

FARMINGTON —
FARMINGTON HILLS
SPORTS
SCENE

Porter concludes career

Farmington High School graduate Amanda Porter completed her athletic career at Cedarville (Ohio) University as a member of the women's soccer team.



Amanda Porter

The Yellow Jackets posted an 11-9-2 record and qualified for post-season play for the second consecutive year.

Porter, a senior majoring in social work, played four years on Cedarville's basketball team and scored 1,322 points. She is one of only 10 players in school history with more than 1,000 career points.

Porter participated in her only season of soccer last fall while finishing up her degree. She started in all 22 matches at midfield and ranked third on the team in scoring with five goals and five assists for 16 points.

The Yellow Jackets tied for seventh place in the 17-team American Midwest Conference with a 9-5-2 record.

Cedarville advanced to the National Christian College Athletic Association Midwest regional final and qualified for the NAIA Region IX Tournament.

Porter was one of five players to start every match for the Yellow Jackets, and she was recognized as an All-AMC honorable mention.

Gaines on roll at Vermont

Senior Trevor Gaines capped a spectacular four-game stretch by earning his first-ever selection as America East Conference Player of the Week on Wednesday.

The former Farmington High star made history that night by becoming the 24th Catamount to score 1,000 career points when he made a pair of free throws with 3:41 remaining in a 91-60 win over Stony Brook. Twice in four games, he scored 27 points on 12-of-16 shooting from the floor.

In his last four games, Gaines is averaging 21 points and nine rebounds while shooting 77 percent from the field (37-for-48). The American East's leading rebounder with 9.2 per game, Gaines also moved into seventh place on the all-time Vermont list with 673. Gaines was named the MVP of the Florida International University Holiday Classic in Miami after leading the Catamounts to the tournament title Dec. 27-28.

Vermont defeated Florida International, 69-64, and Ohio University, 91-79, to win its first in-season tournament against an all-Division I field. In the two games, Gaines went 20-for-25 from the field.

Softball clinic at Mercy

There will be a softball clinic for girls in grades 5 through 12 at Mercy High School in six, three-hour sessions 9 a.m. to noon on Jan. 12, 19 and 26, Feb. 2 and 16 and March 2.

The clinic will focus on throwing, fielding, hitting, running and bunting. Thirty spots are available. The fee is \$50. To register call Jack Falvo at (248) 471-1748 or Sue Graves at (734) 981-5455.

South Farmington sign up

South Farmington Baseball is registering players for the 2002 season later this week at the William Costick Center on 11 Mile, east of Middlebelt. Registration sessions will be 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12.

Players must have a birth certificate with them. The costs are \$50 for tee-ball, \$100 for all softball players and baseball players under age 15, and \$140 for baseball players age 15 to 18. For additional information call the SFBI Hotline (474-3925) or see the Web site at www.eteamz.com/sfbi. SFBI will also enlist team managers, coaches and volunteers during the registration sessions.

Individuals interested in umpiring league games can sign-up at registration or call Lori McCarthy at (248) 476-7243.

Buck earns college letter

Andrew Buck, a graduate of Farmington High School, received his first varsity letter at the Albion College men's soccer awards banquet Dec. 2.

Buck starred at forward for the Falcons and helped them reach the semifinals of the state tournament in the fall of 2000. Albion won six matches last season.

Mercy coasts to city championship

BY DAN O'MEARA
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As it turned out, being the favorite wasn't so bad for Farmington Hills Mercy in the first all-city volleyball tournament.

The Marlins certainly had a good day playing to expectations and defeating their public-school opponents Thursday at North Farmington.

Allowing an average of just 2.8 points per game, Mercy had little difficulty overcoming North, 15-0; 15-1; Harrison, 15-7; 15-5; and Farmington, 15-5, 15-3.

It was the first time Mercy has been included in a true, all-city tournament.

VOLLEYBALL

"Overall, it was a really good showing for us," said Mercy coach Ed Ruhl, who said he didn't like being the favorite. "Our play carried over from the West Bloomfield tournament, and we avenged the district loss (to Farmington)."

The finale was supposed to be a decisive clash between the Marlins and Falcons in a replay of last year's district championship match, which Farmington won.

But there was no showdown Thursday. The match was anticlimactic after North defeated Farmington earlier in the day, 15-10, 15-10.

"I didn't tell the girls that," Ruhl said. "It was still Farmington and they knocked us out of the tournament last year, so we weren't taking them lightly."

"After losing to North, it made it hard to sum up the energy to play our best," Farmington coach Alex Perrin said, "but we didn't play well and those two (teams) did."

Mercy's offense was led by 6-foot-3 junior Tessa Kuykendall in the middle and 5-11 senior Kristin Loridas on the outside, but the Marlins had a balanced attack that kept opponents guessing.

Six-foot sophomore Christine Ohman, 6-9 junior Anne Roosevelt, 5-9 senior Tiffany Zair, 5-10 junior Deirdre Jones and 5-9 junior Mary Warbelow contributed to the kill total.

"All six, seven, eight girls who were in there played well," Ruhl said. "When our setter (Jones) is on, we're tough to stop with that kind of height."

