

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1992

SPORTS

Raiders post 2nd girls hoop victory

Mercy hosts Hoop Classic

The Mercy High School basketball team will try to win its third consecutive Mercy Hoop Classic beginning tonight with semifinal games.

The Marlins face tough competition, however. Competing for the title will be three state-ranked teams.

Plymouth Canton (No. 2 Class A) plays St. Joseph (No. 2 Class B) at 6 p.m. and Mercy plays on St. Clair (No. 5 Class B) at approximately 7:45 p.m. The final will be Saturday at 7:45 p.m.

The tournament also includes freshmen and junior varsity competition. The freshmen started Wednesday and the JV's this afternoon. Those finals will be at 12:45 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. Saturday, respectively.

The Marlins have won the championship six of 11 times, defeating Canton in the final last year and Waterford Kettering two years ago.

Canton returns two members of the 1991 all-tournament team: senior post Stephanie Gray and junior wing Britta Anderson. Two-time MVP Kathleen Berigan of Mercy has graduated.

St. Clair was 22-2 last year, St. Joseph 21-2, Canton 21-4 and Mercy 18-9. The Marlins reached the Class A final and Canton the semis. Canton is 3-0 this season and Mercy 3-1. St. Joseph and St. Clair entered the week unbeaten.

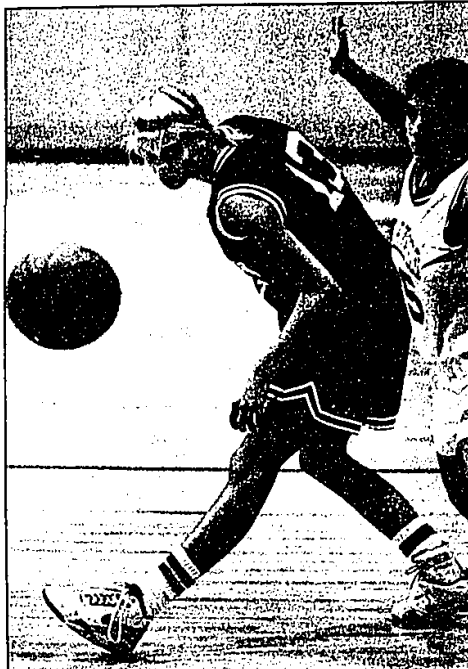
Hawks lose dual contest

Farmington Hills Harrison gave a good effort Tuesday but was two points shy in its boys cross country meet with division rival Walled Lake Western, 27-29.

Both teams had successful seasons in 1991. Western won the Western Lakes Activities Association title and was second in Class A. Harrison was second in the WLA and won a Class B regional.

The Hawks (2-1) had the top runner in Justin Dreyer, who covered the Oakland Community College course in 17:11. Art Schwelzler of Western was second at 17:13.

Harrison's Todd Haney placed fourth (18:15), Justin Koonce seventh (18:22), Chad Koonce eighth (18:23) and Steve Courtman ninth (18:57).



Hoop action: Farmington sophomore Andrea Salyer can't reach this loose ball during a basketball game Tuesday at West Bloomfield.



North Farmington turned up the defensive pressure in the fourth quarter Tuesday to finish off Birmingham Seaholm in girls basketball.

After leading Birmingham Seaholm by three points after three quarters, North Farmington rallied to put away the visiting Maples 53-41 Tuesday in girls basketball.

The Raiders (2-1) outscored Seaholm (1-1) in the final eight minutes 19-10. North coach Lance Davis believed the rally was a result of good defense.

"We applied more pressure in the fourth quarter," Davis said. "We got some steals and some easy baskets. We were also able to get the ball to Carey (Perkins)."

Perkins, a junior forward, led all scorers with 23 points. Freshman forward Carrie May ripped down 13 rebounds to go along with eight points and six steals.

Danielle Laborde, who nailed a three-pointer to put the Raiders up by 14 points in the fourth quarter, finished with nine points. Kim Warren led Seaholm with 13 points.

MERCY 48, SALEM 44:The Marlins rallied from 12 points down early in the fourth quarter Saturday to win this non-league game against Plymouth Salem.

With three minutes left, Marshelle Brooks gave Mercy its first lead and put the Marlins ahead to stay with 1:50 remaining. Liz Weber made both ends of a one-and-one for a three-point lead and, after Christy Farmuchua scored for Salem, Katie Heffernan accounted for the final margin when she made a free throw with 10 seconds to play. The Rocks failed to get a last shot.

"(Salem) controlled the tempo in the second and third quarters," Mercy coach Larry Baker said. "We brought up some really good pressure in the

fourth quarter.

"I was really delighted with how much fight my team had left in the fourth quarter. It was a big win for my crew, because we're a relatively young and inexperienced group."

Brooks had 15 points (six in the fourth), seven rebounds and eight steals. Julie Angell added 11 points for Mercy (3-1). Weber made eight of 10 free throws, including all six in the final period.

Cyndi Platter scored a game-high 17 points for Salem (0-3), and Leslie Gotta finished with 13.

NOVI 54, HARRISON 46:The Hawks remained winless after failing to visiting Novi Tuesday.

The Hawks (0-4) lost their leading scorer, senior Heather Hopkins, with 5:00 left in the game after she collided with an opposing player.

