

Sports

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Sidelines

Carson is MVP

Softball standout Erin Carson of Farmington Hills was named the Most Valuable Player and the Most Valuable Offensive Player in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association for the 2003 season.

The Alma College junior catcher and Mercy High graduate led the MIAA in hitting with a .478 batting average, as well as hits (22) and runs scored (16).

Carson was named to the All-MIAA first team. She led Alma to the MIAA regular-season and tournament championships.

Alma was second in the NCAA Division III Great Lakes Regional. Carson was named to the all-region team, too.

Young letters

Freshman Meghan Young of Farmington Hills (Farmington High) received her first year varsity letter and Ohio Valley Conference championship ring as a member of the Tennessee Tech University softball team.

The Golden Eagles finished the regular season with a 17-3 mark and were 48-16 overall, winning the OVC regular-season and tournament championships.

Tech made its first appearance in an NCAA Division I regional tournament as one of the top 64 teams in the country this year.

Award finalist

Farmington Hills Mercy senior Anne Roosevelt was named a finalist for the Walt Bazylewicz Catholic League Athlete of the Year Award.

Roosevelt was recognized along with other nominees May 22 at Comerica Park as one of the top female athletes in the 36-school league.

In addition to lettering in volleyball, track and field and basketball, the Plymouth resident will graduate magna cum laude with a grade-point average of 3.7.

In volleyball, Roosevelt has been all-region, all-area, all-Catholic, all-academic and all-city (twice the city MVP). In track and field, she's a three-time regional champion in the discus, a county champion and twice an all-area selection. In basketball, she's been all-Catholic and all-academic.

Roosevelt will attend St. Francis University (Pa.) on a volleyball scholarship.

State golf meet

Farmington Hills Mercy achieved its first objective by making the cut and advancing to the second day of play in the Division I girls state golf tournament.

The Marlins were in 10th place Friday with a 366 team score. They were three strokes behind Traverse City Central and one ahead of Grand Ledge.

The top 12 teams qualified to play Saturday at Forest Akers Golf Course in East Lansing. Grosse Ile was the leader at 322.

Mercy's Christina Cibrario shot 83 Friday. Sara Larson 91. Sam Talbot 92. Lauren Mack and Nicole Zaleski 100 each.

Falcons play well but lose, 2-0

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

All in all, the Farmington team put forth a fine effort and played a good game against one of the state's best girls soccer teams Thursday.

But the Falcons had hoped for more than that when they met No. 4-ranked and host Novi in a Division I district tournament game.

Despite a quality performance, the Farmington girls had to be content with a moral victory after seeing their season end in a 2-0 loss.

"They were a little better team," Farmington coach Steve Montgomery said of the 14-2-2 Wildcats.

"We fought hard and played well. I put this right up there with our better games of the season.

"We were disappointed we lost, but the girls played a good game for the end of the year."

The number of shots on goal was even at seven apiece, but Novi was a shade better at getting players open in the box and making the right combination of passes to finish.

The Wildcats played with a one-goal advantage for much of the game after Maureen Pawlak scored at 32:38 in the first half.

Pawlak was unmarked in the middle of the field when the ball reached her at the top of the 18, and she sent a low, hard shot to the right corner of the net.

"Our plan was to keep possession, keep the ball on the ground and find the open player," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "We were a little more successful at finding the open player."

Novi was better at controlling the



Farmington's Maggie Vallancourt advances the ball while teammate Mary Peszek and Novi's Lisa Checchobelli move into position during a Division I semifinal district tournament soccer game Thursday.

play in the first half and had the better scoring chances.

Farmington goalie Kate Kelly stopped a point-blank shot by Kristi Timar midway in the half. Nicole Herman hit the crossbar later, and the Wildcats had several other near misses.

But each team had four official first-half shots on goal. Two of Farmington's were long balls that had little chance as

Novi keeper Kellie Pfeiffer easily scooped them up well in front of the net.

"If we could've capitalized on a few early, it might have relieved the stress in the game," O'Leary said.

"It's not like we always had people open in the box and blew wide-open

PLEASE SEE SOCCER, C3

Farmington OT survivor in semifinal

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Brittani Kokko's overtime goal Friday sent Farmington United into the championship game of the Michigan Women's Scholastic Lacrosse Association B Division tournament.

Farmington defeated Grand Blanc in sudden-death overtime in a semifinal game played at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, 10-9.

Coach Mike Mehall's team made its first appearance in the finals Saturday

LACROSSE

morning when it played Flint Powers for the division title at Cranbrook.

"The girls have really worked hard to get to this level," Mehall said. "The difference between last year and this year is our passing has improved, and the defense and goalie have been able to meet the demands of the season."

"Defense was the one area I was concerned about, because we lost some strong players last year. But the defense has come around and played exceptionally well."

Powers, which won the C Division title last year, captured the B Division West championship and Farmington, which

PLEASE SEE LACROSSE, C4

14-and-under Blues win Memorial crown

The South Farmington Blues 14-and-under baseball team kicked off the 2003 season by winning the USSSA Memorial Weekend Tournament at Victory Park in Canton.

The Blues went 4-0, culminating with a 7-5 win over the Michigan Athletics in the title game to earn a berth in the USSSA World Series July 20-27 at Victory Park.

BASEBALL

The Blues used a four-run rally in the top of the sixth inning of the championship game to overcome a 5-3 deficit, and Stephen Doty set down the next six batters in relief of starter Matt Paul

PLEASE SEE BASEBALL, C4



The members of the NFWB Cobras 12-and-under travel baseball team are kneeling, left to right: Matt St. Clair, Jake Holloway, Alex Goldfarb, Cory Davis and Cory Marston. (second row) Andy Buchanan, Max Rankin, Steven Kanter, Max Gordon, Brad Hanter and Jarret Levine; (back row) coach Carl Manooogan, manager Jeff Levine and coach Alan Kanter. Not pictured is coach Gina Davis.

Cobras travel team wins Early Bird championship

The 12-and-under NFWB Cobras travel baseball team won the Northville Early Bird Tournament, defeating the Northville Broncos in the championship game, 11-8.

NFWB used seven pitchers - Matt St. Clair, Andy Buchanan, Alex Goldfarb, Max Rankin, Cory Manooogan, Steven Kanter and Jake Holloway - and all 11 hitters during the tournament.

The Cobras, led by Cory Davis, Jarret Levine and Max Rankin, played solid defense throughout the tournament.

The play of Manooogan and Max Gordon behind the plate and Goldfarb, Holloway and Rankin in the outfield helped to keep the NFWB pitchers in control of each game.

Buchanan and Hanter led the hitting attack. The Cobras also had key hits from Rankin, Holloway, Davis, Levine, St. Clair and Gordon.

Following a successful tournament experience, the Cobras are looking forward now to the start of the Little Caesars travel season.

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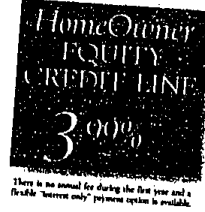
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