



Fury wins under-13 title

The Farmington Fury under-13 premier soccer team won the Northwest Ohio Festival Aug. 16-18 in Maumee, Ohio. The members of the Fury team are (front row, left to right) Aaron Lebovic, Dane Laird, Dustin Mattio, Ryan Plimott, Andrew Mihalek, (middle row) Garrett Ferguson, Trevor Baker, Alex Charles, Todd Jaffe, Steve Murphy, Chase Richardson, (back row) Andrew Neff, Joey Willmott, Ryan Hogan, David Sands, Todd Dwyer and coach Phil Perry. Not pictured is Luis Miller.



Tournament champions

Farmington High School won the Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day soccer tournament Aug. 24. The members of the team are (front row, left to right) Joe Russo, Matt Konopinski, (middle row) Andrew Amis, Derrick Golla, Jeff Tunk, Eric Gaughan, Chris McDoniel, Adrian Adams-Draghici, Soham Balasubramanian, Ryan Laverty, Aaron Heisler, Steven Russo, (back row) assistant coach Steve Montgomery, John Amis, Matt O'Brien, Kacey Lopata, Andrew Martin, Matt Okopny, Matt Cave, Jeff Durow, Tim Wasmer and head coach Luke Junca.

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the play when coach Tim Russell moved Laird back to sweeper from the midfield.

But the Hawks stopped communicating, according to Russell, and the situation deteriorated. Mettes broke loose with 25 minutes remaining and scored the tying goal.

"The guys we had in the midfield were not able to do what Brett was able to do when he was in there," Russell said.

Mettes notched the go-ahead goal midway in the half, and he converted a penalty kick for an insurance goal with 10 minutes left to play.

"We were a totally different team in this game than we were against Ferndale," Russell said. "It comes down to motivation. We have to work on how to keep our heads in those situations."

"Obviously, we weren't putting in the same effort we did the game before."

Tet Hidemitsu scored in the first half for Harrison (1-1) and

Matt Shanks for Berkley. The game was an Oakland Activities Association Division III contest.

Russell said the Bears have 14 upperclassmen (mostly seniors) on their team, while the Hawks have that many underclassmen.

"It's important for us to recognize that we are a young team, and we have to learn from that experience," Russell said. "With age comes a little more maturity as to how you handle the game."

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CC tries to uphold tradition

BY BRAO MONASTERIE
STAFF WRITER

Expectations come with the territory around Redford-Detroit Catholic Central's football program.

Expectations come from parents, alumni, fans, coaches and even the players themselves. It's never easy to try and live up to standards set high enough that anything less than a state championship is considered a letdown. But there's a reason for high expectations each year, and that's because of the extraordinary success CC has had the past 12 years. Since 1990, the Shamrocks have raised a state championship trophy at the Pontiac Silverdome six times, including last season.

A return trip to the Dome is a real possibility, as CC returns several starters and is ranked No. 2 overall in the state, according to a Detroit paper.

Coach Tom Mach takes expectations in stride, and understands the responsibility that comes with playing for the CC program.

"There's definitely a sense of responsibility to uphold the tradition here," Mach said. "There's a sense of pressure, but we have a veteran coaching staff that's been together a long time."

In addition to that coaching staff, the offense and defense both return top players that make the Shamrocks one of the picks to advance to Pontiac once again. Four of the team's five captains primarily play defense, led by linebackers Randall Means, Kevin McKee and Dan

Moore. Pat Clark, another captain, will play on both offensive and defensive lines, and is joined by veteran starter Brian Harlan on that line.

Mach said this defense will be like many others in that it plays fundamentally sound football, playing in the right spots and being a good hitting team. "We've always felt defense wins championships," he said. "That's what happened for us last year. When our defense started to click, our whole team did."

Mach added that this team has better overall speed than in recent seasons. "We're faster than we've been, although that doesn't necessarily make you good," he said.

John Mulroy, Ryan Connor and Greg Arrowstine join Clark as the offensive line anchors, all starters on last year's championship team. They will lead the way for one of the best junior running backs in the state in Derrick Brooks.

Mach said Brooks has outstanding cutback ability and can read holes and break away from defenders effectively. "It's a natural," Mach said. "He's got that savvy you like to see out of a back. He isn't that big, but he's awfully tough and has all the moves."

Darrell Thomas and McKee will split time at the fullback position. Mach said the starting QB job is still up in the air, but favorites Dave Thomas to take the snaps when the Shamrocks face Detroit Crockett Saturday at the Silverdome. Jeff McMichael should also see playing time

under center, and will play wide receiver when he isn't the quarterback. Aaron Pauling will also be a primary receiver in CC's offense. In an offense that heavily emphasizes the run, Mach said the quarterback's job is to minimize mistakes and be able to throw effectively when called upon.

"We typically throw 10 to 15 times per game, depending on the situation," Mach said.

"Running the football gives you a chance to win every game."

CC certainly is no stranger to playing in the former home of the Detroit Lions. The team has an excellent record in state title games at the Silverdome, and is a frequent participant in the season-ending Prep Bowl. Like last year, CC will open the season on the artificial turf, this time against Detroit Crockett.

"We've been fortunate to play so many times at the Silverdome," Mach said. "It's special because we're able to open our season there this year."

The game, scheduled after the Birmingham Brother Rice-Farmington Harrison showdown, is set for a 7 p.m. kickoff.

As always, the Catholic League figures to be competitive from top to bottom. Mach said the University of Detroit-Jesuit could be a threat to win the title.

"A schedule like ours always keeps you on your toes," Mach said. "It seems like most of the teams in our league were young last year, so I expect everyone to be better."

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

ADULT HOCKEY SIGNUP

The Farmington Hills Adult Hockey Association is conducting registration for the upcoming season, which starts Sept. 3 and runs through March at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

The FHAHA is registering teams for the over-18 division, teams and individuals for the over-30 and individuals for the over-10 and over-18.

There will be a player draft in

divisions that have individual registration. Goalies are needed.

Teams in the over-30, over-40 and over-48 loops will play 42 games plus playoffs.

To sign up call the FHAHA at (248) 471-6004 and leave a message on voice mail.

COACHES NEEDED

The University of Detroit Mercy track team is seeking qualified candidates for a part-

time throwing coach position. Candidates would coach athletes in the shot put, discus, javelin, hammer and indoor weight throw.

A coach with experience in this field is preferred.

You may mail your resume with references to: Guy Murray, director of track and field, University of Detroit Mercy, P.O. Box 19900, Detroit, MI, 48219; fax it to (313) 993-1715; or email it to murraygr@udmercy.edu.

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