

Sports

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Soccer stars

Farmington High has two players on the all-area first team. D2

Sidelines

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BRYAN MITCHELL/OBSERVER

Farmington Unified goalie Leetal Levran reaches with his glove to catch the puck and make a save Saturday night during a 3-1 win over Livonia Stevenson.

Flyers notch 4th straight victory, 3-1

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Unified achieved its biggest win of the young hockey season Saturday night to extend its winning streak to four games (4-0).

Brett Laird scored a pair of goals as the Flyers defeated perennial power Livonia Stevenson at Farmington Hills Ice Arena, 3-1.

"We knew going in they just came off a loss to Catholic Central on Wednesday, so we knew they were going to be gunning for us," Farmington coach Mark Vellucci said.

"We played two good games with them last year. We've developed a big rivalry with them from years past. It was actually 2-1 with an empty-netter."

Farmington's Brett Ramsay opened the scoring at 5:07 of the first period on a power-play goal from Louie Powell.

Laird made it 2-0 for the Flyers at 7:38 of the second period with an assist by Mike Hand.

Stevenson cut the deficit in half with Tom Zagata's unassisted goal at 9:07 of the second.

The Spartans continued to apply pressure in the final period, but they came up empty on a three-minute power-play late in the game.

"In the second period, we just let up a little bit," Vellucci said. "We're a great two-period team, but there's that one period when we don't play well. We haven't had a lot of goals scored on us, but the pressure has been on us."

Farmington killed a 5-on-3 Stevenson power play midway in the third period and was short-handed for the last five minutes following a five-minute major penalty for high sticking.

The Spartans (2-2) pulled their goalie late in the game and had a 6-on-4 advantage for the last two minutes.

"We got a lucky bounce in the neutral zone, and

PLEASE SEE HOCKEY, D4

College hoops

■ Sophomore guard Matt Mikel of Farmington scored a team-high 21 points for Concordia University in a 115-80 loss to host Eastern Michigan in college basketball Monday. Mikel made five of 12 field goals, including four of nine from three-point distance, and sank seven of nine free throws. He also had four assists and two steals while leading the team in minutes played with 34.

■ Emir Medunjanin of Farmington Hills led Sacramento (Calif.) State University in scoring with 16 points Saturday in a 74-68 loss to host Southern Utah. Medunjanin, who played at North Farmington High School and Schoolcraft College, made a three-point shot with 3:07 remaining to pull the Hornets (1-3) within two points, but Southern Utah scored 10 of the next 11 points to pull away.

Swim addition

A story in the Nov. 28 Farmington Observer omitted the fact Farmington Hills Mercy freshman Kara Small finished 11th in the 500-yard freestyle (5:10.19) at the Division I girls swimming and diving state finals. Small also placed 11th in the 200 freestyle for the state runner-up Marlin.

Koop tryouts

■ Registration for the St. Fabian intramural basketball program will take place 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15, in the school lobby.

All St. Fabian boys and girls in grades 1 through 4 are encouraged to sign up. The program is designed to teach the fundamentals of the game to youth of all skill levels. Volunteers also are needed and asked to sign up during registration. The nine-week season begins the weekend of Jan. 11 and ends in March. For more information call 248-478-3070.

Farmington set to start new season

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington High begins the 2002-03 wrestling season tonight with a lineup split evenly between varsity veterans and inexperienced newcomers.

WRESTLING

"We only have two seniors in the lineup right now," coach Al Beyer said. "The ones who return from last year should be improved."

"All the guys who wrestled last year look strong, but we have a lot of real young ones intermixed in the lineup; so, basically, we're still a young team."

The experienced wrestlers in the lower weights are 112-pound sophomore Steve Russo, 125 junior Lance Dawson and 135 junior Jon Schwartz.

Russo and Schwartz were regional qualifiers who missed going to the state meet by one match at 103 and 125, respectively.

Russo had an 18-15 record and Schwartz was 20-15. Dawson has moved up from 119 and is much improved, according to Beyer. In the upper weights, the Falcons return seniors Mike Kish (152) and Courtland Bartlett (171) and juniors Nick Belsky (189) and John Ledbetter (215).

Bartlett was 4-2 when he was injured in the Oakland County tournament, and he didn't wrestle again the remainder of the season.

Belsky took Bartlett's place at 171 and Ledbetter was at 189. Kish has jumped ahead two weight classes from 140 where he had an 11-13 record.

Junior heavyweight Max Mayer

PLEASE SEE WRESTLING, D5

Being No. 1 starts with top guy at CC

At one point before Monday afternoon's pep assembly, Catholic Central athletic director Bob Santello walked off the gym floor, holding his cell phone and muttering to no one in particular "it was a wrong number."

For the record, it was the only wrong number on a day honoring a season full of right numbers, right plays, and right breaks for CC's football team.

For the second-straight year, CC's cap-



Paul Beaudry

tains got a ride to the top of the heap — placing their mark on the wall just like the seven teams before them known as state champions.

This year, though, things seemed a little different than the year before. There was no sense of urgency, there was no sense of frenzy. It was more of a cool, collected, precise pace.

"First, the Central Division title," CC coach Tom Mach said. "Then the Catholic League championship. Then the district title, then the regional title. We took it a step at a time. Those were the only goals we had."

And it paid off with another state title.

PLEASE SEE BEAUDRY, D3

Scheidies wins ITU world championship

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

When most college students go to Mexico, it's usually for the purpose of having a wild time and lots of supposed fun.

Aaron Scheidies is the exception to that rule, although he did have a good time and some fun during his trip to Cancun last month.

But there was a serious side to Scheidies' venture south of the border. He was there for one reason only, and that was to win a world championship, which he did.

Scheidies, a 21-year-old junior at Michigan State University, won the International Triathlon Union crown in the physically-challenged division for athletes with vision impairments.

"To me personally, it was a coming together of all the hard work I put into it," said Scheidies, who has 20/400 eyesight and is legally blind.

"It was like fulfilling a dream. It was my dream to represent the United States. It was so unbelievable, being down there with people from other countries. It was kinda like the Olympics."

Following the opening ceremonies and a parade of the nations for the 2,500 athletes and 10,000 spectators, it was time to get down to business. The competition wasn't as difficult as other triathlons, according to Scheidies. There were five in the blind division and 38 overall with disabilities. A Canadian team was "neck and neck" with Scheidies and his guide, Matt West, after the bike race (the second event), but the Americans pulled away and won by five minutes.



BRYAN MITCHELL/OBSERVER

Farmington's Aaron Scheidies proudly displays his triathlon world championship trophy. Looking on are his mentor, Jim Donaldson (left), and his guide, Matt West.

PLEASE SEE SCHEIDIES, D4

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