

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

All-State golfers

Matt Lee of Farmington Harrison earned All-State Division II designation while Farmington's Bryan Proven was selected to the All-State All-Academic team.

Proven was one of just 10 state golfers selected for his academic, school involvement and community service work.

The senior is ranked first in his class of 300 students with a 4.0 grade point average. He has wrestled, played baseball and is a symphony band (trumpet) member.

Proven is student council president, is a National Honor Society member, belongs to the Math Club and is a veterinary hospital and Farmington Youth Assistance volunteer.

He was captain of the Falcons' golf team and carried a 38.6 scoring average for matches.

"I can't imagine a better ambassador to golf or representative to Farmington High than Bryan," said his coach, Jim Miner.

Lee averaged 37.0 strokes for Harrison's matches and scored an aggregate 75.1 in tournaments with a low of 2-under 69 in the West Bloomfield Invitational.

Lee shot a 73 in the regionals, a 75 in the first round of the state meet and a 76 on the second day that included a two-stroke penalty Lee called on himself for hitting the wrong ball midway through the round.

"He's super off the tee," said his coach, Bill Spencer, citing Lee's 280-yard drives. He was also captain of the Hawks' team this season.

All-State tennis

Four Farmington Hills Mercy tennis players were selected to the Division I All-State team and one North Farmington player was similarly honored in Division II by the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association.

Named to the Division I honor team were the Marlin's top two singles players, Kristen Palombo and Angela Kaza, along with the No. 1 doubles team of Mary Atallah and Kelli Blanchard.

The Raiders were represented on the Division II All-State squad by singles player Emily Jaffe.

North Farmington had three players selected for Honorable Mention: Bethany Nestor in singles plus the doubles combination of Michelle Boothroyd and Chrissy Dwyer.

College notes

•Junior Mary Gignac (Livonia/Farmington Mercy) finished the season tied for second in goals with four for Western Michigan's women's soccer team.

Gignac was also third on the team with two assists, 10 points and 17 shots on goal. She played in all 19 games for the Broncos' 8-11 team, which was 6-6 in the Mid-American Conference.

•Senior split end Joe Clinton (Farmington Hills/U-D Jesuit) scored on a 57-yard pass on the first play from scrimmage and his Ohio Wesleyan team went on to a 48-13 victory Nov. 3 over Oberlin.

Clinton also hauled in an 80-yard scoring pass and had three catches for 146 yards, becoming the first Battling Bishop player to gain more than 100 receiving yards since 1998.

Clinton has 20 receptions this season, second on the team, for a team-high 572 yards and five touchdowns.

WSU goes to nationals

After winning the first Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship in school history, the Wayne State University men's cross country team had more success in regional competition.

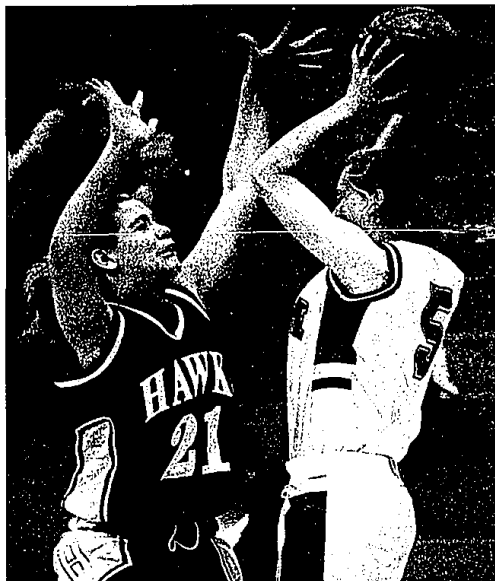
Led by three former All-Observers runners, WSU finished second in the NCAA Division 2 Great Lakes regional and qualified for the national championships for the first time in school history.

Scoring for the Warriors were Nick Allen (Plymouth Salem), second place; Joe Verellen (Livonia Stevenson), sixth; Brian Goodwin, 14th; Mike Buslepp, 16th; and Charlie Stamboulis (North Farmington), 28th.

