

## FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Gaines receives honor

University of Vermont freshman Trevor Gaines of Farmington Hills has been named to the America East Conference all-rookie team in men's basketball. A 6-foot-6 forward and former All-Observersland star at Farmington High School, Gaines joined Vermont sophomore guard Tony Orciani as the only Vermont players to earn post-season, All-America East Conference honors.

Orciani, last year's America East Rookie of the Year, made the all-conference third team.

Gaines, the leading rebounder among conference rookies, is the seventh Vermont player to earn all-rookie status and the fourth in the last five seasons.

Gaines averaged 5.1 points and 4.5 rebounds per game, and he was one of only four Catamounts to play in all 26 games.

In his first collegiate game versus Lehigh last November, Gaines recorded a double-double with 10 points and 12 rebounds.

The Catamounts were 11-16 overall and 7-11 in the conference.

"We are real proud of Trevor, and he is real deserving of this honor by the league," Vermont coach Tom Brennan said.

"He is a joy to coach, and he has a tremendous upside. Of the five rookies on the all-rookie team, I think we have the player with the brightest future."

Northeastern University guard Jean Bain of Medford, Mass., was named America East Rookie of the Year after averaging 9.5 points, 2.2 rebounds and two assists.

Maine, Hofstra, Delaware, Drexel, Hartford, Boston and New Hampshire are the other conference schools.

### MIAA kudos for Valade

Sophomore MaryJane Valade of Farmington Hills received post-season honors in women's basketball as a member of the All-Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association's second team.

The former Mercy High School star led Kalamazoo College with 13.96 points per game while shooting 43.2 percent from the field.

She also led the Hornets with 66 assists and was third in rebounding with 5.7 per game. She averaged 14.8 points and six rebounds in league play.

Valade had game highs of 28 points versus Adrian College and 12 rebounds at Madonna University.

Kalamazoo senior Kelly LaCosse of Farmington Hills (Harrison High) was an MIAA honorable mention.

The Hornets recorded the most wins since the 1993-94 season with an 11-14 record. Kalamazoo was 7-9 overall.

### Saints are good sports

Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows' fifth- and sixth-grade girls basketball gold team received the Archdiocese of Detroit's CYO Sportsmanship First Award.

The players and coaches were honored Feb. 28 between games of the Catholic League high school boys basketball playoffs at Calihan Hall on the campus of the University of Detroit Mercy.

It's the first time a Sorrows team has won the sportsmanship award.

Members of the Sorrows team are Caitlin Tracey, Emily Pelton, Paige Ryan, Correy Law, Jenna Johnson, Pam Lyskawa, Christina Cornwell, Rachel Ciccone, Ashley Wrobel, Megan McChie, Kristin Martin, Katie Rafferty, Carlotta Allievi, Katie Markey and Maggie Cornell.

The Sorrows team is coached by Kevin Ryan and Dave Peczynski.

### Academic grid honors

In the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association's academic all-state selections, Farmington Harrison senior quarterback Dave Pesci and the Farmington High team received honorable mentions.

Harrison coach John Harrington was named Class A Coach of the Year by the MHSFCA.

## Raiders runners-up in tourney

North Farmington met its match defensively Friday when Walled Lake Western took a 43-37 victory in the championship game of the WIAA basketball tourney.

BY DAN O'MEARA  
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Walled Lake Western showed it can play a pretty stingy brand of defense on the basketball court, too.

The Warriors shut down North Farmington before a packed crowd Friday at Livonia Franklin to win their first Western Lakes Activities Association championship, 43-37.

"We take a lot of pride in our defense," said Western senior Ben Dewart, who scored 13 points. "If we play good defense, that will lead to offense. We don't worry too much about that. The key is our defense."

The Raiders were the No. 1-rated defensive team in Oakland County, allowing an average of 42 points per game, but the Warriors might be able to make that claim now.

"At halftime we talked about getting some transition baskets, because it was difficult to score," Western coach Rex Stanczak said. "Luckily, the best thing we do is play defense, and we held them down."

North junior center Emir Medunjanin led all scorers with 16 points, but the Raiders had a hard time getting the ball to him in the post.

Medunjanin, who had only 10 shots but made seven, was guarded by Western's Jeff Mitchell with help from John Eagle.

"Jeff did a tremendous job, and he was giving up a lot of height," Stanczak said. "He's been in Ben's shadow all year but has done a great job."

"John Eagle is our spy. If Emir touches the ball, he was the double. He had to guard his guy and then double down. (Mitchell and Eagle) did a great job of forcing Emir to kick the ball out."

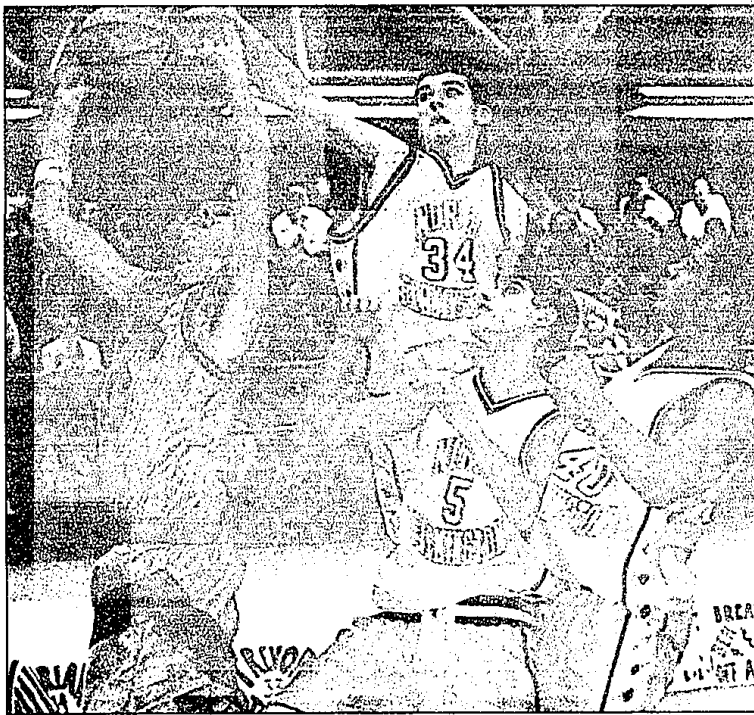
The 5-foot-10 senior guard scored consecutive baskets off rebounds early in the third quarter to extend the Western lead to 33-26.

