

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1992

SPORTS

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FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Falcons rout Raiders

Farmington High whipped cross-town rival North Farmington 6-1 in boys soccer Wednesday and remained in contention for the division title.

The Falcons are 1-0-1 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association with games remaining against first-place Plymouth Salem and Walled Lake Central next week.

Farmington, 3-2-1 against WLAA teams and 6-4-1 overall, was led by Chris Meller, who gave the Falcons a 2-0 halftime lead and finished with three goals.

Mike Giese, Sean Noble and Mark Kurzer scored the other goals. Farmington led 5-0 before the Raiders averted a shutout. Noble also had three assists, Giese two and Kris Wiljanen one.

The Falcons outshot North 11-3. John Comal started and played 50 minutes in goal for the winners, and Steve Scario finished the game.

Farmington sputtered in the first 30 minutes but got two goals in the last 10 before halftime. The Falcons dominated in the second half.

"I think the boys thought it was going to be an easy game and finally woke up," Farmington coach Luke Juncal said.

In a 5-0 win over Walled Lake Western on Sept. 16, Giese scored three goals, Jamie Burton and Noble one each. Wiljanen had three assists, Noble and Mark Moffatt one apiece. Giese now has 21 goals for the season.

"We're starting to play as well as we did before the Rochester game," Juncal said. "That loss (4-3 in early September after the Falcons led all but the last two minutes) has really taken a toll on this team."

"We played Canton after that and just didn't play the way we're capable of playing. But we're back on track now and playing the way we can."

Mercy tops tennis rival

Farmington Hills Mercy is no longer a perennial bridesmaid to Birmingham Marian in girls tennis.

The Marlinas defeated their Catholic League rival in a dual meet for the first time in six years Thursday at Oakland Community College, 5-3.

Mercy, which has been a consistent runner-up to the Mustangs in recent league tournaments, is 4-0 in the league and 6-0 overall.

The doubles teams "came through and carried us," Mercy coach Jim Kerwin said. Marian won three of the four singles flights, but the Marlinas swept the doubles competition.

Julie Zimmerman and Katie Emery defeated Marcy Lobanoff and Jenny Timlin (4-6, 7-6, 6-3) at one doubles; Anjali Thakur and Dawn Green defeated Amy Evans and Cheryl Caponino (2-2, injury default) at two; Dana Fischoni and Michelle Uller defeated Jana Chappell and Katie Chepe (6-0, 6-3) at three; Susan Miles and Maryann Miller defeated Nancy Hoyle and Marlinique Davis (6-2, 6-2) at four.

Mercy's Kristen Kluska defeated Shannon Cassidy at one singles, 6-2, 6-2. In the other flights, it was Courtney Johns over Amy Mullica, 6-2, 6-1; Uji Kaza over Jackie Rajkovich, 6-2, 6-4; and Jenny Gontolos over Peggy Muller, 7-5, 6-3.

Farmington Hills run

The Run Through The Hills, sponsored by the Farmington Hills Recreation Department, will take place Sunday, Oct. 4, in Heritage Park.

The event consists of 1.6-kilometer and 10K runs, which begin in Heritage Park (Farmington between 10 and 11 Mile roads) and weaves through the streets of Farmington Hills.

The 1.6K begins at 9 a.m., the 10K at 9:30 a.m. The fees, which include a T-shirt, are \$10 for the 10K and \$6 for the 1.6K and all participants age 18 and younger. The respective fees are \$12 and \$8 after Friday, Oct. 2.

Registration may be done at the Farmington Hills Special Services Department, 31555 Eleven Mile Rd. between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Primo's tourney champ

Primo's Pizza, a member of the Livonia and Plymouth modified softball leagues, won an open tournament Sept. 19-20 in Mason, defeating Lansing Snafu in the final, 9-5.

Pitcher Brian Murphy (Plymouth) posted a record of 4-1 for Primo's, which also scored victories over Bedson Electric of Livonia, 9-2; Delton McCormick, 9-8; and Plymouth Trading Post, 6-4. (Snafu had defeated Primo's 9-4 opening game loss.)

