

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Gaines one of UVM's best

Heading into the final weekend of the regular season, University of Vermont senior Trevor Gaines (Farmington) was third all-time at UVM in rebounds with 839 and 15th in scoring with 1,191 career points.

The America East Conference leader in rebounds, he is sixth in the nation and the national leader in offensive rebounds.

Gaines had 14 double-doubles this season and 11 in 14 league games. He has had 15 or more rebounds four times this year and 10 times in his career.

With 18 wins, the Catamounts had the second-most victories in the program's history and one less than the school record set in 1946-47 (19-3). Vermont, tied for first place in the AEC, closed out the season with games Friday at New Hampshire and Sunday at home against Hartford, Conn.

Girls golf meetings

Coach Anne Marie Sopha will conduct mandatory meetings with prospective members of the Farmington Unified girls golf team this week.

Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday at Farmington High School in the media classroom; Wednesday at Harrison High School in the media center and Thursday at North Farmington High School in the media center.

All three meetings will take place at 2:30 p.m.

Baseball registration

South Farmington Baseball is accepting late player registrations for the upcoming 2002 season.

The costs are \$50 for T-ball, \$110 for all softball and baseball players under age 16 and \$140 for baseball players age 16 to 18. Contact Greg Pochmura at (248) 473-2058 to register.

Henry Ford defeats OCC

Oakland Community College's second-half rally fell short Wednesday as visiting Henry Ford held on for a 73-70 victory in men's basketball.

The Raiders trailed by 11 at halftime but outscored the Hawks in the second half, 37-29.

William Motley scored 23 points, Lonnie Jones 18 and Iba Jaami Muhammad 10. Eric Thomas added eight points and had 10 rebounds for OCC (9-13 MCCA Eastern Conference and 8-21 overall).

Ezra Tillman netted a game-high 25 points for Henry Ford (6-8, 10-16). Kenny Nether tossed in 20 and Derek Schema 10.

Lady Raiders tumble

Oakland Community College dipped below .500 in the MCCA Eastern Conference women's basketball standings Wednesday after losing to visiting Henry Ford, 63-61.

Debbie Wesa and Carrie Morrow scored 14 points apiece and Ashlee Larsen 13 for the Lady Raiders, who are 6-7 in the conference and 13-12 overall. Wesa also had 13 rebounds.

Jennifer Thurman netted 20 points, Beth Fortuna 17 and Kelly Lanagan 11 for the Hawks (9-4, 16-11). The score was tied at halftime, 31-31.

Hitting leagues

Total Baseball, 30990 Wixom Road, will stage a series of boys baseball and girls softball hitting leagues Feb. 23 through March 31. The cost is \$35 per individual or \$120 per team (of four players).

Baseball age group sessions 9-11 a.m. Saturdays (13-and-under); and 6-9 p.m. Sundays (high school). Girls softball sessions will be 9-11 a.m. Saturdays (13-and-under) and 6-9 p.m. Sundays (high school).

Awards will go to the champions and best hitter. To register, call (248) 668-0166.

Spring break camp

Total Baseball will stage a spring break camp for ages 7-17 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, April 1-3, at Powers Park, located at 10 Mile and Taft roads. (In case of rainouts, the camp will be moved indoors to Total Soccer-Wixom.)

The cost is \$125. For more information, call (248) 668-0166 or email totalballwixom@aol.com.



Gymnastics competition: Clara Seymour, competing on the balance beam Thursday, was 10th in the Division II all-around, helping Tri-Farmington to a second-place team finish in the WLAA meet.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BARKER

Gymnasts finish 2nd in WLAA

BY DAN O'MEARA
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Tri-Farmington had its best league meet in its six years as a unified gymnastics team Thursday, finishing second in the Western Lakes Activities Association championships.

Led by senior Chelsea Keesling, Tri-Farmington had its third-highest score of the season, a 145.40 that was second only to Northville-Novis' 146.80.

GYMNASTICS

Plymouth Salem was fourth in the nine-team meet at the Farmington Training Center. Livonia Unified, which had the Division II all-around winner in junior Mary Moreau, was sixth, Plymouth Canton seventh and Wayne-Westland ninth.

"The team that has the most perfect meet is going to win it," Tri-Farmington coach Jeff Dwyer said. "Northville-Novis was solid in all four events."

"Our balance beam hurt us. Usually, it's one of our stronger events, and today it was just average."

Tri-Farmington still had the second-best beam score with a 36.15, but it was considerably less than Northville-Novis' 37.35.

"The first three or four girls will hit their routines, and that puts the team in a comfort zone," Dwyer said. "Today, the first three fell, and that put a lot of pressure on the last four."

"Unfortunately, it happened today. It happens in the Olympics; it just happened more than it usually does."

