It's nice but I'm more concerned about our team improving."

"We made a ton of mistakes, but the character of the team came through at the end."

The Hawks took the lead for the first time with 1:05 remaining when Mike Bartley caught a 26-yard TD pass on fourth down from Jake Ghanam. Chris Kollis added the third of three extra points.

Harrison tied the score on its previous possession with a 40-yard drive. Marcus Woods carried the ball on all seven plays and scored on a 6-yard run at 6:17 in the fourth quarter. He finished the game with 178 yards on 26 carries.

"Offensively, it was tough to figure out what to do," Herrington said.

"Nothing much worked. We gave it to (Woods) a lot early. When we got the ball down inside, he picked it up. The line picked it up!"

The Hawks were vulnerable to the pass again. Rochester quarterback Brad Przymusinski was 10-of-21 passing for 130 yards with two interceptions. Brandon Moore had five catches for 73 yards and Chase Hughes three for 65. Przymusinski also was sacked eight times for a minus-37 yards, and the Falcons were unable to run the ball effectively. Rochester's net rushing total was a negative-17.

"We had good special teams, good defense and good passing," Rochester coach Mark Merlo said. "Now we have to run the ball."

"I told our kids, 'The team that wins

PLEASE SEE HERRINGTON, C3

## North girls, Harrison boys remain city champions

BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER

The North Farmington girls and Farmington Harrison boys retained their city titles in cross country Wednesday, but their margins of victory were even less than last year.

Coach Bill Pinnell's Raiders nipped Farmington in the girls race again, 35-36, after winning by four points last season.

In the boys event, the Hawks edged Farmington, 37-39. Harrison won by five last season over North Farmington, which finished a close third with 44.

The annual public-school city meet was moved back to Oakland Community College, but was run on a different course. The races took place at Cass Benton Park

last year.

Individually, North's Susan Barrows and Harrison's Brian Coats also repeated as city champions.

Barrows was the only girl to break 21 minutes, finishing in 20:32. Coats was one of two boys with a sub-18 minute time, clocking 17:42.

Their times are course records since the city meet was the first competition conducted on the new course.

"She's been training hard; she ran well and had a pretty good time on this course," Pinnell said of Barrows, adding the times overall were a little slower than ones on the old course. "There are a lot of turns on this course. That tends to slow you down."

Coats, who missed much of last track season with a hamstring injury, ran his

first race in several months and had something to prove to himself, according to Harrison coach John Reed.

"He had to come back to see if he could do it," Reed said. "He has high goals. He's shooting to be one of the top Division II runners in the state."

"He trained hard all summer and looks good for this early in the year. He's done none of the speed work to make him faster. He's doing all that on base miles."

### NICE SURPRISE FOR RAIDERS:

The 3Ms - Amy Miller, Katie Milan and Jackie Murrenus - provided solid support for Barrows and finished in the top 10 for the North girls.

"Amy and Katie ran solid races for us,

and the big surprise was Jackie," Pinnell said. "She's only been running with us a couple weeks. She's a gamer and she's going to improve throughout the year. All the girls ran well, but she had the big finish for us, because Susan, Katie and Amy finished about where we expected them to finish."

Ironically, Farmington put five runners across the finish line before North did. But the Raiders still won the meet.

"That's because Harrison helped us out a lot," Pinnell said. "The Harrison girls split up Farmington. They ended up hurting us less than they hurt Farmington. Their top three were in front of their fourth. That's what helped us."

PLEASE SEE CHAMPIONS, C3

## Falcons on winning side again, 2-1 over Knights

BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER

Farmington High rebounded from its only loss in boys soccer to defeat Royal Oak Kimball in an Oakland Activities Association Division I game Wednesday, 2-1.

The Falcons (5-1) lost by the same score to Rochester the previous night, and the Knights were coming off a 1-0 victory over OAA power Troy.

Following a scoreless first half, Farmington took a 2-0 lead with goals by Matt Okopyn and Matt Konopinski. Kacey

Lopata assisted on both, which were scored as a result of through balls.

Both Konopinski and Okopyn were able to get behind their defense and go one-on-one with the keeper, Farmington coach Luke Juncal said. "Okopyn put it over the goal for the first one, and Konopinski put it by him."

With 20 minutes left in the game, the Kimball goal resulted from a deflection off a Farmington player.

The Knights (3-1) sent a long throw-in to the box. The ball hit one of the Falcons and went in the net.

"They put some good pressure on us for

the last 10 minutes, but we were able to stop them and preserve the victory," Juncal said.

"They had a pretty balanced team; they had a good defense. They played the possession game very well. They were a good passing team."

Juncal said the Falcons played well and should have won the game with Rochester, too.

"They got in our box only a few times, and they got two goals," Juncal said. "We really made it easy for them to score. We made a couple mistakes we shouldn't have made."

"If we had played a little better on defense, we would have won that game. We had more chances, corner kicks and shots on goal and didn't come out with the win. We certainly weren't happy about that."

"I don't think there will be an easy game the rest of the season. We have to get ready for each game, come to play our best and hope the ball bounces our way."

"From what I've seen, we can compete with any team. We can win; if we're not ready, we won't win. I told the boys it's

PLEASE SEE FALCONS, C2

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