

Hawks schedule 'A' power

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Farmington Hills Harrison will travel south to play its first football game of the 1989 season next September.

In what should be a classic contest, the Hawks open at Saginaw Arthur Hill on Friday, Sept. 1. The JV teams will play at 3:30 p.m. followed by the varsity game at 7:30 p.m.

Arthur Hill, a Class A school with a rich tradition in football, takes the place of Southfield on Harrison's schedule.

The Blue Jays dropped Harrison from after last season. The Hawks also must find a replacement for West Bloomfield in the ninth week of the season, but an opponent has yet to be named.

ARTHUR HILL is usually among the top-ranked teams in Class A and has qualified for the state playoffs numerous times. The Lumberjacks are most noted for producing one of Michigan's greatest prep success stories.

The 1973 ballclub, which won the mythical state championship awarded in the years prior to the start of the playoffs in 1975, is the only state school in the last half century to go unbeaten and unscored upon (44-0).

"They played Traverse City in the quarterfinals last year, and I know they've got some players coming back," Harrison coach John Herrington said.

"It's going to be a tough, tough opener. South-

twice about putting the Hawks on the schedule.

football

field was pretty good, but having to go that far and play a team of that caliber will be a challenge for us.

Herrington added it should be an exciting and, hopefully, prosperous experience for his players.

"WE'LL TRY TO make it into a nice trip, with dinner," he said. "But mainly we want to win and help our reputation, and we want to get off to a good start."

Finding a first-game opponent was not an easy task for Athletic Director Ron Holland.

Some schools might have shied away because Harrison has such a strong program, but Herrington speculated the fact the Hawks are Class B might have been a primary reason. Opponents get fewer playoff points for beating a Class B team as opposed to a Class A school.

"For the first game, a lot of teams flat out wouldn't play us," Herrington said. "In the ninth game, there are a lot of (cross-town and intra-city) rivalries."

"Some say they won't play a Class B school, but if (an opponent) has enough wins it shouldn't make a difference."

The return of all-state quarterback Mill Coleman for his senior year at Harrison also might have given prospective foes a reason to think

"WITH MILL BACK, some teams probably don't want to take a chance on a loss," Herrington said. "Everybody is thinking about their playoff chances. If not for the playoffs, I think a lot of teams would like to play us."

Coleman, swingback, Steve Hill and tailbacks Matt Conley and Joe George will be the only returning players with starting experience on offense. Matt Sperry is the lone defensive holdover.

Despite the loss of so many seniors from last year's Class B championship team, Herrington maintains a positive outlook toward '89.

"I think we're going to have a good ballclub again," he said. "The kids are working hard in the weight room."

Though the Hawks need to find new receivers and resold their line, Coleman's presence alone should make Harrison a good team, because "he'll get the ball there and the players around him will play better," Herrington said.

"There will probably be more pressure on him this year, more so than when he was a sophomore, because we don't have the experienced receivers."

"Mill may have to play some defensive secondary, too," he added. "I might change my mind between now and next fall. But we know he can do it. It's just a matter of whether or not we want to play him there."

Harrison also has replaced Farmington as its inter-division crossover opponent with Walled Lake Central. The Hawks play WLC in 1989-90 and Plymouth Salem in 1991-92.

sports shorts

SOCCER CLUB

The Farmington Soccer Club will have walk-in registrations for the spring season on Saturday, March 4, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Farmington Hills City Hall Council Chambers, 31555 11 Mile.

The deadline for mail-in registrations is Wednesday, March 1. Registration forms are available at the Parks and Recreation Department. For information, call Joe Miller at 553-2536.

K-O-F-C SOFTBALL

The Knights of Columbus in Farmington Hills is organizing its spring, summer and fall softball leagues. There are openings for men, women and coed teams. Call 476-9888 for registration information.

SOFTBALL TEAMS

The Farmington Hills Recreation Division is accepting new softball team registrations. The office is at 31555 11 Mile.

The entry fees are: \$370 for men's and women's open; \$330 for men's resident, men's industrial and women's industrial; and \$295 for open coed.

All classifications are guaranteed 14 games except for open coed, which has 10 games guaranteed. The season begins May 1 and runs through Aug. 27. For information, call 473-9370 weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

GIRLS SOFTBALL

The Mid-America Mustangs, a slo-pitch softball team playing in the 15-and-under age division, is recruiting 13-15-year-old girls for the 1989 summer season.

Two out-of-state trips are planned in addition to league and tournament play. Tryouts will be April 22-23. For information, call Ray Knickerbocker at 455-5893.

MARATHON DATE

The 13th West Bloomfield Half

Marathon will take place Sunday, April 16. The starting time is 10:00 p.m.

To receive an entry form, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation, 3325 Middlebelt #8033. The entry fee is \$10 if runners register on or before Friday, April 7. The registration fee after that date is \$13.

For more information, contact Scott Van Meter of the West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation Department at 334-5660.

ST. PATRICK'S RUN

The St. Patrick's Parade Corktown Races will take place at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 12. There will be a four-mile run, a one-mile walk and a half-mile run/walk for children age 12 and under.

The non-refundable entry fee is \$8. The pre-entry deadline is Friday, March 3. Late registration will take place between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on race day.

Checks should be made payable to Motor City Striders and mailed to St. Patrick's Parade Run, 10144 Lincoln, Huntington Woods, 48070.

CHEER COMPETITION

Cheerleading squads from the Western Lakes Activities Association schools will compete at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at Livonia Bentley High School. The cost is \$1. Each team will perform a cheer dance, team cheer and crowd-response cheer.

