Punt, pass, kick winners

I tmight be baseball season, but the sport was footall when the North Farmington-West Bloomfield Vikings held their recent punt, pass and kick competition.

The sge-group winners were Chris Jones (8), Eric Wrenn (9), Jeff Marz (10), Ross Ryan (11), Ryan Lewis (12), Ben Lucas (13) and Anthony Silton (14).

Trophics were awarded to the top three finishers, and all participants received prizes. The Vikings plan to make the competition an annual event.

event.

There are still openings on the NFWB freshman, JV and varsity teams. Anyone between the ages of 8 and 14 who is interested in playing football about dealt Lee Vincent (553-5915) or Jim' Davey (681-8972).

The Vikings will play an eight-game schedule, beginning Sept. 10 against the Farmington Rockets. Home games are played at North Farmington High School.

Fury holds second place The Farmington Fury (17-10-4) has improved a division standing by winning its last two soccer games.

The Fury moved into second place with a 5-3-3 record behind the Saginaw Kickers, who lead the

record behind the Saginaw Kickers, who lead the division at 8.4.

Farmington beat Saginaw twice this season by the scores of 1-0 and 2-1. The Fury has one more game against Novi next week before competing in three summer tournaments.

"I am pleased with the progress we've shown," Fury coach Tom Faro said. "The league moved us up a division and, at first, we weren't too happy about it. But the guys stepped up and want to move up again next season."

"I'm happy for them because they've talked about moving up all season."

(Farmington sports information can be faxed to the Ob-server at (313) 591-7279 or mailed to Dan O'Meara at 38251 Schookeraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The phone number is (313) 935-2141.)

FARMING ON FILLS
SPORTS
SCENE

Lord top player in Observerland



In an area loaded with soccer talent, North Farmington's Ali Lord was a standout. The senior forward concluded her career with 104 goals and made the All-Observer team a second time.

the school's only gitls coach in its history. Johnson will coach one last season of boys soccer, then it's off to florida.

Another typical, average year in gitls soccer for Observerland.

Perhaps the only thing missing was a state championship. Plymouth Salem made it to the Class A final, but the Rocks could not stop Birmingham Seaholm, losing 4-2. Which means it's been five years since a glist team from this area has reigned supreme (in 1990, Livonia Stevenson man champ).

Since then, it's been Eccentric-area teams that have won every year. So perhaps we should resurrect the Observer vs. Eccentric all-star game, discontinued a decade age; (Editor's note: It's the state high school athletic association and its rule forbidding underclassmen from competing in such courts that prevents as from sponsoring it.)

That Class A dominance could change in the very near future, considering this year's all-Observer teams. Of the 22 players selected to the first two teams, only 10 are seniors. And of the remaining 12, there are three freshmen and four sophomores.

Which means there's a lot of young. Which means there's a lot of young and estate the second thin season. It is considered that the second th

are three freshmen and too. ""
mores.

Which means there's a lot of young
talent developing in this area. The
east few years could be even better
than the past few.
Still, there were a couple of losses
from this season that must be acknowledged. First and foremost is the
retirement of Salem's Ken Johnson,

the school's only girls coach in its history. Johnson will coach one last season of boys soccer, then it's off to Florida.

and on payer than more to their team than lard did to North. Michigan High School Ath-ticle Association is dean team. Lord noted Selection as the season (a North school record), and assisted on seven others. Her perform-ance samed Lord the most valuable player word in the Western Lakes Activities Associa-tion for the second straight year. Lord finished her four-year variety career with 104 goals and 24 assists.



Record setter: North Farmington senior Ali Lord surpassed her own school record with 34 goals this year.

Farmington talent among area's best

By Steve Kowalski and Richard L. Shook Stady Writers

When Bob O'Brien took over a struggling Livonia Ladywood track program in 1993, he knew a quick start out of the guestion.

The Blazers had to concentrate

The Blazers had to concentrate on taking baby steps.
"It was frustrating, at first," said O'Brien, 27. "For the most part, I had been a part of winning teams and knowing we wouldn't win at first was tough. But I knew I was young enough to weather the storm.

i was young the story of the storm.
"The biggest job is trying to get a winning attitude and keeping the kida around." 1968 graduate of OBrien is 1968 graduate of Redford Catholic Central, where control of the story of the sto

O'Brien's first team at Ladywood had only 45 members. This season, the Blazers had a turmout of about 80, and it showed as they finished 4.2 in dual meets and won their first Catholic League championship in 11 years.
Ladywood finished fifth at the regional and sent six giris in seven events to the state meet.
For his efforts, O'Brien, a history and government teacher at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, has been named Observerland Coach of the Year.

ALL-AREA TEAM

Alleha Gordon, N. Farmington, shot pett The senior who is headed to Wayne State University on a bosketbell scholarship hodds school records in the shot put (394-49), discus (142-11) and 100-meter hurdles (16.1). She finished eighth in the state in the shot and fifth in the discus. She received the Lady Raider Cup as the



All-Area swards: Harrison senior Krista Snow anchored the fastest 400-meter relay team.

TRACK 1995 ALL-ORSERVER GIRLS TRACK TEAM

Cavin, Prymouth Salem.

1. Sarah Hamilton, Plymouth Salem.

1. Sarah Hamilton, Plymouth Salem.

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Instale Goldings, Plymouth Salem.

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Alison Noe, Farmington Hills Harri
Roccie Dotton, Plymouth Salem.

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COACH OF THE YEAR



OPEN DAILY 10-9 SATURDAY 10-6 SUNDAY 12-5