The Tri-Farmington girls didn't let the beam results get them down, however. They finished strong with a meet-best 37.40 on floor and a 36.10 on vault, which tied them for second place.

"I don't feel bad at all, and I don't think the team does either," Dwyer said. "The girls did a good job of rebounding. They came back and had good scores on floor and vault."

"I told the girls to go all out and if it happens, it happens. If you can do that, you can go out with your heads

Please see WLAA, C2

Flyers rally for 4-1 victory over Warriors

BY DAN O'MEARA
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Farmington Unified overcame a sluggish start and a first-quarter deficit Thursday to post a 4-1 hockey victory over visiting Walled Lake Western.

The Flyers, who entered the state rankings for the first time at No. 10 last week, were 11-4 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 15-7-1 overall heading into their final regular-season game Saturday night against Livonia Stevenson.

"We didn't play that well, but we still got the victory," Farmington coach Mike Harris said. "I think the kids let that ranking go to their heads a little bit."

"We had a big game Saturday, and I think the kids were looking forward to that game. They knew (Western) had a girl in net, and I think they thought it was going to be easier than it was. She played spectacularly, and we didn't play the way we were hoping."

"Now is the time to step up. We have our last game (Saturday), and then it's single elimination. We have

to get the fire in the belly and play like we did earlier in the year."

Western led 1-0 after one period at Farmington Hills Ice Arena following an unassisted goal by Brian Norville that resulted from a turnover in the Flyers' end.

"(Farmington's defensemen) consistently try to clear the puck out of the zone, and we fed the opposing team's offense," Harris said. "That's what happens when you have those type of turnovers in your own zone."

The Flyers outshot the Warriors in the first period, 12-4, and they had a 37-14 advantage for the entire game.

"Their goalie (Jennifer Fine) played exceptionally well," Harris said. "She was making save after save. We talked to our players about making the goalie go

side to side. That's what happened in the second period."

Farmington turned the game around with three goals within three minutes late in the next period.

Mike Hand scored with 4:46 remaining from Louie Powell and Chris Frayne to tie. Brian Baran's first goal of the season at 2:52 from Hand and Powell was the game-winner, and Brandon Lackowski made it 3-1 from Brett Laird with 2:02 to play.

Brad Heraghty added an insurance goal early in the third from Brett Ramsay at 14:31. The Flyers, who beat the Warriors the first time the teams met, 10-2, had four penalties to Western's three. R.J. Ulrich was in goal for the Flyers the whole game.

Farmington plays Milford in a regional tournament opener Wednesday at Redford Ice Arena and, if it wins that game, will meet the Redford Union-Walled Lake Central winner Thursday. The final is Saturday.

Please see FLYERS, C3

Rockets win semifinal over Hawks, 47-44

BY DAN O'MEARA
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Westland John Glenn anticipated a 32-minute battle with Farmington Harrison in a semifinal game of the Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball tournament Friday.

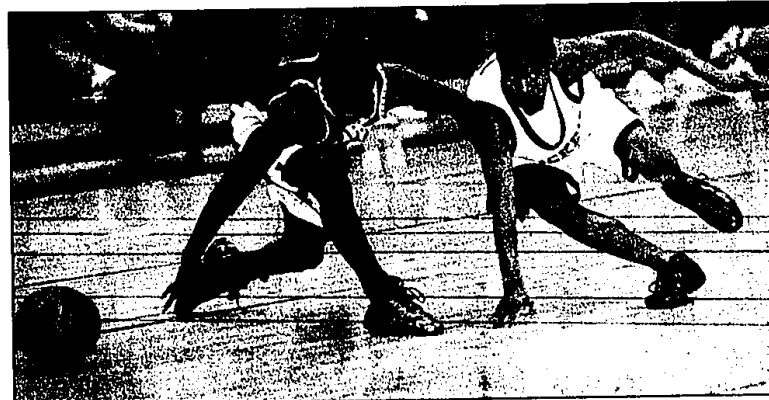
And that's what it was — an intense, high-energy, emotion-packed contest after which the host Rockets emerged as 47-44 winners.

BASKETBALL

Glenn will play Plymouth Salem for the championship 7 p.m. Wednesday at Northville High School. Harrison and Livonia Stevenson meet in the consolation game at 5:30 p.m. on the same court.

"We knew coming in Harrison was going to give us a battle on our floor for two reasons," Glenn coach Joel Lloyd said. "One, seeding didn't really mean anything and, secondly, Harrison had a quality victory over Walled Lake Western (Tuesday). We knew we'd have our hands full tonight."

Please see ROCKETS, C3



Hoop tournament: Harrison's Mike Bartley (left) and John Glenn's Jeff Brantley try to gain a step on the other as they chase a loose ball Friday in a WLAA semifinal game.

STAFF PHOTO BY JOE JACOBSEN

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