Harrison led 21-20 entering the second half, but the Wildcats took control near the end of the third quarter and widened their lead to as many as 10 points.

"We were just turning the ball over for too much," Harrison coach Pete Mantyla said.

Freshman guard Kelly Kearney scored a game-high 16 points for Novi. Kelly Barton added 10. Hopkins and Krista Snow scored 10 each for Harrison.

W.BLOOM. 50, FARM. 34:Farmington was able to get the shots it wanted but not the right results Tuesday in a 50-34 loss at West Bloomfield.

The Falcons (1-3) missed a total of 22

See BASKETBALL, 4B

Fitzpatrick gets training nod

Freshman Andy Fitzpatrick hasn't been on the Holy Cross campus a month and already has made quite an impression.



Fitzpatrick opener Saturday at Army.

The Crusaders enter that game with the nation's longest winning streak at 28 consecutive games.

Fitzpatrick distinguished himself from six other candidates during two-a-day drills. He was one of

three freshmen vying for the starting job after Holy Cross lost its top three quarterbacks to graduation. Fitzpatrick replaces three-year starter Tom Cicciolo.

"Going into last spring, the quarterback situation was perceived as a weakness," said Vase, who played quarterback for Holy Cross from 1971-73. "Now I can envision it being a position of strength and depth on our team."

"I think the one thing that separated Andy from the others revolves around the offensive line, which hasn't played together very long. Andy has shown the ability to take a negative play and turn it into a positive one."

The 6-foot-4, 210-pound Fitzpatrick becomes the first Holy Cross

freshman to start at quarterback since Jeff Wiley took over midway in the 1985 season. Wiley started 38 consecutive games and set 23 passing and total offense records at Holy Cross.

Fitzpatrick guided Harrison to the Class BB championship last year, throwing for 1,637 yards and 22 touchdowns. He completed 89 of 173 passes, and he also rushed for 164 yards and three TDs. Fitzpatrick was the All-Observer quarterback as a senior.

Junior Dale Katz (6-5, 270), a member of the 1988 Harrison state championship team, started at offensive tackle for the University of Cincinnati in its season opener Saturday against Penn State. The Bearcats lost 24-20.

Shamrocks coast in opener

By STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Redford Catholic Central's defense outscored Toledo St. John's offense Saturday night at the Pontiac Silverdome.

St. John's didn't get a first down until the last minute of the third quarter and had only 109 yards total offense in a 36-0 season-opening loss to the Shamrocks.

But CC's best defensive highlight came from defensive end Joe Lopez, who intercepted a St. John's pass and returned it 75 yards for a touchdown with 9:49 remaining in the game. Lopez picked off the pass after lineman Aaron Babicz deflected the ball in the air.

"That's something you don't like to see in high school football because you don't want to put too many points on the board, but it happened and it was a great effort," CC coach Tom Mach said. "The defense really set the tone by denying a lot of opportunities and giving us good field position."

CC gained 371 total yards, including 304 on the ground against St. John's, a big-school playoff team in Ohio in '91 and a favorite to win the Toledo city championship.

"We have a lot of seniors but we're very green because we didn't play a lot of our backups last year due to our tough schedule," St. John's coach Fred Beier said. "We lack game experience but the game was won up front. When you control the trenches you're going to win the game."

CC junior tailback Freddy Taylor gained 140 yards on 16 carries and scored two TDs, including a 66-yard run on the Shamrocks' first play in the second half for a 22-0 lead.

Taylor was making his first varsity start after playing junior varsity in 1991.

"That was great downfield blocking," Taylor said of

his long run. "The pressure is all on the line because without a line, what is a back?"

Senior fullback Jason Krueger was the perfect complement with 107 yards on 20 carries and two TDs.

Senior quarterback Chris Barbara suffered a cholecystic horse late in the first half but still completed four-of-six passes for 67 yards and directed scoring drives of 38, 46, 52 and 71 yards.

"I thought we moved the ball well, our line did a good job opening holes," Mach said.

CC's first points came in the first quarter after a 13-yard punt by St. John's gave the Shamrocks the ball at the Titans' 38-yard line. Six plays later, Taylor galloped 15 yards for a 6-0 lead with 7:23 remaining.

The Shamrocks took a 12-0 lead with 1:00 left in the first quarter on a 1-yard dive by Krueger, set up by Lopez's 43-yard reception.

CC marched 52 yards on its last possession of the half and the drive ended with a 22-yard field goal by junior Adam Borchardt for a 15-0 lead.

Barbara completed three straight passes on the drive, including one to Ken Ryus for 13 yards and a pair to Brady Pankow for 11 yards.

"The drive at the end of the first half was real class, terrific for the first game," Mach said. "It was a big momentum change because it made it 15 instead of 12."

St. John's went past midfield twice in the second half but the first drive ended in Lopez's interception return and the second ended when the Titans failed to convert a fourth down at CC's 16.

Linebacker Joe Herman led CC with 10 tackles and lineman Joe Suhajda had eight. Pankow had an interception and linebacker Tate Dobbs and middle guard Paul Nemec had seven tackles each.

The Shamrocks host Windsor Brennan Catholic High School Saturday night at Livonia Clarenceville.

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