"Kristin and Anne were outstanding the last five games. Tessa missed the last tournament, but she got back in there and resumed her place very well."

"This year we're more competitive. We have a lot more options. We can throw another blocker in there, and we have more passers."

Marlins break 2-2 stalemate

After a combined 12 sideouts, Mercy took control of the first Farmington game. Zair served three points in a row and Loridas four to give the Marlins a 9-2 lead. Jones later served the last three.

Champions: Tiffany Zair raises her hand highlighting Mercy is number one after her team scores a point.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL DRESLER

All-city volleyball team: The members of the all-city first team are (left to right) junior Anne Roosevelt, Mercy; senior Kristin Loridas, Mercy; junior Jessica Janowicz, Farmington; junior Deanna Gauer, Farmington; senior Meghan Callahan, North Farmington; and junior Tessa Kuykendall, Mercy.



Champions: Tiffany Zair raises her hand highlighting Mercy is number one after her team scores a point.



City tourney: Farmington's Meghan Young tries to keep the play alive while Deanna Gauer tries to get out of the way and Julie Kimmel follows the action.

Hawks top TC tourney foes to win title

BY DAN O'MEARA
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Since preseason basketball games serve the purpose of preparing a team for its league schedule, Farmington Harrison should be more than ready for its Western Lakes Activities Association opener.

The Hawks finished the preseason with a 3-1 record after winning the Traverse City St. Francis tournament championship Dec. 28-29. Harrison will be at North Farmington for its next game, the first in the WLAAs for both teams, at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

"We're looking forward to it," Harrison coach Dave Turnquist said. "Everything we've done so far has been to prepare for the league, and there's no better test than to start at North. It should be a great atmosphere, and we're poised to be ready."

Harrison senior Matt Elsey was named the tournament MVP after he averaged 18 points in two games, and fellow senior Joe McElroy also made the all-tournament team.

In the first game, Elsey scored 19 as the Hawks routed Suttons Bay, 66-47. Senior Dave Condeni and McElroy added 10 points apiece, seniors Jeff Ross and Ralph Plumley nine each.

BASKETBALL

Harrison jumped to a 24-6 lead in the first quarter; however, Suttons Bay closed the gap to five at halftime, 32-27.

The Hawks, who led 46-36 at the end of the third quarter, outscored the Norsemen in the fourth, 20-11, to win going away.

McElroy also had 13 rebounds and Condeni 11 as Harrison outrebounded Suttons Bay, 44-23.

"That's where we won the weekend," Turnquist said.

Senior guard Tyler Sanborn scored 20 points, including 12 in the second quarter, to lead the Norsemen (3-2). Harrison was 15-of-29 at the line, Suttons Bay 15-of-28.

"They were in a man-to-man to start the game, and we really broke them down well and shot the ball well in the first quarter to get out to the big lead," Turnquist said.

"They went to a zone trap, which shifted the tempo a bit, and we allowed Sanborn to penetrate a bit, but we stopped his penetration in the second half."

"(Senior) Terrill Mayberry did a nice job on him in the second half, and we

let our (physical) strength (under the boards) take over at that point."

In the championship game, Harrison defeated Elk Rapids with the help of a big third quarter, 50-41.

The score was tied at halftime, 20-20, but the Hawks pulled away with a 20-7 advantage in the third. The Hawks were four points better in the finale.

"We turned up the full-court defense in the third quarter and got some nice transition baskets off that," Turnquist said.

"(The opponents were) all Class C teams. They had a solid first group, but I think our defensive pressure and our athletes made the difference both nights. We had a good time and we accomplished what we wanted to do."

Elsey scored 17 points, which included 11-of-12 shooting at the line. He missed his last free throw, denying him a perfect night and a school record, which remains 10-for-10 shooting. McElroy had 12 points and Condeni 10.

Junior center Buck Pollster netted 19 points and junior guard Jeff Wiericki 11 for Elk Rapids (3-1). Wiericki had 24 points, including four threes, the previous night in a win over St. Francis.

"We held him to 11 and no threes," Turnquist said. "He was their best player and Terrill and Mike Bartley

pretty much put him in lockdown most of the night, and that set the tone on the defensive end."

The Hawks made 20 of 31 free throws, the Elks six of 19.

"We were looking forward to the weekend," Turnquist said. "It gave us a chance to bond and also a whole weekend to focus on basketball. With the late start, we didn't have time to do a lot of that, and this gave us a great opportunity to do that."

"The kids had a chance to spend some time together, and we played some decent basketball. We worked out a few things to prepare us for the league. Everybody who went up there got playing time. From that standpoint, it was time well spent."

LAKELAND 52, FARMINGTON 27: The host Eagles evened their record at 4-4 with a victory over the Falcons Friday night.

Ryan Kosinski scored nine points and had three assists for Farmington (4-4), and Robert Nagy scored eight points and had seven rebounds.

Lakeland received 11 points from Leann McAvoy and nine from Greg Groce. Lakeland led 29-15 at halftime and 39-21 after three quarters.

The Falcons made seven of 11 free throws.