

1st week good one for Raiders

By DAN O'MEARA
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So far so good for the North Farmington boys swim team, which had a 2-0 start in the dual-meet season last week.

The Raiders defeated Livonia Churchill and Northville in a pair of Western Lakes Activities Association meets, and they're hoping to extend their winning streak in coming weeks.

"I think we'll be fairly competitive with everybody in the league except Salem and Canton," North coach Pat Duthie said.

"I'm not saying we're going to be ahead of everybody else either. With

eight or nine teams remaining, we'll probably be able to compete with the rest of them."

"I'm pleased with what I've seen in the first two meets. I'm very encouraged. Our goal, as in any year, is to do as well as we can as individuals and as a team."

The Raiders are led by senior tri-captains Sormet Alver, Brian Clayton and Steve Pearce.

"I think they're going to give us some good leadership," Duthie said. "Clayton and Alver were high finishers in the conference meet and swam on relays in the state meet last year."

Pearce and Alver are primarily sprint freestylers. Clayton is a good

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backstroke who also can swim the IM and sprint freestyle.

North has a solid junior class that includes Doug Anderson, Mohamad Bachrouche, Philip Carlisle, Lucas Diggins, Ben Iwrey, Glenn Legacki, Jeff Mataya, Matt Newman and Eric Weiss.

Bachrouche swims all the freestyle events, as well as the IM and butterfly.

"He's one of our go-to guys," Duthie said. "We'll swim him in a variety of places."

Mataya has done a super job, according to Duthie, and was under two min-

utes for the first time in the 200 freestyle. He'll help on relays, too.

"He's swimming two minutes faster than he did as a freshman in the 500 free," Duthie said. "He's made some great progress, and he'll be a real key to what we do this year."

Diggins swims fly and sprint freestyle and will be a key relay swimmer along with Newman, who concentrates on the IM and breaststroke.

Legacki can help in a lot of areas and already has had some lifetime bests this season. Anderson swims sprint freestyle and breaststroke, Carlisle distance freestyle, Iwrey breaststroke and

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FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Gaines has double-double

Senior Trevor Gaines recorded his 23rd career double-double with 15 points and 13 rebounds in the University of Vermont's 80-77 victory Monday over host Northeastern University in men's basketball.

Gaines (Farmington High) has 1,023 career points to place him 23rd in all-time Vermont scoring, and he needs just five rebounds to become the seventh Catamount to reach 700.

Vermont, which won six games in the span of 12 days, leads the America East Conference with a 4-0 record and is 11-3 overall.

The Catamounts extended their winning streak to nine, one short of the school record. They have made a huge turnaround from a year ago when they were 4-10 and in the midst of an 11-game losing streak after 14 games.

Vermont's winning streak is its longest in 50 years. It also won nine straight in 1946-47, a season in which it won a school-record 19 games. The Catamounts last won 10 in a row in 1922-23 when they finished 15-2.

Among current NCAA winning streaks, Vermont's nine-game run is the 10th longest. Cincinnati is tops with 14 straight.

The Catamounts earned their first national ranking of any kind last week in the CollegeInsider.com's Mid Major Top 25 at 25th.

Mikel stars at Concordia

Freshman guard Matt Mikel not only earned a spot in the starting lineup but is the second-leading scorer for the Concordia University men's basketball team.

Mikel, who was a four-year starter at Farmington High School and two-time All-Observer selection, is averaging 11.6 points per game, as well as 2.5 rebounds and 2.8 assists.

He also leads the Cardinals in three-point shooting at 38.7 percent. Mikel, who is second in minutes played, made six triples and scored 18 points Wednesday in a 110-68 loss to Cornerstone (19-1).

Concordia is 2-14 overall and 1-2 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Oakland CC wins contest

Oakland Community College improved its record to 5-9 in men's basketball Wednesday by defeating Marygrove College at the University of Detroit-Jesuit High School, 106-90.

William Motley scored 31 points to lead the Raiders, making 13 of 19 field goals, including one three, and four of seven free throws.

Sam Payton had 19 points, Hassan Hester 14 and Artie Lockett 10. Lonnie Jones added nine points and led OCC with 10 rebounds. Motley was second in rebounding with eight.

David Denham tossed in 39 points and Victor Tate 27 for the Mustangs, who had 24 from the rest of their team.

Marygrove had a 58-53 rebounding edge. OCC led at halftime, 54-51.

MHSAA scholar-athletes

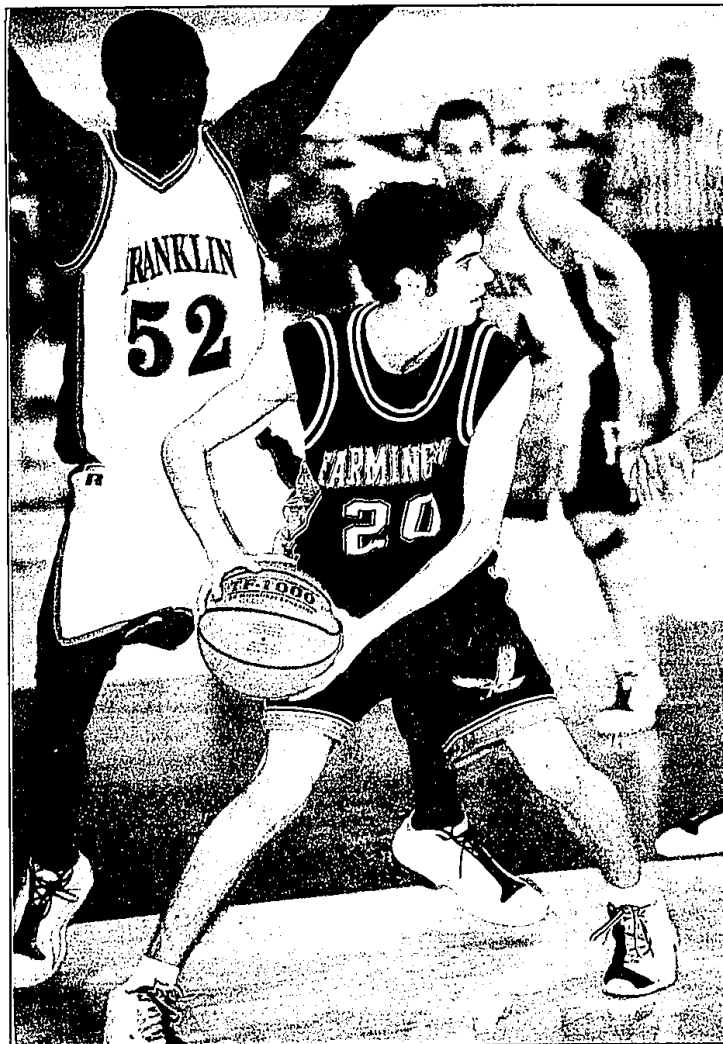
Twenty-one athletes from Farmington high schools have entered the competition for the Michigan High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete Awards.

