

# Crusaders clip Cardinals, 10-0

Call it a mere preliminary. Or better yet, target practice. That's how Madonna University's men's soccer team treated its opening-round match in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament against Concordia University Friday. The host Crusaders scored four times in the first half and added six more in the second to clobber the

## SOCCER

Cardinals, 10-0. Madonna advances to the WHAC Semifinals, scheduled for Wednesday at Livonia's Greenmead. The Crusaders' opponent will be determined by the remaining seeds, but they will likely play the winner of the Sierra Heights-

Cornerstone match. Salvatore Piraine, Shane Smith (from Salem HS) and Evan Baker (Canton HS) each scored two goals. Piraine also getting an assist. James Miller (Livonia Stevenson) contributed a goal and two assists, and Joe Baumrout (Livonia/Redford Catholic Central), Gary Bell and Justin Fishaw (Canton HS) each scored a goal.

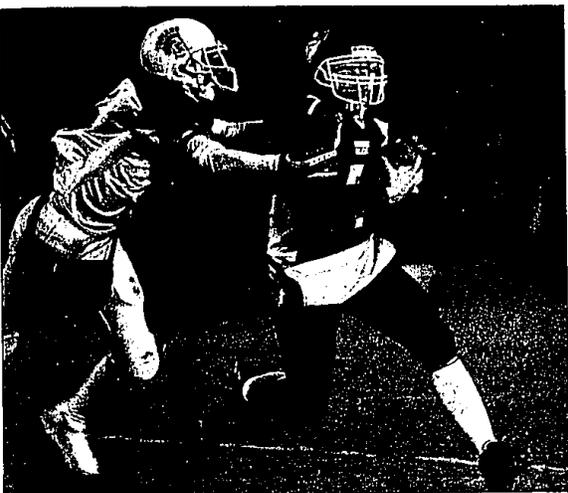
## SEMINAR

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really want to go on and play in college?" Getting that initial answer is the first step. After that, it's understanding what a scholarship is for — to get an education. Renkens' program covers all

aspects of recruiting, including when the athlete should start the process, what camps to attend to get noticed, what to look for on campus visits, and how to obtain a copy of the NCAA's, NAIA's and NJCAA's "Guide for the College Bound Student-Athlete" free of charge. One aspect of his program Renkens stressed was time.

Potential college athletes shouldn't wait until their junior year to start searching for a scholarship. There are avenues to pursue earlier than that which will maximize a student-athlete's opportunities. Providing answers to many of these questions is what Renkens will attempt to do Monday at Northville HS. Game time is 7 p.m.



BILL BRASLER/OBSERVER

Farmington junior quarterback Matt Corrigan tries to get outside of the Henry Ford defense in a Division II playoff game Friday night. Corrigan's 9-yard touchdown pass to Brad Walsh with 22 seconds remaining gave Farmington a 21-14 victory.

## FALCONS

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scoreboard and had new life. "We had to find a way to take it down and score and put some doubt in their minds," Bechtel said.

"We started to come to life on the sideline; we had life in our crowd. The kids started to believe, and then we had momentum on our side."

Farmington's Jeff Fischer intercepted a third-down pass by quarterback Steve Merriwether and returned it 50 yards to the Ford 32 That led to the tying touchdown.

Mike Murphy ran the ball to the 18, and Champion scored on the next play, doing a little cut-back move at the line to find daylight.

Murphy, who rushed for 101 yards on 10 carries, ran for the two-point conversion to tie the score at 14 with 1:39 left in the third quarter.

The Trojans (6-4) drove the Falcons' 10 on their next possession, but Ben Bersche picked off another Merriwether pass in the end zone.

Farmington was moving the ball again, but the drive fizzled at the Ford 29 when Corrigan was sacked on fourth down.

But the Falcons held defensively and put a heavy rush on opposing punter Brandon Wright, who couldn't get the kick away in time, tried to run and was tackled at his own 19 with 1:59 remaining in the game.

Murphy picked up a quick first down at the 8.

On third down, Corrigan passed to the fullback, Walsh, in the left flat and he raced for the corner of the end zone. Kasey Lopata added the PAT for a 21-14 score.

"Offensive coordinator Joe Pesci made a helluva third-

down call," Bechtel said. "I was a little afraid of it; we were in field goal range. But Pesci believed in it and Corrigan threw the ball beautifully. It was a thing of beauty and I couldn't be prouder."

On the final play of the game, Merriwether completed a 33-yard pass Jeremy Orr, who whipped the ball backward as he was about to be tackled with the hope of a teammate catching it.

But there were only blue shirts in the area. The ball went directly to Farmington's Courtland Bartlett, who did an about-face and ran 40 yards the other way before going down to end the game.

The Falcons played well defensively in the first half, but they had a hard time sustaining anything offensively.

The Trojans capitalized on several long bootleg runs by Merriwether, who had 130 of his 162 rushing yards in the first half.

His 37-yarder and 32-yard pass to Brandon Willis set up an 11-yard TD run by Zachary Finley at 11:36 in the second quarter. Merriwether ran for the two points and 8-0 lead.

Merriwether's 63-yard run led to a 1-yard TD by Finley and a 14-0 score with 8:36 left in the half.

Ford drove to the Farmington 6 late in the second quarter, but a delay-of-game penalty and three incomplete passes ended the threat.

"I told (the Farmington players at halftime), to get this done, we needed everyone — all 65 players — whether they were going to cheer, encourage or execute," Bechtel said.

"The one thing that couldn't happen happened. (The Trojans) had two big plays. The quarterback is gifted. They got a lot of people on the edge with the flow, because we were trying

to stop No. 4 (Dwayne Holmes). "At halftime we made adjustments in the defensive line and did a better job of containing. We were concerned about their ability to throw the ball deep, but our secondary did a super job of staying on top of (Orr) all day."

Overall, the Falcons were out-gained, 306-225, but they had a 147-85 advantage in the second half.

Murphy gained his yardage on just 10 carries. Champion added 66 yards on 17 attempts. Corrigan was 3-of-6 passing for 50 yards.

Ford's Finley rushed 15 times for 56 yards; Holmes added 24 on 13. Merriwether was 2-of-8 passing for 65 yards with two picks.

"We didn't quite get it done offensively (in the first half), but we thought there were some things we could go to," Bechtel said.

"We mixed up the quarterbacks and running backs, and that probably helped us because everybody was a lot fresher."

"Then (Ford) started reeling a bit. They started to overload the line of scrimmage, and that helped open up seams for us."

"They were overloading the tight end side of the formation, and we found a lot of success running up the pipe with the fullback."

Farmington will play the Detroit Mackenzie-Detroit Central winner for the district tournament title next weekend. The game will be at Farmington and is tentatively slated for 7 p.m. Saturday.

Bechtel added: "I told the kids, 'It's this simple: Then there were 16; that's all that's left. Everyone else has turned in their equipment, and we're still playing."

"I like the position we're in, and we have to come up big again next week."

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