

SPORTS



MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1993

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Holowicki honored

Redford Catholic Central basketball coach Bernie Holowicki has been named to coach the West team in next year's McDonald's All-American All-Star Game, which showcases the nation's top high school talent.

The nationally televised game will be Easter Sunday, April 3, at St. John's Arena in New York, N.Y. Two of Holowicki's former players, Rob Gonzalez in 1978 and Barry Spencer in 1980, were McDonald's All-Stars.

Holowicki said he watched these games from the stands and he is overwhelmed by the invitation to coach from the bench. Holowicki, who has about 40 years coaching experience, has 595 wins and 210 losses in his career.

Holowicki has coached CC since 1971, winning a state championship in 1976 and advancing to the semifinals in '77. He also has won several district and regional titles and could become the state's third coach to win 600 games in a career.

"It's exciting and I feel fortunate," Holowicki said. "Nothing can surpass the state title but this is heavy. It's good."

Holowicki said winning and losing will be secondary compared to the memories the players gain playing in the nation's most-prestigious all-star game.

"Every time I've coached an all-star team I said to the players, 'It's you the people want to see, you stand out,'" he said. "It's for the players, not the coach."

Cruikshank in action

The Friday, Oct. 15, Fight Night at the Palace card will feature a World Women's Boxing Association lightweight champion Christy Martin of Orlando, Fla. (26-1-1 with 19 KOs) against Westland's Debbie Cruikshank, who sports a combined 15-4 record in boxing and kickboxing.

Tickets are on sale at the Palace Box Office and all Ticket Master locations. Prices are \$10 (general admission), \$15 (reserved), \$20 (ringside terrace) and \$30 (ringside). Special cabaret seating is also available.

For more information, call 855-6004.

Magic wins tourney

Canton Magic, an under-13 Little Caesars Premier League boys soccer team, captured the Cincinnati Fall Ball Classic (Oct. 2-3) with wins over the Express '81 (5-0), Lakota Hurricanes (3-0) and Bay Bullets (4-3). The Magic also played the Springfield "Thunder" to a 1-1 draw.

On Sept. 18-19, coach Jerry Parent's team also won its division at the Marriott Classic at Oakland University.

They defeated the GSSC Blackhawks (4-0), Rochester Raiders (3-0), North Metro Rangers II (8-0), USL Force (2-1) and BFC Blazers (1-0).

Members of the Magic include Peter Adreclli, Robert Barnes, Scott Barylki, Michael Bennett, Craig Cochran, Steve Epley, Matt Fair, Jeremy Findlay, Justin Fishaw, Kevin Graff, Chris Houdek, George Kithas, Jon Mathis, David Meyn, Jeff Parent, Steve Scheel, Mike Skolnik and Scott Wright.

Barb Fair is the team manager.

Keleman makes squad

Kate Keleman, a graduate of Livonia Churchill High, has been named to the U.S. Women's Rifle-B National 1994 squad.

Keleman, who attends Murray State (Ky.) University, is among 165 athletes from 40 states who have earned spots on the national, developmental and junior Olympic teams.

Frosh-sophomore meet

Westland John Glenn will host the 12th annual boys and girls Freshman/Sophomore Invitational cross country meet, beginning at 4 p.m. at Central City Parkway (behind Westland City Hall and the Bailey Center). Area teams participating include Redford Catholic Central, Garden City, Plymouth Canton, Plymouth Salem and John Glenn.

Drop-in hockey

It's time to lace up the skates again for drop-in hockey, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at Livonia's Devon-Aire Ice Arena, 9510 Sunset (at W. Chicago) in Livonia. The cost is \$5 per player with a five-player minimum of \$25. (Must be at least 13 years of age.) Full equipment mandatory. Goals free skate.

For more information, call Karl Helmo at 425-9790.

Hoop It Up Day

The Livonia Family YMCA branch will participate in the third annual Hoop It Up Celebration, a day of family sports fun and fitness highlighting the Y's invention of basketball on Saturday, Oct. 16.

For more information, call the Livonia Y at 261-2161.

Farmington surrenders lead, loses 20-7

By STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

FOOTBALL

Livonia Stevenson quarterback Kevin Szczembara completed 11-of-12 passes for 140 yards and one touchdown Saturday, leading the Spartans to a 20-7 football victory over host Farmington.

