

# WMU tennis team signs Farmington Hills player

Western Michigan University men's tennis coach Dave Morin recently announced the signing of Livonia Stevenson's Brady Crosby and Walled Lake Western's Bryan Norville (Farmington Hills) for the 2003-04 season to NCAA letters of intent.

"These are two outstanding recruits for us to get," said Morin, who is in his seventh season as the Broncos' head coach. "Both of these guys will probably be regulars in our lineup in a year or two."

"Both Brady and Bryan fit the mold of the type of player we want here at Western Michigan. Both are hard-working, disciplined guys who are good students. I am extremely excited to have these guys join us next year."

Crosby, a 6-foot-2 left-han-

## SCHEIDIES

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"What made it difficult was that it was the first time for a lot of things," Scheidies said. "It was my first ocean swim and the first time racing with a guide."

"The heat was a huge factor in every race. I got there on Thursday (and raced Saturday). There was no time to acclimate to the weather."

"I went from 40 to 90 degrees in a day and a half and was trying to race in that. It definitely affected my time. It wasn't as good as I wanted it to be, but I won."

Scheidies finished the event, which consisted of a 1.5-kilometer swim, 40-kilometer bike race and a 10-kilometer run, in 2 hours and 24 minutes. His best time remains 2:13.

"It wasn't my best race but I did well, considering the heat, my hip and never having swam in the ocean," Scheidies said. "I

wouldn't say I'm satisfied, but I can live with it and I know I can do better; so I'm happy."

The run was the toughest part for Scheidies, who persevered despite a weak hip and the heat.

"It was like being out in a barbecue grill," he said. "It was really, really hot. They did a great job with the water, but it was crazy how hot it was."

"There were some points I thought, 'Do I want to even keep going? I would never stop running myself. One of my favorite quotes is, 'The pain is nothing compared to what it feels like to quit.'"

"I cranked up bad on the run. That was probably because my hip was weak and was causing the rest of my leg muscles to work harder. It was just determination (that caused him to keep going)."

West played a big role in Scheidies' continuing. His encouragement provided a major psychological boost.

"If he wasn't there, I wouldn't be here," Scheidies said. "At any moment I could've said, 'That's it, I'm done.' My hip and legs were bothering me so much."

Scheidies had his best bike time of 1 hour and 6 minutes on the paved-street course. Swimming in the Gulf of Mexico was not just another swim event, however.

"The salt, even if you don't get it in your mouth, it gets on your lips; it's just so salty it kinda makes you sick," Scheidies said.

"The ocean was a lot more wavy than normal water, too. I like the lake swims better. It is really clear; you could see the bottom of the ocean the whole swim."

The ITU World Championship was the first big race in which Scheidies and a guide rode a tandem bicycle. West was a big help in that regard, too.

"I love biking with a guide," Scheidies said. "It relieves so much of the stress of having to see anything. It definitely improved my time. Not having to worry about the little safety things sped me up."

Scheidies also had the benefit of having his mentor, Jim Donaldson, in Cancun, too. Donaldson competed in his sixth world championship and finished 20th out of 70-plus

triathletes in the 50-54 age group.

"He gave me some pointers on what to do, because it was my first time," Scheidies said. "There's a lot of stuff in those big races you don't even think about if someone who knows what he's talking about doesn't tell you."

Among the spectators were Scheidies' parents, Mike and Mary Scheidies, an aunt and uncle and his grandmother.

"My mom is a (grade-school) teacher, and she told her kids about me," Scheidies said. "The kids want me to come in and talk to them. I don't know if I'm going to or not, but I thought that was kinda funny."

"Both (parents) are behind me and encourage me. They do everything I need as far as driving me places and things. They're totally supportive."

Scheidies, who is president of the MSU Triathlon Club, will prepare for the collegiate championships April 26 in Arizona, and he plans to defend his ITU world title Dec. 6, 2003, in Queenstown, New Zealand.

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## HOCKEY

FROM PAGE D1

Laird scored the empty-netter," Vellucci said.

Leetal Levran stood out in goal for the Flyers while Rob Thomas went all the way in the nets for the Spartans.

"(The Flyers) are a solid team," Stevenson coach Mike Humitz said. "They outplayed

us in the first period, but in the second and third periods we had lots of good chance. We just couldn't get it by (Levran)."

Farmington dominated the first period and could have easily had a 4-0 lead, according to Vellucci, who added Thomas made some great saves.

"It was definitely our first true test," Vellucci said. "Stevenson is a good team. It

was a good step for us.

"We have to take one game at a time and learn from our mistakes and correct them in practice. That's what we've been doing. Every game is a challenge no matter who we play."

"The kids are still learning my system, and we have a ways to go. We're 4-0 but we still have a lot of work to do."

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