

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

OCC signs players

Oakland Community College men's basketball coach Dymetrius Ware has announced the signing of 14 players for the 1999-2000 season.

Oakland County signees are forward Alfonso Porter of Southfield-Lathrup, center Jovell Leatherwood and forward Charles Hudson of Pontiac Central and center Rodhime Mosley of Pontiac Northern.

Signing from Wayne County are forward Jason Jennings (Detroit King), guard David Donham (Detroit DeForres), point guard Chris Cooper (Highland Park), forward Codric Mitchell (Highland Park), guard Walter Johnson (Detroit Osborn) and guard Wesley Shaw (Redford St. Agatha).

The Warren Fitzgerald duo of forward Tim Swafford and point guard Jeff Townsend are Macomb County signees. Rounding out the list of new players are point guard Michael Harris of Flint Central and center Lamaine Anderson of Texarkana, Ark.

The Raiders open the season Friday, Nov. 6, with their annual alumni game at the Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.

Hall new EMU coach

Scott Hall, a former resident of Farmington Hills, has been named head coach for women's soccer at Eastern Michigan University.

Hall, who was an assistant coach at EMU for the last four years, takes over for Paul Seicluna, who died in an automobile accident April 24.

Hall was a four-year letter winner on the EMU men's soccer team from 1990-94 and was a team captain for two seasons.

He earned his bachelors degree in elementary education in 1994 and has been working on a masters degree in special education.

Hall, who was born in South Carolina and grew up in Farmington Hills, graduated from Grand Ledge High School in 1989 after earning all-league and all-area honors in soccer for three consecutive seasons.

In addition to his EMU coaching duties, Hall has worked with Total Soccer and has been a counselor and instructor at soccer camps and clinics.

Malek earns honor

Redford Catholic Central center fielder Bob Malek, who is headed to Michigan State, was recently named by Scholastic Coach magazine as Gatorade Circle of Champions Baseball Player of the Year for Michigan.

Malek, who is eligible to win regional and national honors, leads the 36-1 Shamrocks with a .053 on-base percentage and 18 extra-base hits. He is batting .389 with nine home runs, 44 RBI and 44 walks.

As a pitcher, Malek is 6-0 and has given up just three earned runs in 30 1/3 innings.

Avery baseball camps

Oakland University head baseball coach Mark Avery and former minor league batting champion Andy Fairman will teach the fundamentals of hitting, fielding and base running at Avery's All-Star Baseball Camp, Monday through Thursday, June 21-24 and June 28-July 1, at OU.

The camp costs \$200 with morning and afternoon sessions available (four-to-one camper to coach ratio).

For more information, call Avery at (810) 623-1953 or (248) 370-4059.

Chamber Golf Classic

The 1999 Chamber Golf Classic will be played Wednesday, June 30, at the Links of Novi with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. The event is sponsored by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

The fee is \$140. Reservations can be made with Visa or Mastercard or by mailing a check to Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, 33000 Thomas Street, Suite 101, Farmington, MI 48336.

For more information, call the Chamber office at (248) 474-3440.

Team needs catcher

The 16-and-under NFWB-Ultimate Precision girls softball team needs a catcher. If you're a catcher in need of a team, call coach Ito Schrock at (248) 471-3688 in the evening.

Shamrocks return to state semis



Catholic Central High School's baseball team is going back to the Division I semifinals to play Portage Central on Friday after winning a regional tournament championship with a 10-2 win over Brighton on Tuesday.

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
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Redford Catholic Central and Brighton were locked in a pitchers' duel through six innings of a Division I baseball quarterfinal on Tuesday at Carleton Airport.

You'd never know it just looking at the final score: 10-2, in CC's favor.

The Shamrocks erupted for eight runs on eight hits in the top of the seventh, highlighted by a grand slam from senior cleanup hitter Casey Rogowski and a solo homer from the next batter in the lineup, Anthony Toney.

The win sends the Shamrocks, 36-1 overall, to the Final Four for the third time in the last five years.

Portage Central, which beat

Rochester Adams 12-2 in another quarterfinal, is the semifinal opponent. The Shamrocks lost in the semifinals last year to Saline and in the 1995 semifinals to Adams.

The CC-Central semifinal starts at 2 p.m. Friday at C.O. Brown Stadium in Battle Creek. The championship game is at 2 p.m. Saturday, also at C.O. Brown Stadium.