Manager Rick Williamson (Garden City), an outfielder/designated hitter, led Primo's in hitting with a .555 average. Third baseman Dave Feeny and second baseman Kevin Liedel, both of Livonia, batted .500 and .475, respectively. Liedel also had three triples and a double.

Other members of Primo's include shortstop Tony Richardson of Farmington, who hit .667 during the final two games; Doug Fulton, Kevin Collins and Rob Suds, all of Livonia; Bob Barth, Westland; Mike Rice, Garden City; Bob DeBenedict, Plymouth; and Dave Wolfe, Milford.

Primo's also finished 13th with a 3-2 record at the National Invitational 10-man modified tournament over Labor Day weekend in Meadville, Pa.

Warriors overpower Hawks, 21-7



Walled Lake Western rallied in the second-half Saturday to claim its first football win over Harrison, virtually assuring a Western Division champion other than the Hawks for the first time since the Western Lakes Activities Association was organized in 1982.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Walled Lake Western went back to playing "smash-mouth" football in the second half Saturday and used a potent rushing attack to claim a historic victory.

The Warriors defeated host Farmington Hills Harrison for the first time in 22 years of competition behind the power running of senior Arnie Gillert, 21-7.

It marked the first time Harrison, a 3-0 loser to Livonia Franklin the previous week, has suffered back-to-back defeats since 1978 when it lost to North Farmington and Plymouth Salem.

Western's stock will certainly rise following the victory, which boosted its record to 2-0 in the Western Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association and 4-0 overall.

Harrison, four-time defending WLAA champion and winner of 10 straight division titles, is 0-2 and 2-2. The Hawks

led 7-0 at halftime.

"Captain Matt Loeblig gave an emotional speech and wrote the words 'smash-mouth' on the blackboard at halftime," said Gillert, who rushed for 173 yards on 32 carries and scored two fourth-quarter touchdowns.

"The second half is our part of the game. We kicked in our second wind in the fourth quarter and just played our butts off. I don't know if it was frustration or what. We just knew what we had to do — and we did it."

The Warriors tied the score late in the third quarter when Dave Watkins passed 41 yards to Rob Budd and Travis Ilacqua kicked the first of three extra points.

Gillert, who gained 110 yards on 14 attempts in the final period, carried nine times on the next possession — an 11-play, 62-yard drive that ended with his 2-yard run with 6 minutes left.

"They have a nice combination of

power, and stopping power is not our strength this year," Harrison coach John Herrington said. "Their line was so big, when they got in the power-I and powered it at us, there was not much we could do."

The Warriors forced a Harrison punt and scored the clinching TD with 2 1/2 minutes remaining. Gillert carried on all five plays and sprinted 38 yards for the score.

Western also converted key fourth-down plays on its two scoring drives in the fourth quarter. The Warriors, holding a seven-point lead, needed 2 yards at the Harrison 42 with 2:42 to play and Gillert got 4.

"One, we weren't going to let them block a punt," said Chuck Appa, head coach at Western the last 15 years. "Two, I said 'I'll play defense.' I have faith in our defense, and they have 60 yards to go. At that point of the game, we were just eating up yardage."

The Warriors self-destructed in the first half. Watkins' first two passes were intercepted and Harrison made a goal-line stand. Western gained 76 yards to minus-1 for the Hawks in the first quarter. Scott Gurke also blocked Ilacqua's field-goal attempt just before halftime.

Harrison followed with an 87-yard scoring drive. Scott Gurke (14 carries for 105 yards) gained most the yardage before Jeff Cielo passed 15 yards to Keye Smith for the TD.

"We knew we could get it done," Western lineman Derek Lindsay said. "We just had to suck it up. We figured they would just lie down for us after we drove 80 yards. At halftime, we said we had to smash the football at them and that's what we did."

"We weren't executing the way we know how," Appa said. "We came here very confident but when things start to go wrong you think 'uh-oh.'"

"At halftime I said we were a better football team than what we showed. I started trying to out coach. I told them at halftime we were going back to what we do. I told them we could smash the football at them. When they start coming up then we'll throw the ball. But let's not get fancy and outsmart ourselves."

Western had a 207-94 rushing advantage and gained 238 total yards to 124 for the Hawks. Watkins was 3-of-8 passing for 51 yards, Cielo 3-of-14 for 30. The Warriors had four passes intercepted, Cielo two.

