

## FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Reed Coach of the Year



John Reed, a West Bloomfield resident and coach at Farmington Harrison High School, was named Coach of the Year by the Michigan Intercollegiate Track Coaches Association.

Reed, who has coached boys track and cross country for 15 years at Harrison, guided the Hawks to the 2001 Division 2 state championship in track and field.

"It's a very nice honor," Reed said. "I'm very proud to represent the coaches. It's nice because the coaches vote for that honor, and it's nice to be honored by my peers. It's a humbling experience but very nice."

Reed, 37, was honored along with coaches in the other three divisions at the MITCA awards dinner Jan. 11 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in East Lansing.

It was the second year in a row Reed was nominated for the award. He was one of four coaches nominated in Division 2.

Reed, who is a special education teacher at Harrison, was a cross country and track runner at Bloomfield Hills Andover High School.

He competed in both sports during a four-year career at Eastern Michigan University.

### Whalers duo in CHL game

A pair of Plymouth Whalers, defenseman James Wisniewski and forward Greg Campbell, are among the 40 National Hockey League prospects in the Canadian Hockey League to play in the 2002 CHL Home Hardware Top Prospects Game Jan. 31 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Wisniewski, a Canton native in his second year with the Whalers, is enjoying a solid year on defense with eight goals and 19 assists (28 points). He currently leads the team in plus-minus with a plus-29.

Campbell, son of former NHLer Colin Campbell, is among the most improved Whalers. He's third on the team in scoring with 13 goals and 20 assists (33 points).

Virtually every player to ever played in the Top Prospects Game was selected in the NHL Entry Draft.

Celebrity coaches for this year's game are CBC Hockey Night in Canada commentator Kelly Hrudey and former Toronto Maple Leaf star Dave "Tiger" Williams.

New to the Top Prospects Game is a skills competition, held the night prior to the game.

### New NAHL commissioner

The North American Hockey League, which includes the Compuware Ambassadors, has a new commissioner. A resident of Aurora, Ill., Pedrie begins his duties immediately.

His background includes 15 years of experience as an NCAA Division I coach, six as head coach, at the University of Illinois-Chicago, University of Michigan and Ferris State.

He is founder and program director for the Chicago Chill AAA club and owns Complete Hockey.

Pedrie has also worked as an advance scout with the Chicago Blackhawks as well as an assistant coach with the NAHL's Chicago Freeze.

"Larry clearly stood out among the candidates considered and will be able to step in immediately and help continue and advance the NAHL tradition of being the premier Junior League in the United States," said Crawford.

### Cobras in need of players

The 15-year-old NFWB Cobras managed by Rick Burkhardt are looking for two to three more baseball players for the 2002 summer season.

The team will start play when the high school season ends and continue through July.

To inquire about the player positions, call Burkhardt at (248) 761-7043.

### Ballplayers wanted

Westland Federation, a competitive travel baseball team, is seeking 14-and-under players for the upcoming season.

Those interested should call Shawn Dunford at (734) 595-1082 or Mike Grant at (734) 326-5626.

## Mercy skiers on right track now

BY DAN O'MEARA  
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Liz Kujala is back and so is the Farmington Hills Mercy ski team.

The Marlins had been without their top skier for the first week of the season while Kujala recovered from a minor back injury.

"I think (the rest period) worked out really well," Mercy coach Tom Gable said. "If you get an injury like that early in the season, it can nag you the whole way through."

"I think we did the right thing."

They must have because the Marlins are on the right track now.

With Kujala back in the lineup, Mercy won the

Mount Brighton Ski League slalom competition Thursday after finishing fourth, as well as third in giant slalom, without her the previous week.

"The girls were upbeat the whole time, waiting for Liz to get back on the hill," Gable said. "She came out today and skied extremely well."

"(The Marlins were) holding on while we came up to full strength. Now things look good for this season. If they stay together, I think they're going to make a run for the top spot."

The Marlins had 25 points to finish ahead of Brighton (41) and Howell (55).

The remaining order of finish was Birmingham Groves (68), South Lyon (70), Okemos (86), Birmingham Seaholm (120), Pinckney (140) and East Lansing (167).

Kujala was the individual winner with a combined,

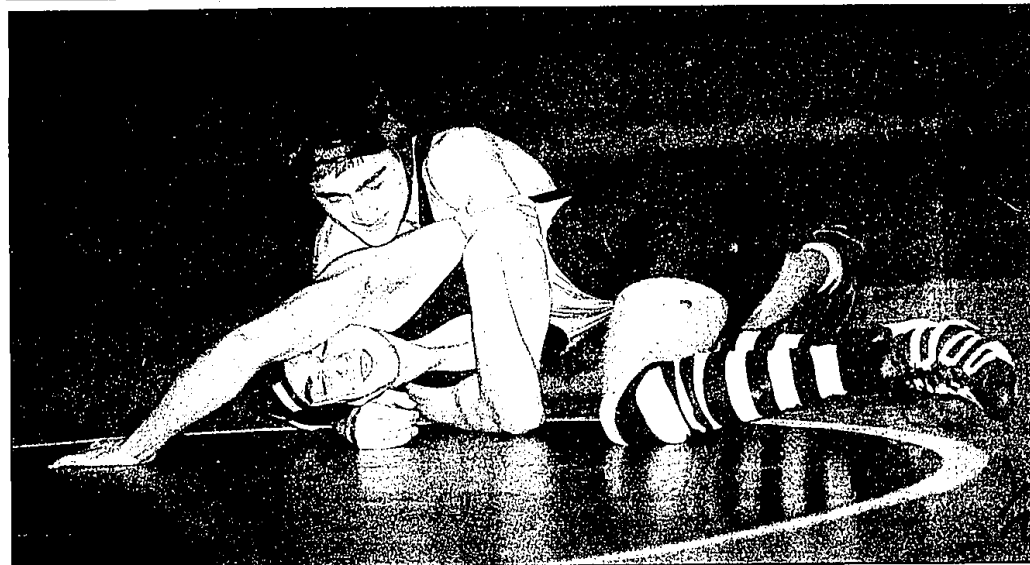
two-run time of 37.18. Nicole Zaleski, who had a pair of second-place finishes in Kujala's absence, was third (39.08) behind Howell's Jamie Rhoades (37.93). Mercy's Dana Woolsey was sixth (42.29), Rachael Rozycki 15th (47.57), Melissa Desautel 16th (48.09) and Margot Spera 17th (48.13).