BASEBALL CAMP

The Milt Wilcox Baseball Camp (boys and girls ages 7-17) will be from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, June 26-29 at Central City Park in Westland.

The cost is \$150 (includes T-shirt, baseball, two Tiger tickets, individual color photo with Milt, daily raffle tickets and refreshments).

For more information, call the Westland Parks and Recreation Department at 722-7620.

N'ville deals loss to Falcons

The Northville tandem of Wendy Beach and Mia DeHart was enough to propel the Mustangs past Farmington Hills 137-05 in a gymnastics meet Thursday at Farmington Hills. The loss ended the Falcons' dual-meet season at 7-6-1.

Farmington's Christine Oates was the only one able to crack the Beach-DeHart domination. Oates won the balance beam with an 8.55 mark. She was also second in the floor exercise (8.55), fourth on the uneven parallel bars (8.3) and sixth on the vault (7.9).

Debbie Ford finished third on the bars (8.5) and fifth in the vault (8.05). Cheryl Mitalo was third in the beam (7.85) and Jennifer Reed placed third in floor exercise (8.35) for the Falcons.

Wendy Beach won two events for Northville, the vault (8.7) and the floor exercise (8.7). DeHart captured top honors in the bars (8.95). They were the top two scorers in the meet, Beach totalling 34.25 in

gymnastics

the all-around and DeHart 33.55. Oates was third (33.3).

The Falcons were without Amber Atbuckle, one of their best performers on the beam. She was injured in an auto accident Tuesday morning, and she remains questionable for the Western Lakes Activities Association meet. Also, Meredith Stumpo is still not completely recovered from an ankle injury.

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE set a school record by scoring 134.6 points in beating Belleville (120.85) Thursday at Clarenceville.

The Trojans, who finish their dual-meet season 11-6, swept the top three places in the vault and

bars and were 1-2 in the beam and floor exercise.

"It was just a great team effort," said Clarenceville coach Chuck Thompson. "The kids wanted to go out with a good, strong meet, and they wanted to go out with a good meet at home."

The old school record for points scored was 129.95, at last year's league meet.

Lisa Grandfield was the highest-scoring Trojan at 34.55. Grandfield won the beam (8.95) and floor exercise (8.85) and was second on the bars (8.65). Jennifer Kaipin was next with 32.4; she won the bars (8.95) and was fifth on the floor exercise (8.20).

Colleen Wood was first in the vault (8.3) and second on both the beam (8.7) and floor exercise (8.55). Roberta Wiggle placed second in the vault (8.45) and fifth in the beam (8.15), and Christy Nagorka took third in the vault (8.3) and bars (8.3).

North wins title outright

When North Farmington was a member of the Northwest Suburban League, it was league champion in volleyball three times. The Raiders haven't been able to match that success in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Until this season, North routed Farmington 15-6, 15-1 Thursday to improve its dual-meet record to a first-place-clinching 9-1 in the Lakes Division. The Raiders are 12-1 in the WLA and 22-5 overall.

Everyone played for North, with seniors Donna O'Brien, Debbie Weintraub and Kelly Coulson and junior Vikki Seimons inflicting most of the damage. O'Brien served 10 points in 14 attempts with two aces and had five kills in 10 attacks. Weintraub collected 17 assists-to-kills, and Coulson had nine digs.

Seimons collected nine kills in 20 attacks with two errors.

Franklin caps successful season

Livonia Franklin capped its most successful regular season in eight years with a pair of Suburban Prep Hockey League victories last week.

The Patriots, coached by Terry Joblitt, finished 18-2 overall and 11-2-1 in the SPHL.

On Thursday, Franklin pelted host Southfield, 18-1, as defenseman Mike Zajdel had seven points on one goal and six assists.

Other point producers included Brian Stover, four goals and two assists; Charlie Olschanski, three goals and three assists; Rob Ingersoll and Matt Sharkey, one goal and four assists each; Bob Baffly, two goals and three assists; Bob Hayes, two goals and one assist; Darrin Liptow, one goal and two assists; Scott Lorentz, one goal and one assist; Bryan Harris, two goals; and Justin Osman, two assists.

Goalie Greg Donnan made 18 saves against the winless Blue Jays. On Wednesday, Franklin wrapped

up third place in the SPHL with an 8-3 triumph over Wyandotte Roosevelt in a game played at Edgar Arena.

Goalie Dan Murray sparked in the Patriot nets, making 20 saves. Wyandotte tallied all three of its goals on power plays.

Offensively, Olschanski had four points on two goals and two assists, while Stover and Sharkey each contributed one goal and two assists. Jeff Garcia, Lorentz, Ingersoll and

Harris also scored goals. Baffly contributed two assists.

STEVENSON 2, BROTHER RICE 2: Paul Rice was hot in the nets for Livonia Stevenson Friday at Edgar Arena, stopping 42 of 44 shots. But he couldn't stop Scott Lockwood, who got the game-tying goal for Birmingham Brother Rice with three minutes left.

The tie was partial vengeance for Stevenson (14-7-1 overall), which was belted 6-1 by the Warriors earlier in the season. Brother Rice is 14-6-2.

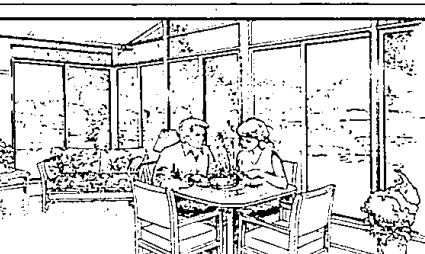
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