### District tourney holds possibility of '89 rematch

Is it in the cards again? Farming-ton Hills Mercy and Livonia Frank-lin have met in the state softball playoffs four straight years, and an-other possible Mercy-Franklin show-down looms Saturday in the finals of the Southfield Civic Center district tournament.

the Southiere Corn.

"It would be nice to beat Franklin," said Mercy coach Suzanne
Brown. "We are tied 22 with them."
(Franklin and Mercy have split their
last four meetings in tournament

last four meetings in tournament play.)
The Marlins, however, first have to get past a strong Northville team in the first round.
Even though Mercy beat the Mustangs earlier this season, 6-5, in the Plymouth Invitational, Brown considers her team to be the underdogs in the district open. "I don't think we are (the district ayorile," sald Brown. "Out of Franklin, Northville and us, I would rate us third right now."

rate us third right now."

BROWN respects the Mustangs, but said her team could very well get to the finals.
"They (Morthville) do have a good team, but I think they are heatable," said the Mercy coach.
Brown is looking for the Marlins' bats to earry her club.
Mercy's top hitter is Kathleen Berrigan, who hatted 547 and stole 26 bases. Maureen Paulin hit .430 and led the Marlins in BBI.
"I have a bitting ball club this year," she said. "On any given night, it can be spread out."
Mercy will play Northville at noon on Saturday at the Southfield Clvic Center. (See tournament pairings on page 5D.)
Meanwhile, Franklin (14-7) should have an easier game in the district oncener. The Patriots meet the Blue

have an easier game in the district opener. The Patriots meet the Blue Jays of Southfield at 9:30 a.m. Satur-

Jays of Southfield at 9-30 a.m. Satur-day.
"From what t understand, South-field, other than the pre-district, has not won a game all year," said Franklin ceach doe Epstein. Epstein considers his club and Northville to be the favorites in the distict.

#### softball

win it," he said. "We and Northville split earlier this year, and we have beaten Mercy."
Franklin beat the Mustangs at home, 5-4, earlier in the year, while Northville returned the favor, 1-0, late last month. The Patriots defeated Mercy, 6-2, earlier his leason in a game called because of rain after 4½ innings.
Epstein said Northville should exceed Mercy, but he doesn't rule out the Marlins.
"It is not out of the realm of possibility that they could beat Northville's young pitcher (Rozann Staknla) is getting stronger and stronger," said the Franklin ceach. "She has really been coming of the leading factor in his team's chances.
The key for us is that we have to "The key for us is that we have to "The key for us is that we have to make the control of the contro

THE MERCY COACH pegged the Patriots as the team to beat.

"Franklin's the favorrite", said frow. "Their pitcher throws pretty hard, but I don't think they have the receptional fielders and hitters they have had in the past."

The Patriots' leading hitter heading into the districts will be Karen Brown, who hit. 417 for the season.

"She is very fast and gets a lot of infleid hits," said Epstein.

On the mound, Mayle ended up 41 runs for the season, with 2 of those being uncarned. She struck out 130 and walked 44.

The winner of the Southfield-Franklin clash will advance to the champlonship game at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

The district winner will move on

reankin coach doe Epstein.
Epstein considers his club and Northville to be the favorites in the district.

"FROM WHAT I see, Northville and our team will be co-favorites to June 9.

# CC, Hoffman gear for state

With the Class A Tennis Championships slated for Friday and Saturday at the Midland Tennis Center, it appears that Redford Catholic Central will make some noise.

According to coach Frank Garlicki, the Sham-

According to coach Frank Garlicki, the Sham-rocks will put plenty of stock in their Nos. 2 and 3 doubles teatms. The No. 2 team of Jayson Torrad and Chris Alonte are 10-1 this season, while the No. 3 team of Chip Shade and Chris Matson is 9-2. "Our greatest strength comes from our doubles players," he said. "They should give us a boost."

boost."
The No. 2 doubles team is seeded third and will get a bye in the first round. The No. 3 team is seeded sixth and will play Grand Blanc in the opening round.

CC IS ALSO expected to get contributions from No. 1 singles player Paul Bozyk and No. 2

singles player Marko Habekovic.
Bozyk (0-8) is seeded seventh, while Habekovic (9-6) is seeded fourth. Both players will receive a bye in the first round.
"Realistically, I think we will finish somewhere around filth." Garlicki said. "But with a few surprises anything can happen."
Plymouth Canton will also make a trip to the championships, but coach Jim Hayes isn't loking too far ahead.
"None of our guys won their regional, therefore they won't be seeded." Hayes said. "Much of our hope lies in the first round. If the seedings work in our drawr, we can maybe get through the opening round and get to the better players."

ACCORDING TO Hayes, No. 3 singles player Scott Jones may surprise a few people.

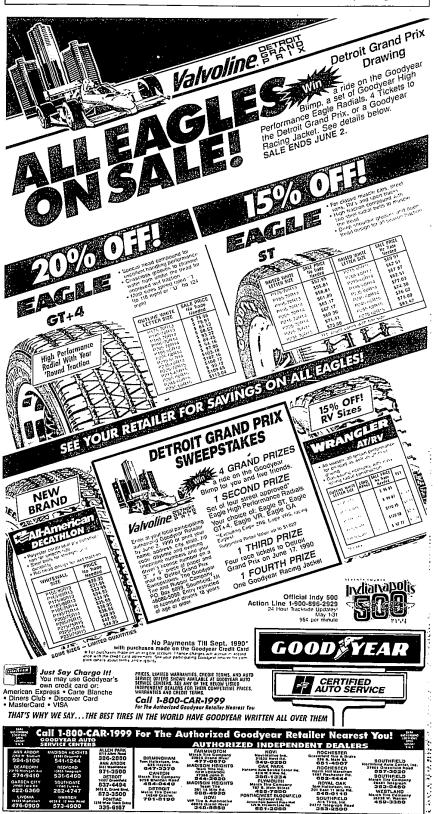
"The No. 3 team got to the finals in the region-al," Huyes said. "They had a 12-1 record and could get some attention."

come ges some attention.

North Farmington freshman Seth Hoffman will enter the championships with a 19-0 record. He is ranked No. 1 in the Midwest by the Western Tennis Association in the 14-and-under age bracket and is ranked No. 6 nationally by the U.S. Tennis Association.

PUNEET AILAWADI of Livonia Churchill will also participate this weekend and is hoping for an upset.

"I will try my best," he said. "I hope to make things happen and surprise someone." Allawadi will take a 17-3 record into the com-petition. He lost to Bozyk at the regional, 6-0, 6-2.



## Mercy sweeps DH

Farmington Hills Mercy Improved its softball record to 12-16 Tuesday by sweeping a double-header from host Madison Heights Bishop Fotey. The Marlins captured the opening game 14-2 and the nightens believed to the highten such that the highten would have the highten with the highest work in the first game, striking out four, walking five and yleiding just wonlits in the limit of the highest highe

Mercy pounded six hits, led by Kim Reichard's solo homer.

MERCY SPLIT a double-header with visiting Birmingham Marian last Thursday, losing the first game 7-2 but winning the nightcap 12-4. Paulin took the loss in the opening

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game, hurling seven innings, striking out three, walking six and allowing four hits.

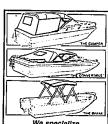
Kattle Heffernan had one of the two Mercy hits.

Mercy was charged with nine errors and Marian just one.

In the second game, Miller earned the victory for Mercy, striking only four and walking one.

The Marins pounded 10 hits, three owhich came off the bat of Heffernathe also had three fill and search and also had three fill and search and also had three Berigan contributed two hits, leave the result of the program of the had been contributed two hits.





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