North Farmington: Meghan Callahan, girls volleyball and basketball; Nurik Goldenberg, girls soccer; Mike Leach, boys track and basketball; Melissa Navas, girls swimming; Jeff Shumer, boys soccer; Melissa Traczyk, girls golf; Kristin Ulewicz, girls track and gymnastics; Farmington: Randin Brown, softball; Tom Eason, boys cross country; Julie Kimmel, girls basketball and volleyball; Bryan Proven, wrestling and boys golf; Kathryn Streit, girls tennis; Merrey, Katie Benedict, girls swimming; Megan Fediuk, softball; Courtney Meyer, girls cross country; Krystal Oliver, girls golf; Kristen Palombo, girls tennis; Angie Trudeau, girls soccer; Stephanie Yuhasz, volleyball; Harrison: Ellen Doughty, girls swimming and softball; and Matt Elsey, boys basketball.

Full sports scholarship winners will be announced Feb. 6, winter sports Feb. 13 and spring sports Feb. 20.

(To submit items for the Farmington Sports Scene, call Sports Editor Dan O'Meara at (734) 953-2141 or send a fax to his attention at (734) 591-7279.)

Farmington hoop team in action



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREKLEN

Patriots top Falcons: Farmington's Jamie Nelson looks for a teammate to take a pass Friday night while being guarded by Livonia Franklin's Tyrone Matthews. The Falcons lost the game, 57-47. See details inside the sports section.

Raiders post win on road

By DAN O'MEARA
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To have any hope of being a contender for a league championship, a basketball team absolutely has to win on the road.

North Farmington did that Friday night, pulling out a 57-55 win at Northville when senior Mike Leach made two free throws with five seconds left.

The victory enabled the Raiders to even their Western Lakes Activities Association record at 1-1 while the Mustangs fell to 0-2. North is 3-4 overall, Northville 4-3.

Leach scored a game-high 23 points; Marcus McComb added 12, Sean Mackler seven, Jason Neal six and Earle Higgins five.

The Raiders made seven threes; McComb and Neal had two each. Mackler, Leach and Will Hathaway

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one apiece. Higgins and Leach also had seven rebounds each.

Guard Adam Konst scored 19 points and 7-foot center Thomas Knapp 14 for Northville, which made 12 of 15 free throws. North was 8-of-14 at the line.

The Raiders trailed at halftime, 29-27, but outscored the Mustangs in the third quarter, 19-15.

North was down by four points late in the game, but McComb sank a three from the corner off an inbound play and a free throw tied it before Leach made his free throws.

Rockets rain on Hawks

Farmington Harrison found itself facing a 10-0 deficit for the second game in a row Friday, but there was no come-from-behind win for the Hawks this time.

Westland John Glenn held its ground and the lead for the duration of the contest, emerging with a 60-49 victory at Harrison.

The Rockets are 2-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 4-3 overall. The Hawks slip to 1-1 and 4-2.

"We still haven't learned how to handle prosperity," Hawks coach Dave Turnquist said. "It's still early in the league season, and we're going to find out what we're made of as we go through it."

Senior guard Jeff Brantley scored a game-high 16 points, which included two three-point field goals, to lead Glenn. Junior forward Darnell Smith

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Shamrocks file away win over Spartans

By RICHARD L. SHOOK
SPECIAL WRITER

Coch Rick Coratti wanted his Redford Catholic Central basketball team to file some of the rough edges off its running game.

File Thursday night's effort under "Done Deeds."

CC ran away from Redford Bishop Borgess in the final 2:40 to post a 92-71 victory over the Spartans in a Catholic League crossover game on the Shamrocks' court.

"We like the up-tempo game," Coratti said, "and we concentrated a little more on running our break. We did an excellent job, which we hadn't done real well at the last couple of games."

"The other thing we wanted to accomplish was that in the last couple of games we'd

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been forcing our shots. We talked a lot about making the extra pass, getting our shooting rhythm, taking better shots. When you do that, you have a better chance of them going in."

CC scored more than 20 points in each of the four quarters and outscored senior-laden Borgess in every period.

But the Spartans hauled themselves back into the game at 77-70 as they outscored the Shamrocks, 16-3, over a 2:31 stretch of the final quarter to shave a 74-54 deficit down to workable proportions.

Unfortunately, Borgess (3-5) ran out of

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STAFF PHOTO BY KEARIN LEMLEY

Hoop challenge: Catholic Central's Ryan Wroblewski prepares to make a move past Brandon Jennings of Bishop Borgess.