

Sports & Recreation

The Farmington
Observer

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FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Falcons best rivals

It was a good week for the Farmington High volleyball team, which defeated its city rivals to capture the public school city championship.

The Falcons followed a win over North Farmington on Monday with a 16-14, 15-6 victory over visiting Farmington Harrison on Wednesday.

Senior Melissa Mytty led the Falcons with three kills and 11 defensive digs. Senior setter Meghan O'Rear had 11 kill assists.

Farmington is 3-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 12-6-3 overall.

Irish defeat Marlins

Farmington Hills Mercy was on the short end of a long volleyball match score Thursday with visiting Pontiac Notre Dame Prep.

The Marlins suffered their second straight defeat in the Catholic League crossover match, losing the first and third games, 15-17, while winning the second, 15-9.

The lengthy contest allowed for a lot of hitting opportunities, and the Marlins had their share of kills despite the defeat.

With Meghan O'Connor (45 assists) setting instead of injured Amy Miller, Carrie Brankiewicz recorded 13 kills, Liz Cash 12, Kristy Ramsey and Kelley Blunden 10 apiece.

The Marlins are 18-7-1 overall.

Patriots down Flyers

Livonia Franklin avenged an 8-0 hockey defeat to Farmington Unified in early December with a 6-3 victory Friday night.

The Patriots scored a pair of goals in each period against the host Flyers in a Western Lakes Activities Association game at Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

Sam Dismuke led Franklin with two goals and two assists. Andy and Josh Garbutt, along with Jesse Wright and Adam Bierley also scored goals for the Patriots, who are 4-5-2 in the WLA and 5-6-2 overall.

Brandon McCullough, Wright and Bierley each added two assists; John Nichol, Matt Wisell, Trevor Skoczen and Paul Statham added one apiece. Franklin goaltender Rob Williams made 28 saves.

The Flyers (9-5, 6-4) had a goal in each period. Glenn Hearn, Chris Hone and Kevin Temerowski scored for Farmington.

Preston Picard added two assists, while Temerowski, Brian Marion, Dan Mooney and Matt Lee added one apiece.

Farmington netminder Greg Diven made 26 saves.

Hockey clinic planned

Suburban Hockey Schools will conduct its one-day Mid-Winter Clinic for ages 6 and up on Monday, Feb. 14, at the Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills.

The clinic will cover stick handling and puck control from 10 to 11:50 a.m., a shoot-to-score session from noon to 1:50 p.m. and a defense clinic 2 to 3:50 p.m.

The cost of the clinic is \$40 per player per session. Class size is limited to 32 players. Players will be grouped by skill and experience level. Full hockey equipment is required. Call Suburban Hockey Schools at (248) 478-1800 for more information.

Winterfest Run

The Riverview Winterfest, a four-mile run sponsored by the Downriver Runners, will be 10 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 13, at Seitz Junior High in Riverview. The \$14 entry fee (before Feb. 6) includes pancake breakfast, long-sleeve shirt, raffle, awards and mailed race results.

Late registration (Feb. 7-12) is \$16 at Total Runner in Southgate. Race day registration is \$18 at Seitz, located on the corner of Williamsburg and Kennebec between Pennsylvania and Sibley, and Allen Road and Fort Street.

Prize money will be awarded to the top three male and female finishers, along with the top two male and female masters runners.

Last year's champions were Keith Stopen in the men's (20:03) and six-time women's champion Laurel Park (22:55).

To register call a Total Runner store at either (734) 282-1101 or (248) 364-1177.

Warriors defeat Hawks in triple OT

BY DAN O'MEARA
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BASKETBALL

There's still a long way to go in the Western Lakes Activities Association basketball race, but a big win Friday put Walled Lake Western in a better situation than another of the top teams.

The Warriors had to play an extra 12 minutes before deciding an early-season showdown at Farmington Harrison with an 85-80 victory in triple overtime.

With both teams having one WLA loss entering the game, the win means Western remains just one game behind the tri-leaders.

North Farmington, Farmington and Livonia Churchill are 3-0. Western and

Northville are 2-1; Harrison falls to two games back along with four other teams at 1-2.

"We really put a lot of emphasis on this game," Western coach Rex Stanczak said. "We didn't have a game Tuesday, so we put in four pretty hard practices preparing for Harrison."

"I told the kids this is the kind of victory that can really catapult a team. It could be the kind of thing that puts us on roll."

Both teams are 6-3 overall.

Jenaro Dawood, who made five three-point shots and scored 23 points to lead the Warriors, put Western ahead to stay, 79-70, with his fifth triple at the

start of the third overtime.

After an exchange of free throws by Harrison center Joe Hundley and Western's Johnny Eagle, the Hawks were left without their leading scorer when Hundley, who had a game-high 26 points and 14 rebounds, fouled out with 1:04 remaining.

"It's safe to say we're a dramatically better ballclub when Joe is on the floor," Harrison coach Dave Turnquist said.

"It would have been nice a tradeoff if they had to take Jenaro off the floor when we took Joe off the court, but the game doesn't work that way."

Eagle, who had eight overtime points, including six free throws, made two of his last four for an 83-78 Western lead. After a basket by Harrison's

Nick Hall, Dawood iced the win with two free throws.

"It's one of the greatest high school games I've ever been part of," Stanczak said. "Both teams played so hard, so hard."

"It's a cliché but it was one of those games, even as the opposing coach, you wish neither team had to lose. It was just an incredible game."