The WSU women had their best performance in school history, finishing sixth in the regional. Their previous best was 11th last year.

Jenny Furlong (Livonia Franklin) was 33rd and Heidi Frank (North Farmington) 57th for the Warriors.

Hawks lose title to Rocks in OT



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL BEAUDRY

Good 'D': Harrison freshman Jessica Condeni defends on this shot attempt by Salem sophomore Marissa Sarkesian in Wednesday's WLAA championship game. Good defense by the Hawks helped extend the contest into overtime. The Rocks won, 51-45.

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These were the best two basketball teams during the Western Lakes Activities Association's regular season. In Wednesday's WLAA Tournament final, they played like it.

Plymouth Salem emerged with the title, outlasting Farmington Harrison 51-45 in an overtime nailbiter played Wednesday at Farmington HS.

The win gave the Rocks something else they'd never had: a perfect 20-0 season, first in school history. The tournament title was also their third straight.

Harrison ends the regular season at 11-9.

"They deserved a game like that," coach Fred Thomann said of his Salem team. "They deserved to win a game like that."

It was a game filled with pressure, the Rocks trying to maintain their unbeaten status, the Hawks trying to upend the regular-season champs. Both teams played to their capacity; indeed, as the pressure grew, their determination increased.

In the end, the game was decided by free throws and defense. Harrison kept Salem from scoring a basket in the game's last 7:27; however, the Rocks forced their Hawk counterparts into 2-for-12 shooting from the floor in the final 12 minutes.

There wasn't a basket scored by either side in OT.

But Salem made 8-of-12 free throws in the extra session to Harrison's 2-for-2. The Rocks took just one shot at the basket; the Hawks were 0-for-5.

"We were getting the ball into Ayana's hands," said Harrison coach Pete Mantyla, referring to his all-conference senior point guard, Ayana Richmond. "Once it left her hands, we

couldn't get it back to her. They were denying that."

The Hawks' full-court pressure caused problems for Salem, at least at the start.

The Rocks' first four possessions ended with turnovers. But that stopped when Kelly Jaskot started draining three-pointers — three of them in the first quarter, as Salem opened up a 16-5 lead entering the second.

"Three threes in the first quarter," said Mantyla. "We didn't do a good job of talking (defensively) in that quarter."

The Hawks didn't do a good job shooting, either. They were just 1-of-9 in the opening quarter. But that all changed in the second period.

Salem's biggest lead of the game came courtesy of a MaryLou Liebau basket with 3:36 left in the second quarter that made it 18-7.

It was all Hawks the rest of the half; they closed the quarter with a 9-2 run, Richmond's three free throws after a foul on a desperation three-point try at the buzzer cutting the Rocks' lead to 20-16.

The third quarter was everything the rest of the game was not: all offense, with Harrison winning this duel, outscoring Salem 20-15 in the period to take a 36-35 lead into the fourth. Bryanna Porter, a 5-foot-11 senior center, came off the bench to ignite Harrison, scoring nine points down in the post. She finished with 10 in the game.

The Rocks tried to keep pace with Liebau, who netted nine of their 15 points in the quarter. Still, they trailed entering the fourth — which was a way of nerves, start to finish.

Salem started well, outscoring Harrison 6-2 in the first four minutes to take a three-point lead.

Please See CHAMPIONSHIP, B5

Raiders win, Falcons and Marlins beaten

Coaches reach milestones the same way their teams get through a season — one game at a time.

Rod Windle reached a coaching milestone Tuesday, notching his 100th coaching victory when Livonia Churchill defeated visiting Farmington, 49-42, in a Western Lakes Activities Association girls basketball consolation game.

Windle, in his first season at Churchill, coached previously at Plymouth Christian Academy.

"It's a nice milestone to pass," Windle said after his team completed an 8-12 regular season in his first year as its coach. "I'm proud of the team that it got to eight wins."

"Reaching the top eight teams (in the tournament) was our goal."

The Chargers trailed, 32-30, entering the final period but blew by the Falcons, with junior forward Courtney Koen and Rachel Morgan getting key rebounds, to win the battle for seventh place in the WLAA tournament.