The Spartans are 5-1 overall, 3-1 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association. Farmington, which beat Walled Lake Central a week earlier, fell to 1-5 overall and 1-3 in the Lakes.

Stevenson hosts Central Friday night.

The Spartans trailed 7-6 late in the second quarter before Szczembara directed a 49-yard scoring drive to go ahead 14-7 at halftime. Szczembara scrambled out of the pocket on first down and goal from the six and found favorite target Brad Morgan in the end zone for a touchdown.

Nick McLaren's diving reception completed a two-point conversion as the Spartans took a 16-7 lead.

Farmington sophomore tailback Jake Siskosky picked up 48 yards rushing on the Falcons' scoring drive and finished with 99 yards on 27 carries. Farmington quarterback Mike Tokar was four-of-11 through the air for 36 yards with just one completion at halftime. Dan Bojicic caught three passes for 31 yards.

"Our defense got much tougher in the second half," Stevenson coach Jack Reardon said. "Their tailback is nice for a sophomore; he's a big, strong kid. But we settled down and stopped their belly play."

"This is a big win for us because we saw them beat a very good Walled Lake Central team"

Junior tailback Scott Goldman led the Spartans with 60 yards on 10 carries. He added a 15-yard TD run, all in the first half.

With three games remaining, the Spartans are starting to keep an eye on where they stand in the Class AA playoff ratings.

"We're taking it one step at a time but it's definitely on our minds," Morgan said.

'We're going to come back. As long as they keep score, we don't want to just compete, we want to win.'

Lauri Niskanen
Farmington coach

Farmington has four sophomores on the varsity, including tailback/defensive end Siskosky. The 6-foot-2, 173-pounder carried the ball 14 times on the Falcons' only scoring drive, including the last nine plays.

He also had two solo sacks and one assisted. Junior Lewis Ryan had one solo sack and one assisted.

"The sophomores are the kids we're building the program around," Niskanen said. "We're going to come back. All I ask is to execute to the best of their ability. As long as they keep score, we don't want to just compete, we want to win."

Hawks clinch division title



Farmington Hills Harrison clinched a berth in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship Friday night with a thrilling victory over host Plymouth Canton.

By NEAL ZIPSER
STAFF WRITER

Roy who?

That question was mumbled by spectators in the Farmington Hills Harrison crowd Friday, as sophomore Jason Granger, younger brother of former Harrison standout running-back Roy Granger, led the Hawks to a 28-21 victory at Plymouth Canton.

With the win, the Hawks improved to 5-1 overall and clinched the Western Lakes Activities Association Western Division with a 4-0 mark. After playing Livonia Churchill next week, Harrison will get an opportunity for revenge against Lakes Division champ Westland-John Glenn.

But Friday, it was Harrison's time to gain revenge against Canton (3-3 overall and 2-2 in the WLAA).

"They ruined our homecoming (23-15) last year, so we wanted to get some revenge at their homecoming this year," said Nick Burgess, who led the Harrison defense with 11 tackles.

Granger and Harrison's speed made the difference Friday. Granger, only 5-feet-7 and 135 pounds, gained a career-high 229 yards on 23 carries, and scored three touchdowns.

"I was worried about their speed coming in and that's what beat us," Canton coach Bob Khoenle said. "There's no substitute for speed. Once Granger got outside we were in trouble. We couldn't contain him. Their speed cut our throats."

Comparing Jason to Roy, who is now playing at Grand Rapids Junior College, is a little premature, according to Harrison coach John Herrington.

"Jason is only a sophomore and he still has a long way to go until he's as good as Roy," Herrington said. "He was able to get outside and use his speed tonight."

"I'm feeling more comfortable back there," Granger said. "Tonight, all the credit goes to the line which did a

great job."

Canton controlled the clock, holding the ball more than 20 minutes, 13 seconds, compared to Harrison's 17:57. Canton also had a 17-13 edge in first downs.

"Our kids did a good job tonight," Khoenle said. "We wanted to come in here and run the ball down their throats. I thought we did a nice job moving the ball but their speed beat us."