"His two putbacks may be the key to the game, and he's not really a kid who rebounds," Stanczak said. "He's our best defensive player. He did a good job

on (North point guard) Albert (Deljosevic) and came up with those two plays. Mitchell and Dawood scored some big baskets, too, but the main thing was our defense. We won two games shooting under 30 percent, and that was because the kids busted their butts for 32 minutes on the floor."

While Dewart scored for the Raiders, the Raiders also did a good job of taking him out of the game offensively.

"That's what we were hoping to do,



Going to the hoop: Walled Lake Western's John Eagle gets behind the North Farmington Defense Friday. The North defenders are Emir Medunjanin (34), Phil Watha (5) and Adrian Bridges (40).

so defensively I think we were very successful," North coach Tom Negoshian said. "We had (the score) defensively where we think it's needs to be to win."

"Tom Negoshian is a great coach and we know he'd make certain Ben didn't get a lot of clean looks," Stanczak said, "but other kids stepped up."

Adrian Bridges contributed 10 points for the Raiders, who were WIAA co-champs with Western in the round-

robin season and enter post-season play at 16-4. Deljosevic added five and Brian Shulman four.

"Defensively, we played well," Negoshian said. "Offensively, we didn't play real well. We didn't execute some of the things we talked about, but part of that was Walled Lake Western. They did a nice job, and we didn't do a good job of adjusting to it."

The Warriors led 10-6 after one quar-

Please see RAIDERS, D4

## Hawks hustle, scrap for 2OT victory

### BASKETBALL

Both coaches agreed: it was what high school basketball should be all about.

Farmington Harrison defeated Plymouth Canton, 73-70, in double overtime Thursday night, but that wasn't the point.

"It shows you how great young people are," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said. "Here was a game that some people would say doesn't mean anything, and two teams are sweating blood all over the floor."

"It was a great game, a great game!" Canton coach Dan Young said. "Except that we didn't get it done. But it was still a great game."

Sophomore Oliver Wolcott came off the bench to hit the three-point shot — his only points of the game — that deadlocked the score at 56 with two seconds to play and sent the game into overtime.

digit lead in the fourth quarter but began playing "safe" basketball, and Canton stormed back to tie with a 23-14 margin in the fourth quarter.

Joe Cortellini, guarded closely by Wilson throughout the game, continually ran through multiple screens to get his leading three-point shots off. He made four of them and totaled 19 points.

Junior center Jason Waidmann led Canton with 25 points but was held to three in the two overtimes.

"Nathan Rau rebounded and played his heart out for us in the fourth quarter," Young said. "He was very sick all day and spent a lot of time at the drinking fountain."

"But he was a trigger for getting us back in the game in the fourth quarter. He'd come out and then ask to go back in. It was great."

Wilson scored 20 to lead Harrison.

Andrew Burt scored 16 and added 17 rebounds, and he played the last 10 minutes with four fouls hanging over his head. Pesci and Nelson scored 12 each.

The Hawks, who take a 13-7 record into tournament play, went to the free throw line 41 times and made 28 shots. Canton (11-9) made nine of 13 free throws.

"For a game you only play for pride," Teachman said. "It's a neat thing. It was a really high level of basketball."

"It's a wonderful thing to see people who love to play the game at the end of the season, when they could say they've got to save themselves for the districts. It's nice to see that kind of heart."

"Then, after a hard-fought game — a get-on-the-floor kind of game — they

Please see BASKETBALL, D4

## Shamrocks looking ahead to state meet

### SWIMMING

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For second place.

The Shamrocks were using the league meet to attain more state-meet qualifying times. The state meet is Friday and Saturday at Oakland University in Rochester.

Earning the only state cuts prior to Saturday's action was CG senior Ryan Mookins, who has qualified in both the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyles.

Now he has his sights set on breaking the school record in the 100 freestyle, which is 46.9. His personal best time in the 100 free is 48.32.

Mookins, who also swims on the Shamrocks' 200 medley relay and 400 freestyle relay, is one of three senior-to-captains. The others are Josh Markou and John LaRuffa.

"I think I should get (the record)," Mookins said. "I've been dropping time every week. Facing Brother Rice (in the Catholic League Meet) gets us pumped up, we know we have a challenge. We like challenges. They make us go faster."

Mookins is also a cross country runner in the fall, which helps his stamina, according to Danny Knipper. His times are remarkable, according to Danny Knipper, because he isn't training year-round.

"He gets a real good aerobic base from running so much," Danny Knipper said. "He only trains four months. Once he trains six, seven, eight months, he will show good things."

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