

It's Mercy vs. North in preregional

Technically, it's not for the Farmington city championship, but the North Farmington-Farmington Hills Mercy soccer match Sunday will be for all the marbles, nevertheless.

The two teams not only will be playing for a good deal of bragging rights, but, for the right to advance in the state soccer tournament as well.

Both teams won their intra-city pre-regional qualifying match last Saturday. Mercy beat Farmington 3-0 and North bested Farmington Harrison 5-1.

Friday's match will be played beginning at 4 p.m. at North. The winner will play the Northville-Plymouth Salem winner. That pre-regional match is Friday at Salem.

"We will have to play Mercy very strong up the middle," said North coach Cathy Cole. "They are capable of playing very well against better caliber



Suo Bartram (left) and Debbie Spahn have been key performers for their respective teams this season. Spahn and the Raiders will play Mercy in the state preregional Friday at North.

soccer

teams. But, we have gone up against many talented teams and played with them. If we go in mentally and physically sound, we'll be all right."

MERCY HAS indeed come a long way in its first season. They are not only ranked No. 4 in Observersland, but, for No. 8 in the state coaches' poll.

Annette Ruggiero has keyed the Marlin success. She is the Catholic League's top goal scorer and has 20 goals on the season.

Against Farmington, Ruggiero scored twice — one on a penalty kick and again on a breakaway in which she

dribbled in from 30 feet, faked goalie Pam Faulkner out of position and buried the ball in the twine.

Amy DeMatteis scored Mercy's third goal.

Mercy goalie Betsy Eads made several tough saves late in the match to preserve the shutout.

Mercy coach Gene Fogel praised the defensive efforts of fullbacks Elaine Montambeau, Jenny Horst and Dana Ranganathan.

North Farmington got a hat-trick (three goals) from Kristie McMinn to thwart Harrison Saturday. Anne Mahle, Chris Diebold, and Mary Bundorf also tallied for the Raiders.

Jeanne Whittemore was the only Hawk that could beat goalie Michelle Mackie. Whittemore's goal came late in the second half. Harrison had to come back Monday and face tough Livonia Churchill and lost 9-0. The Hawks are 1-11 on the season.

NORTH ALSO had to come back Monday. The defense did, but the offense stayed away, and the Raiders lost to Farmington 1-0.

The Falcons' lone goal came on a penalty kick with two minutes left in the game. Laurie Dingle kicked the shot past Mackie for the game-winner.

"We only had seven shots on goal," Cole said. "Our defense played great, but we were just not in it mentally."

The win boosts Farmington's record to 3-8. North will go into Friday's match 4-7-1. Mercy is 13-2.



Farmington's Laurie Dingle, above dribbling by North's Renee Torraut, scored the game-winner, against the Raiders Monday on a penalty kick with two minutes left in the match.

Farmington boxer misses Olympic bid

By Ored Emons
staff writer

Despite two months of inactivity, boxer Craig Payne's bid for a spot on the 1984 U.S. Olympic team is still very much alive.

The Livonian is one of eight super-heavyweights invited to compete in the Olympic Trials June 6-10 at the Tarrant County Convention Center Arena in Ft. Worth, Tex.

Payne, who owns a victory over Cuban gold medalist Teofilo Stevenson,

suffered a rib injury during a sparring session in March. The ailment kept him out of the last month's Budweiser World Championships Challenge.

"Craig is completely recovered and not out of it by any means," said Paul Soucy of the Livonia Boxing Club, Payne's coach. "He's still very much in it."

Payne, the 1983 National Golden Gloves champion, must get to the finals of the super-heavyweight division at the trials in order to earn a spot in the Olympic Box-off, July 6-7 at Caesars

Palace in Las Vegas, Nev. The winner there makes the team.

"LAS VEGAS is best 2 of 3," Soucy said, "and by that time we'll be after Biggs."

Tyrell Biggs of Philadelphia, who has beaten Payne in all three meetings, is the darling of U.S. Amateur Boxing Federation (USABF) and television media, but has lost badly in two attempts against Stevenson.

"Craig should be in good condition for the trials," Soucy said. "We've got him busy. He's been down in Elkhart, Ind. with Dick Quilton (also the Livonia Boxing Club) working on a special diet. Then

boxing

we're going to Marvin Hagler's camp (May 24-30) in Brockton, Mass. We're shooting at 212 to 215 pounds (Payne's anticipated weight) at the trials."

Already joining Payne and Biggs at the trials are Nathaniel Plich of the U.S. Army; Kimmell Odum, Gary, Ind.; Michael Williams, Broussard, La.; and Warren Thompson, Baltimore, Md. The remaining two spots will be filled from the Eastern and Western Trials Box-

offs, which conclude next week.

FARMINGTON'S MIKE DARDINI, a member of the Livonia Boxing Club, was eliminated in a second-round bout last week at the Eastern Box-offs, held in Lake Placid, N.Y.

Competing in the 125-pound class, Dardini defeated Willie Miller of Cincinnati, Ohio before losing on points Friday night against Isidro Roman of Meriden, Conn.

"I knew the fight was close (against Roman)," Dardini said. "I really thought that I had won that one. Even though you learn something

every time you fight, I did learn quite a bit when I was there. I got a lot of different opinions. I didn't think I'd be invited at all. It was a surprise. They called me three days before I went up there. What I did out there is that they noticed me."

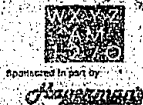
LAST MONTH, Dardini was eliminated in his first bout at the National Golden Gloves Tournament (in St. Louis) by Anthony Boyle of Philadelphia at 1:30 of the second round.

"Boyle was a tough, tough kid," said Soucy. "That's why Mike got an invitation to the Box-offs."



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