Harrison opened the scoring on its first possession by marching 87 yards. The drive was culminated by a 28-yard pass from Joe Pesci to Burgess who caught the ball in stride on a crossing pattern. Brock Gove connected on the first of his four extra points to make it 7-0.

Pesci completed 6 of 10 passes for 103 yards — 80 of the yards going to Burgess who caught five passes. Nick Williams gained 31 yards on 11 carries for Harrison, which out-gained Canton 395-283.

"Jason's running spread the defense out and gave us more room down field," Burgess said. "It also brought some consistency to our passing game, which has been inconsistent this year."

Canton came right with a 17-play, 82-yard drive that ate up 8:33. Eric Arnold's 1-yard plunge and the point after by Jeff Pfliss tied the game at 7-7.

Brett Ellegde did a good job running the Canton offense as the junior completed 8 of 15 passes for 120 yards. Lenny Gardner paced the Canton ground attack with 82 yards on 19 rushes.

The Hawks took the lead on their second possession as Granger's 8-yard run made it 14-7. The sweep around left end ended a 10-play, 71-yard drive.

The Hawks scored again on an 80-yard run by Granger with 4:32 left in

See FOOTBALL, 2C

Just in time: Harrison quarterback Joe Pesci gets a pass off Friday night despite a rush by Plymouth Canton defensive lineman Chris Mazur. The Hawks clinched a division title with a 28-21 win.

By BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

The tag underdog became Redford Catholic Central's best friend Sunday in the annual Boys Bowl before nearly 8,000 fans at Pontiac's Wisner Stadium.

The determined Shamrocks took another bite out football rival Birmingham Brother Rice's mystique, winning for the ninth time in last 10 meetings, 17-7, against an undefeated team that experts rated as the top in Michigan and one of the nation's best.

CC is now 5-1 overall and all alone in first place in the Catholic League's Central Division.

"If we lose this game we go home early, but now we have hope of making the playoffs and playing for the Catholic League championship," CC coach Tom Mach said. "Nobody gave us a chance, but people forgot we've won a lot of games the past six years."

"We had nine new starters on of-

fense and eight on defense this year. We got beat earlier by a good team (7-0 by Toledo St. Francis on Sept. 11) and that really woke us up. Since then we've gotten better every week, plus that Catholic Central spirit is hard to beat."

It was a patented CC victory, a power running attack augmented by a bruising, smashmouth defense.

Rice, however, got off to a quick start.

The Warriors' Marty Weymouth intercepted Freddie Taylor's halfback option pass at his own 34-yard line on CC's second play from scrimmage.

Rice, helped by a pair of Shamrock penalties, drove 66 yards in nine plays, capped by quarterback Derek Canine's 1-yard touchdown run.

CC answered late in the first quarter when Taylor scored on a 1-yard run with 1:48 left in the period to make it 7-7.

Rice then squandered a pair of good second-quarter scoring chances

as CC's defense held at its own 23 and 13.

"You know how young boys are, if you're down deep and don't cash in there is a little bit of disappointment," Rice coach Al Frenessa said. "We still had a half to come back. Yes, there was disappointment, but that's football."

CC turned it up a notch in the third quarter as Rice coughed up the ball twice.

Marcus Harvey, who led all rushers with 92 yards in 23 carries, fumbled at his own 20 and CC's Brad Ratnko recovered the loose ball.

Catholic Central took just four plays to score.

Jon Wolfe, a 5-foot-10, 176-pound senior blocker, was the only senior carries all season, suddenly became a threat on the ground thanks to well-disguised counter-trap play. His 5-yard TD run with 3:13 left in the third period proved to be the game-winner.

"They (Rice) came in with a good line," Mach said. "We weren't so sure we could go at them. We thought we'd try to go around them, but as the game progressed, we went right at them."

Ironically, the shifty Taylor (69 yards in 20 carries) became the blocking back.

"They were keying on Freddie and he just let me through the hole and he'd give me at great block on just about every counter (play)," said Wolfe, who had 79 yards in 12 carries. "They were calling my number and the line just did a great job of blocking."

Adam Borchert gave CC some insurance when he drilled a 24-yard field goal with 9:13 to go.

Rice had the edge in total offense, 160-176, but Canine (nine of 19 for 88 yards and two interceptions) was hurried all afternoon.