"I think everybody is healthy and starting to ski toward their potential," Gable said.

"(Kujala) sets the whole tone and all the girls start following along, skiing a little faster and saying, 'Now it's time!'"

"I think they're on track. I think they'll get stronger as they go and ski more consistently, and their confidence will increase. They'll become a team to reckon with."

Please see MERCY, C4



Exciting contest: One of the most suspenseful bouts, pitting two of the best wrestlers against each other, was the 125-pound contest between Farmington's Jon Schwartz (top) and North Farmington's Ramis Bajrami (striped socks). Schwartz earned a 12-9 decision.

## Falcons dominate dual with Raiders

BY DAN O'MEARA  
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### WRESTLING

Both teams are trying to build their wrestling programs, but Farmington High is well ahead of crostown rival North Farmington at this stage.

In a season featuring few successes for either one, the host Falcons had it all over the Raiders for a 63-15 victory Thursday.

Despite having a young team that is still gaining experience, Farmington capitalized on superior numbers and good wrestling to improve its dual-meet record to 2-9 overall.

"We didn't expect the score to be what it was," Falcons coach Al Beyer said. "We thought it would be a little closer. Our kids wrestled real well and exceeded our expectations."

"We're a young team. We're working hard and, against teams that aren't senior-juniors, we can hold our own; we're improving."

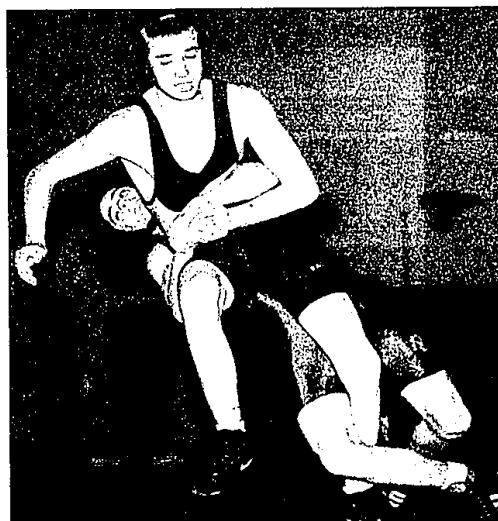
Though the Raiders have only 15 wrestlers on their team, the Falcons had just one senior in their lineup — heavyweight Adam Harlow.

Senior Rob Easterday "was home sick with a fever" and was replaced by Dan Mortens. The rest of Farmington's lineup consisted of five freshmen, six sophomores and two juniors (Cam Murland and Mike Kish).

One of the best bouts of the night was the 125-pound contest in which Farmington's Jon Schwartz defeated Ramis Bajrami, who is arguably North's best wrestler, on a 12-9 decision.

Bajrami, who is the Oakland County champion at 112, was up two weights from where he normally wrestles, but he weighed in at 121.3 and had to move up. Schwartz was at his usual weight, although he started the season at 130.

"Wrestling up two weights like that against a kid like Jon (is not easy to do)," Beyer said. "Although Jon is only a sophomore, he's strong and his technique is starting to come together. It



Mat action: North's Kenrick Peterson tries to break the grip of Farmington's Dan Mortens, who got a takedown on the move.

Please see FALCONS, C4

## Hoskins elevates game, Salem over North

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK  
SPECIAL WRITER

### BASKETBALL

No matter what you call them — an "Aftercraft Carrier," a "PFFer" or a "Go-To Guy" — a good team needs a player it can rely on to give it points when they're absolutely needed.

So it was Friday night that junior-forward Dave Hoskins picked up Plymouth Salem at critical times and, with a game-high 29 points, put the Rocks in position to earn a 67-59 victory over visiting North Farmington.

Salem is 3-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 5-4 overall. North is 1-2 and 4-5.

Junior Stevland Davis hit a huge triple from the top of the key with 10 seconds to play in regulation to tie the score, 58-58, and cap a comeback from a nine-

point deficit that forced overtime.

Pat Abraham went 6-for-6 from the line in the fourth quarter and hit a jumper from the wing as the Rocks outscored the Raiders, 13-4, over the last 4:13 of regulation.

After Jason Neal sank a pair of free throws for North with 4:42 left to make it 62-43, the Raiders missed four free throws to give the Rocks an opportunity to get back in the game.

"We made our free throws down the stretch," Salem coach Bob Brodie said. "That's always important in a close game, especially when you know they're going to foul you."

"We didn't make our free throws. They did," North coach Tom Negoshian said. "And that's to their credit."

"I don't think we shot the ball that well, and we made some mental mistakes down the stretch. But I told my kids I was satisfied with their effort. They played real hard."

Neither team shot the ball particularly well, but a large measure of that was due to the defense played on both sides.

North's zone effectively kept Salem to a largely outside shooting game. The Rocks dabbled with a zone but 99 percent of the time played an aggressive man-to-man and kept North's Mike Lench from working

Please see SALEM, C2