Deanna DeRoos scored 21 points, including 9-of-11 at the free throw line. She also grabbed 11 rebounds and had six steals plus five assists.

Freshman guard Robyn Johnson hit three three-point shots in a 14-point game while Lindsay Cecil scored eight points.

Senior guard Randin Brown led Farmington (7-12) with 16 points and Julie Kimmel scored 11.

Churchill sank 14-of-24 free throws and Farmington was 10-for-19.

Raiders rock Rockets

Defense made the difference.

North Farmington held Westland John Glenn to just five points in the second half Tuesday to defeat the visiting Rockets, 39-21.

"We made some adjustments in our press," North coach Tim Carruthers said after his team won the WLAA tournament consolation game.

Meghan Callahan and Britany Pajewski each scored eight for the Raiders (8-12) while Jennifer Jary added seven.

Sara Tyree and Crystal Davis each scored seven points for Westland John Glenn (2-17).

Marlins lose tuneup

Farmington Mercy's regular season is over — now the fun stuff begins.

Mercy plays Bloomfield Hills LaSalle at 6 p.m. Monday at Farmington Harrison in the start of the district phase of the state girls high school basketball tournament.

Madison Heights Bishop Foley defeated visiting Mercy, 53-47, Thursday night in the Marlins' final regular season game.

Mercy will take a 10-9 record into the state tournament. The Marlins played their tournament tuneup minus three players, who were attending a school workshop.

Foley capitalized on a 17-12 first-period lead. It maintained the lead the rest of the way.

Caite Goddard scored 12 points to lead Bishop Foley while Melissa Lamerato added eight.

The Marlins got eight points each from Whitney Short, Ashley Hambell and Tessa Kuykendall.

"We missed 11 layups, four in a row at one point," Coach Kristen Wright-Guinn said. "We got a lot of nice looks, but the shots didn't fall."

Mercy made half its 10 free throws while Bishop Foley was 9-for-11.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRIDGES

Eying the goal: Farmington's Brittany Coleman has her sights on a shot as she drives by a Livonia Churchill defender Tuesday. The Chargers won the WLAA consolation game, 49-42.

Glenn gets its kicks; CC gets win



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MCELROY

Having a ball: Catholic Central linebacker Ryan Rogowski intercepts a pass intended for John Glenn quarterback Brian Czekiewicz. It was a halfback option pass thrown by Brandon Ajilouny sniffed out Friday by the Shamrocks in their 35-18 playoff win.

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
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It took Westland John Glenn the better part of three quarters to find Bedford Catholic Central's weakness.

But by the time the Rockets found it, it was too late to do much with it.

CC jumped out to a 35-0 lead in the third quarter, then held on for dear life as host John Glenn scored three touchdowns in the fourth quarter, helped by three successful inside kicks. But the rally fell short and the Shamrocks wound up with a 35-18 win and a Division 1, Region 4 championship on Friday night.

"I turned to a kid on the sideline and said I can't remember the first half, almost," said CC wide receiver Ryan Wroblewski, who scored two touchdowns receiving and added another on a 54-yard punt return. They got the first (inside kick) then got the momentum."

The win moves CC (9-3) back into the semifinals for the second-straight year and the fourth time in the last five years. The opponent will be a familiar one — Walled Lake Western, the team

that knocked CC out of the playoffs in 1999.

"Nothing has been easy for us all year," said Glenn coach Chuck Gordon as his team ended the year at 9-3. "When we were down 35-0 with a running clock, with would have been easy to go through the motions. But we fought back and at least made a game of it."

Which was a good thing to do because, for the first three quarters, this game was no contest.

The Shamrocks shut down Glenn's offense in every way imaginable — holding the Rockets without a yard in net offense out of 18 plays and just one first down in the first half and just 13 total yards in three quarters.

And on offense, CC was just down right scary. Sophomore running back Derrick Brooks gained 123 yards on 13 first-half carries with a pair of touchdowns. Mike Banaszak had 62 more yards and quarterback Tom Jakacki had 80 yards passing (4-of-7 completions) with a touchdown for 269 yards in all.

Please See FOOTBALL, B5