"I thought we could be in for a war, but I never thought it would be that big of a war — three overtimes!"

Dawood had just five points through three quarters, but he scored 13 in the fourth quarter, including three triples.

With the scored tied at 59, Dawood hit two threes from NBA range on consecutive possessions for a 65-61 lead.

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Double winners: Junior Adam Farber won the 100-yard butterfly and the breaststroke Thursday in North Farmington's 116-67 win over the combined Harrison-Farmington swim team. The Raiders will host Grosse Pointe North and Livonia Stevenson this week.

Raiders rule pool in Farmington



North Farmington defeated its city rivals on the combined Harrison-Farmington boys swim team Thursday in a dual meet, 116-67. The Raiders won all but three events to win the contest going away.

BY DAN O'MEARA
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North Farmington still has the best team in Farmington in the sport of boys swimming and diving.

The Raiders proved that Thursday when they took on the combined Farmington-Harrison team and produced a 116-67 victory in the North Farmington pool.

The dual meet had the potential to be much closer, but the Raiders won 10 of the 13 events and settled any question as to who is No. 1.

"Their kids are used to winning this meet, and it's hard to get that mindset you can do that," Harrison-Farmington co-coach Mark Holdridge said. "It wasn't due to a lack of effort. Their kids just outswam us."

"They're a talented team, and that's why, when we combined teams, the state wouldn't allow them to be part of it."

"We were young and thin (as separate teams). Now we can compete with most teams. We swam well against Novi and had good races tonight."

North had double individual winners

in Brandon Digia (200 and 100 freestyle), Jim Gabriel (50 freestyle and backstroke) and Adam Farber (butterfly and breaststroke).

Farber swam the fly in 55.81, which puts him second in the area rankings. In addition to above three, Craig Paske won the individual medley and Jared Goldman the diving.

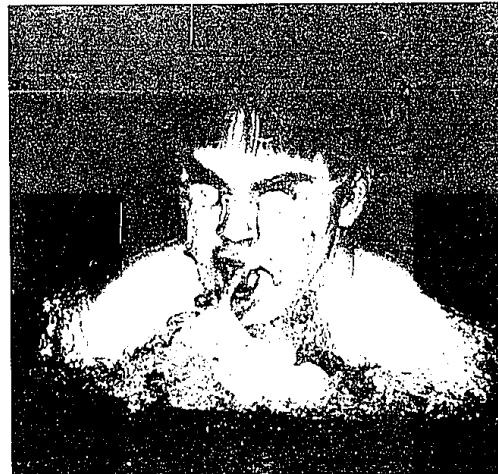
The Raiders also won the medley and 200 freestyle relays in which Gabriel, Zald, Farber, Dan Goshorn, Chris Clayton, Sernet Alver and Digia participated. North pulled its best 400 relay team with the meet victory locked up.

"We had a lot of good swimmers," North coach Pat Duthie said, citing Digia, Loughlan Rycroft in the 500 and 200 freestyle, Alver in the 100 and 200 freestyle and Zald in the breaststroke. "It was a team effort; everyone did a fine job."

"We thought we would be in some good competition and we were. There were some good swimmers. We were fortunate to come out on top in those close races."

"We know we have a lot more work to

Please see SWIMMING, B4



Winnin' effort: Craig Paske comes up for air while swimming the breaststroke during the individual medley, which he won.

Gable sets fast pace for rest of league

Junior Matt Gable took first place for the third time this season Thursday when he recorded the best overall time for Redford Catholic Central in the boys slalom at the Southeast Michigan Ski League meet Jan. 20 at Mount Brighton.

Gable's combined time of 30.49 edged teammate Scott Zaleski, who was runner-up with a 32.51 combined time.

Joe Murray was 28th overall at 38.63 while Eric Sullivan scored 49.10 to place 47th.

Mark Gursky and Ryan Boudreau were disqualified. Catholic Central's score of 78 finished behind Okemos, which had 36, and Brighton, which scored 44.

"We have a talented team," coach Tom Gable said, "but we seem to need to put everything together to do well."

Gable also coaches the Farmington Hills Mercy

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team and it placed fifth in the girls slalom.

"Our ladies fell off the pace," Gable said. "We consider this kind of a rebuilding year, and they've pleasantly surprised us."

"They had been finishing second and third, and this time they slipped to fifth. It's encouraging to see a young team produce."

Junior Nikki Anderson finished third in the slalom with a combined time of 39.57. Junior Laura Burck was ninth with a 43.15 clocking.

Carolyn Stroud's 57.57 was good for 39th and Marcy Godlew finished two slots behind her at 60.22. Non-scorers for Mercy were Amy McDuffee at 65.67 and Melissa Desautel at 147.1.

Catholic Central was first and Farmington Hills Mercy second in a SMSL meet Jan. 18 at Mount Brighton.

Matt Gable finished first overall in the boys giant slalom with a two-run total of 27.81. Teammate Eric Sullivan was eighth with a score of 30.97. Mark Gursky took 11th place at 31.52 and Ryan Boudreau had 36.00, to finish 33rd and complete the Catholic Central scoring.

The Shamrocks finished with a low score of 53 to edge Okemos, which had 57, and Howell, which had 58.

Aaron McCabe scored 40.47, good for 45th place and Scott Zaleski was disqualified.

Mercy was beaten by host Brighton, 27-46, for first place on the girls side. East Lansing was third with 51 points.

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