

SPORTS

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1995

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Emons top prophet

Brad Emons did his impression of Red Auerbach after a Celtics championship last week.

Or was it General Ulysses S. Grant following the formalities at Appomattox Court House?

There was no less cause to celebrate as Emons lit a victory cigar after beating his counterpart, Dan O'Meara, for the second time in three years in the high school football prediction contest.

Emons correctly picked 12 of 14 games on the final weekend of prep action to finish the year 109-21 overall (83.3 winning percentage).

The unlucky Irishman, meanwhile, felled in his last-ditch effort to win, going 10-4 in the final round and ending up 102-29 (78.4).

But O'Meara can take solace in the fact he is 6-3 in the friendly rivalry over the past nine seasons. Better luck next year, Dan.

Cross country results

Farmington Hills Mercy placed second in the freshman-sophomore girls cross country race in Center Line last week.

The Marlins scored 59 points Tuesday, two less than Port Huron Northern. Grose Pointe South was third (106) and Livonia Ladywood fifth (131) among 10 teams.

Mercy's Jackie Segus finished fourth (19:44), Mandy Phelps seventh (20:33), Erin Thomas 10th (20:43), Christina Andriola 12th (21:03), Danielle Wroblewski 26th (21:41) and Katie Brennan 27th (21:42).

Farmington High placed fourth in the Lakeland Invitational for freshman and sophomore boys the same day.

The host Eagles had 67 points, Novi 109, Rochester 118 and the Falcons 119.

Farmington's Matt Beckelaers was ninth (18:11), Ryan Scheidts 12th (18:18), West Barrett 13th (18:21), Rob Bable 42nd (19:35) and Justin Miller 43rd (19:36).

Youth soccer champs

The Livonia YMCA '85 Michigan Wolves won the under-11 Select Division in the Western Suburban Soccer League with a 9-0 record.

The '85 Wolves posted seven shutouts and outscored their opponents 31-2.

Team members are goalkeeper Timmy Allen, Brady Crosby, Nik Djokic, Brian Ennis, J.T. Kaitkos, all of Livonia; Matt Okopy, Farmington Hills; Brian Popeney and Mike Simons, Canton; Mike Browiak, Fraser; Keith Mullins, Dearborn Heights; Tony Zenn, Dearborn; Josh Churella and Jeff Ehrhalt, Novi; and John Haezebrouck, Southfield. Assistant coaches include Pat Frederick and Andy Shiner.

The team is coached by Joe Knerl and managed by Edward Allen.

Vipers school program

A pair of Farmington grade schools will participate in the Detroit Vipers School Assembly Program.

The program involves a 45-minute presentation by John Ahlers, the voice of the Vipers, and a Vipers player. The purpose is to teach messages about teamwork, staying in school, drug and alcohol awareness and goal setting.

The program includes a demonstration of the equipment hockey players wear and contests to see how well the children are listening.

The Vipers will visit Kenbrook Elementary School in Farmington Hills at 1:45 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 11, and Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows School at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18.

All children participating in the program will receive complimentary tickets to a Vipers game at The Palace.

Mite AA Fire wins 3-0

The first-year Farmington Hills Mite AA Fire hockey team (ages 8-9) won its fourth consecutive league game Thursday with a 3-0 shutout of Trenton.

Brandon Harrell (Novi) notched two goals, and Eric Lubanski (Farmington Hills) sealed the victory with an empty-net tally.

The goal was Lubanski's fourth in the last two games. Goalsie Chase Van Tom (Plymouth) earned his first shutout.

The Mite AA Fire has a 4-1 record. Their next game is Friday, Nov. 10, at Livonia.

The next home game is 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, against Bowling Green (Ohio). Admission is free.

Youth baseball tryouts

Tryouts for the Michigan Bulls (formerly the Michigan Merchants) for 13- and 14-year-olds will be held in November. The team is based in the Farmington area.

For more information, call Cris Hansen at (313) 724-0234 or Gary Flanson at (313) 601-8878.

Information for the Sports Scene can be sent to Dan O'Meara at 2667 Schenck, Livonia, MI 48150 or faxed to (313) 891-7970. The phone number is (313) 663-2141.



SHARON LEMLEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Down but not out: South Lyon's Mike Watson is thrown to the ground by Harrison defender Jeff Aschoff, but Watson was on his feet long enough to gain 178 yards and score two touchdowns in South Lyon's 40-0 victory.

Harrison no longer king in Class A



Farmington Hills Harrison's two-year reign as Class A football champion ended Saturday when South Lyon posted a 40-0 victory over the Hawks in a first-round playoff game.

BY DAN O'MEARA
DEADY WRITER

If it had been rain instead of snow that fell Saturday, it would have poured — at least on the Farmington Hills Harrison football sideline.

Nothing went right for the Hawks in a Class A playoff game at South Lyon, and the No. 1-ranked Lions could do no wrong.