Swimming relays



SHARON LE MEUR/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

WLAA event: Sharon Sutton competes for North Farmington in the 200-yard backstroke Thursday in the Western Lakes Activities Association Relays. See Page 3C for story and stats.

Raiders post 21-0 grid win

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Throughout the first three games of the football season, North Farmington used Todd Anderson's running as a crutch.

But on Saturday, despite having leading pass receiver Scott Lord on the sidelines on crutches, the Raiders went to the pass. Senior tight end Adam Kammer, who had only one previous catch, caught six for 89 yards and one touchdown as North pounded visiting Plymouth Salem, 21-0.

Senior quarterback Jason Danilewicz had his best game, completing seven of 15 passes for 100 yards. The Raiders also had 152 yards rushing, with Anderson gaining 103 yards on 26 carries and scoring twice.

North is 3-1 overall, 2-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association. Danilewicz bruised his left shoulder late in the game but said he'll be back for Saturday's homecoming game against Walled Lake Central.

"We know everyone is going to key on Todd and if you can't use other people you're in trouble," North coach Jim O'Leary said. "Lord is our pass catcher but he's on crutches (with a hyperextended leg). Kammer did a great job. He's the starting end on the other side, not just someone we put in."

Kammer was somewhat surprised to be the Raiders' primary receiver, because "I didn't know if we were going to have a primary receiver," he said.

Combined with a suffocating defense that allowed only three Salem first downs and 48 total yards, the Raiders were almost unstoppable.

The Raiders scored twice after recovering Salem fumbles and another score came after a blocked punt. The Raiders' Dan Greenhalgh also intercepted a pass in the second half.

See FOOTBALL, 3C

Blazers blitz Marlins in division opener

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Coach Ed Kavanaugh was worried that his 7-0 girls basketball team might be a bit rusty after a nine-day layoff.

But Livonia Ladywood looked more like a well-oiled machine, crushing rival Farmington Hills Mercy, 65-34, before nearly 1,100 fans Thursday night in Redford Catholic Central High's gym.

"I was very concerned about it," Kavanaugh said. "But one thing I found out about this team is that they'll rise to the occasion."

"If anything, I think we put on a defensive clinic tonight. It was just good team man-to-man defense. If somebody gets beat off the dribble or pass, there's always someone there to help out."

The Blazers put on an offensive clinic as well.

They hit six of their first eight shots from the floor en route to an 18-4 first quarter advantage. Ladywood followed that up by making its first eight shots of the second period, posting an eye-opening 43-

15 halftime bulge.

"They came after us, they were very aggressive," said Mercy coach Larry Baker, whose team slipped to 4-4 overall. "And they played with terrific confidence."

Senior Mary Jo Kelly paced Ladywood and all scorers with a game-high 18 points, including four shots that dropped from three-point range.

"She's played AAU ball in the off-season and has worked on her game," said Kavanaugh of the 5-foot-8 senior. "She plays three sports, but it's a year-round and she excels at all three. Mary Jo is also an excellent student."

"And if there's such a thing as a quiet leader, she's it. She just leads by example."

Sophomores Melissa Campeau and Tara Overaitis chipped in with 16 and 14 points, respectively. Senior point-guard Tracy Frybylaski contributed nine.

Mercy did not have anybody score in double figures, but that was understandable. The Marlins shot only

22.2 percent from the field (11 for 45). They also turned the ball over 24 times.

"I'd like to characterize it as a bad night," Baker said. "But I was not pleased how we read their defense, and we ended up paying for it."

"I expected us to compete and we didn't tonight. It was not even a battle."

So how good is Ladywood?

It's only one Catholic League Central Division game, but the Blazers may have vaulted to the favorite's role, despite the fact that Harper Woods Regina and Birmingham Marian are highly touted. The Blazers have already beaten preseason No. 1-ranked Saginaw, and have scored impressive road wins at Alpena and Flint Northwestern.

Plymouth Canton, which will probably be ranked No. 1 in Class A this week after beating Regina by one, toppled Mercy by 17 points two weeks ago.

And with 31-point margin of victory Thursday, Ladywood certainly picked up a few votes.