"I think part of it is the disappointment from last year (losing in the semifinals) really has been a motivator for the kids," CC coach John Salter said. "They seem to find a way to win."

Toney, CC's ace, improved his record to 11-1 with a complete-game four-hitter to go with 11 strikeouts. After sur-

rendering a two-run homer in the first to Jeff Biehl, Toney blanked Brighton on two hits the rest of the way.

CC scored two runs in the fourth to tie the score, 2-2.

Mark Cole led off with a walk, single and double by Rogowski put runners on second and third. Cole scored on Toney's sacrifice fly and Rogowski went to third. Rogowski scored on a wild pitch, a bang-bang play at the plate, that tied the score 2-2.

Rogowski finished 2-for-4 and Toney was 2-for-3 with two RBI.

Regional tournament results

CC and Dearborn met in a regional. Please see SHAMROCKS, C8



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL ENGLISH

Harrison runner Brian Nelson slides into home plate in the fourth inning Saturday to score Harrison's only run during a 10-1 loss to Harper Woods Notre Dame in a Division II regional tournament contest. ND catcher Chris Hilligan awaits the throw, which came too late. But the Irish already had a 4-0 lead at the time.

Regional defeat ends Harrison season

BY DAN O'MEARA
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BASEBALL

The downpour that cut short a regional tournament game Saturday was a suitable metaphor for the bitter experience Farmington Harrison's baseball team was dealt.

Ill fortune rained on the Hawks early in their game with Harper Woods Notre Dame, and their post-season hopes were thoroughly soaked by the sixth inning when play was stopped.

The pitching that had carried Harrison to a district title the previous week was unable to check Notre Dame, which expanded a 3-0, first-inning lead

into a 10-1 victory in Division II action at Mount Clemens Clintondale.

When the rain came down hard after six innings, the umpire called it an official game. Notre Dame (27-11) went on to beat Madison Heights Lempere Saturday in the final, 8-0.

"Our pitching just collapsed; I couldn't believe it," Harrison coach John Harrington said. "We were real happy with the season, but it's very disappointing to go out like that and not be competitive in the last game."

The loss went to Zach Burton, who pitched the first three innings, faced 15 batters and gave up four runs, five hits and a walk. The Hawks (23-6) also made three of their four errors during that span.

Cleanup hitter Carl Saad, who pitched a complete game for Notre Dame, gave the Fighting Irish the lead with a three-run, opposite-field homer to left.

Burton retired the side in order in the second inning and the first two batters in the third, but Saad singled and made it 4-0 on a double by Chris Hilton, who was caught in a rundown trying to reach third base.

"Even at that point, I thought (Burton) could hold them in," Harrington said. "But it didn't appear he had good velocity, and his curveball was hanging, so I thought we'd try Joe (Ghannam)."

After giving up a leadoff single to Tim Baywal in the fourth, Burton was replaced by Ghannam, who had trouble with his control and lasted only two innings, allowing six runs, two hits and five walks.

The Irish loaded the bases in the fourth with an infield error, a walk and a fielder's choice that erased Baywal at

Please see HAWKS, C8

After loss to Troy, Mercy looking forward to 2000

BY DAN O'MEARA
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SOFTBALL

A loss to Troy in a regional tournament Saturday marked the end of the season but not the end of the line for the Farmington Hills Mercy softball players.

Despite the disappointment of a 4-3 defeat, the Marlins can look forward to next year when they will return their entire team. Mercy had no seniors on its 1999 ballclub.

"We are very optimistic, considering eight of our losses were to teams in the quarterfinals," Mercy coach Jack Falvo said. "We think we have a good young team coming. We're very hopeful for a good season next year."

The Marlins, who finished with a 23-

15 overall record, started five juniors, two sophomores and two freshmen.

"I think the girls got a taste of what competition is and where they want to be, and we think we have a great group ready to go," Falvo said.

Troy (32-8) won the game with a single run in the bottom of the seventh inning when Andrea Solomon tripled and Amy Nelson followed with a single. Mercy had rallied for the second time to tie the score, 3-3, with two runs in the top of the seventh.

Nuvero Naami was hit by a pitch and Carris Brankiewicz singled, and



STAFF PHOTO BY KELLIANNE CAMPBELL

Disappointed Marlins: Mercy players left the field Saturday with sad faces, but they can look forward to next season now.

Please see MARLINS, C7