The result was a snowball effect as South Lyon rolled to a stunning, 40-0 victory over two-time defending state champ Harrison and averaged a 28-28 loss on the same field a year ago.

"To be the state champs, you have to beat a state champion," South Lyon coach Bob Scheloeke said. "Whether it's us or someone else, we just know it won't be Farmington Harrison as a result of what happened today."

"We didn't discuss last year's game; our focus was this year's game."

"They're a class team and an excellent program, and we knew we had to play a good game against them."

It was only the seventh loss in 43

playoff games for the Hawks and their worst defeat since losing to Galesburg-Augusta in the early 1970s.

It also marked the first time Harrison lost in the first round of the playoffs in 14 post-season appearances.

The Hawks (8-2) were forced to play without junior linebacker and fullback Nick Shaleh, who suffered a broken arm earlier in the week.

"Obviously, it didn't affect the outcome of the game," Harrison coach John Herrington said. "But he's a great player, and we lost his leadership and his ability to play defense and block."

The game started well for the Hawks, who committed five turnovers and were outgained 325-170 overall.

The Shamrocks, rated the No. 1 team in Michigan and No. 22 nationally in USA Today, advanced in the Class AA tournament with a pulsating 14-8 win over the underdog Spartans at Livonia Clarenceville.

CC, now 10-0 overall, will square off against defending state champ Troy (9-1) for the Region II championship. The game is tentatively set for 1:30 p.m. this Saturday at Pontiac's Wigner Stadium.

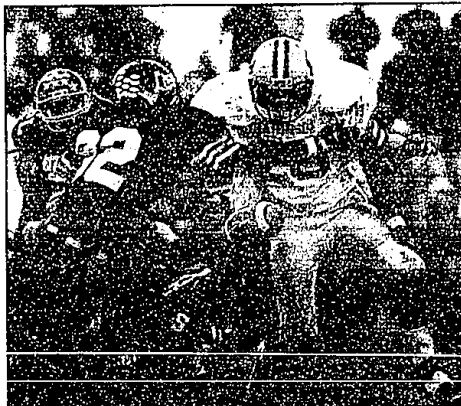
The Shamrocks averted one of the greatest upsets in Observerland history after stopping Stevenson at the Spartans' 1-yard line early in the fourth quarter.

Leading 7-6, CC then marched 92 yards in 21 plays to seal the win, capped by Greg Call's 6-yard touchdown run on fourth down with only 35 seconds to play.

Stevenson, forced to burn all three timeouts during the 8:27 drive, was not through despite being down eight points.

Quarterback Dean Bacheller hit Gabe Clark out of the backfield for 67-yard gain down to the CC 23.

Bacheller followed by hurling a pass to the end zone for wide receiver



Playoff action: Harrison's Adam Smerecki loses the handle on the football while being tackled by Eric Schrock.

See HAWKS, 2C

CC has close call with Stevenson

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Redford Catholic Central is still alive in the state football playoffs, but not without some irregular heartbeats Saturday, courtesy of a gallant Livonia Stevenson team.

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FOOTBALL

Jeff Beckus, who had the ball momentarily, but couldn't hang on.

The clock then ran out with Bacheller scrambling to get out of bounds near the CC 22.

"This was a great state playoff game," CC coach Tom Mach said. "It was a terrific, hard-hitting game by both teams. It could have gone either way."

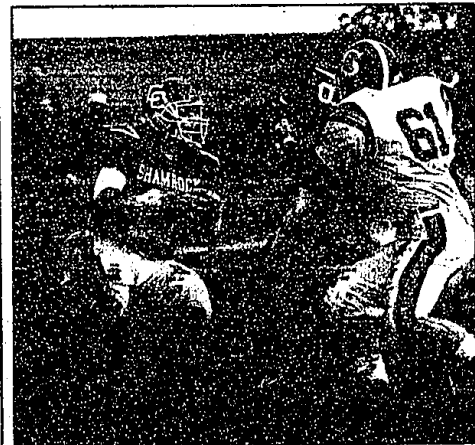
"We did a terrific job stopping Stevenson inside the 10 and I was proud of the way our kids drove the ball on the final drive."

A pair of end zone drops, which could have given Stevenson the lead, proved pivotal as far as the final outcome.

But the key play of the game occurred with the Spartans facing a second-and-goal at the CC 1 with just over nine minutes remaining.

Bacheller dropped back to pass, but was sacked for a 7-yard loss by CC tackle Dan Dominguez and Rick Deplata.

"CC's defensive line did an excellent job," said Stevenson first-year coach Tim Gabel, whose team was held to a net-10 yards rushing in 24 attempts. "They front three are all stronger and quicker than anybody



TOM HARTLEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Key play: Quarterback Greg Call of Farmington drops back to throw a touchdown pass that gave CC a 7-0 lead.

See SHAMROCKS, 2C