

# FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

## Art auction at Harrison

The Farmington Harrison baseball and softball teams and the Farmington unified girls golf team will sponsor an art auction Sunday, March 24, in the Harrison High School gym.

Art may be previewed beginning at 4 p.m. with the actual auction beginning at 5 p.m. The auction is being presented by Marlin Fine Auctions, featuring art in all media and price ranges.

Auction tickets are priced at \$10 for an individual or \$15 for a couple. Tickets may be purchased by contacting either Julie Daig (788-8025) or Sharon Zatkun (477-4537). Major credit cards are accepted.

## Ice skating show in May

The Farmington Hills Figure Skating Club will have its Sixth Annual Ice Skating Show at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 17, and 4 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena at 35500 West Eight Mile Road.

One hundred young members of the figure skating club and the Learn to Skate Program ranging in age from 5 to 15 will perform synchronized and figure skating routines to the "Color Me Skating" theme.

Various songs and artists will be used to showcase the talents of the skaters, including songs like the movie themes from "The Pink Panther" and "Men In Black" sung by customary or contemporary artists.

For more information about the show, call the Farmington Hills Ice Arena at (248) 478-8800.

## No NIT bid for 21-8 team

The University of Vermont, the America East Conference regular-season men's basketball champion, failed to receive a bid to the National Invitation Tournament, which would have been its first trip to the post-season.

Of schools not in the NCAA tournament, Vermont was the only regular-season conference champion with 20 or more wins to be denied a spot in the expanded tournament, which will have 40 teams this season.

Six-foot-7 senior forward Trevor Gaines, a former Farmington High School standout, was the captain and leader of the team, and he finished his career as one of Vermont's all-time leading rebounders and scorers.

It was the best season for the Catamounts in their 102-year history of basketball. At 21-8, Vermont topped its school record for victories that had stood for 55 seasons. UVM was 19-3 in 1946-47.

The conference title was its first. The Catamounts had never finished higher than third place in any conference in 22 previous America East seasons or 24 years in the Yankee Conference.

Picked fourth by the coaches in the preseason poll, Vermont led the America East from wire-to-wire and was one of the nation's most improved programs after going 12-17 last year.

## EMU youth football clinic

The Eastern Michigan University football coaches will host a youth football clinic 1:30-4 p.m. Sunday, May 5, at Rynearson Stadium in Ypsilanti for kids ages 8 to 14.

Each participant will receive a T-shirt, two tickets to the home opener against Toledo on Sept. 7 and a tour of the team locker room and weight room.

The cost is \$10 before April 15 and \$15 after that date. All groups or teams of 10 or more will be charged \$10 a person.

The coaches, including head coach Jeff Woodruff, will teach basic skills and techniques to become an improved player. For more information call (734) 487-5642.

## Callahan stars for Albion

The Albion College men's track and field team posted five first-place and five runner-up finishes at the Albany State University Relays in Georgia.

Albion had a one-two finish in the 110-meter hurdles. Nick Morgan was first to cross the finish line in 16.4 seconds, with senior Josh Callahan (Farmington Hills/North Farmington) close behind at 15.79. Callahan also finished fourth in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 57.19 seconds.

# Shamrocks win 4th title in row

BY BRAD MONASTIERE  
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High winds and power outages couldn't keep Redford-Detroit Catholic Central's hockey team from making history.

CC captured its fourth-straight Division I state hockey championship with a one-sided, 6-1 win over the Marquette Redmen Monday night at the Flint IMA Sports Arena.

## PREP HOCKEY

The game was originally scheduled for Saturday, but the IMA lost power during the Division 3 finals Saturday afternoon, forcing the postponement of the game until Monday.

Only one other hockey team in state history has won four straight titles, and that was Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingwood, from 1985-88. No team had won four straight Class A or Division I titles, and CC's streak is the seventh-longest in the nation's high school hockey history.

"We've had some very dedicated athletes who have worked hard since June to get to this point," said co-coach Gordon St. John. "Todd Johnson is a master coach at preparing our game plan, and the guys on this team have just done a phenomenal job."

"This might be the most improved team from day one to the end of the season that I've ever coached. The way we kept improving was very special."

"We knew we weren't as talented as some of the teams in the past, and we really felt the pressure. But we got more confident as the season went along."

Nothing seemed to come easy for the Shamrocks this season, who finished with a 21-5-3 record but had a 6-5-1 start after 12 games.

Starting with a 6-1 win over Cranbrook in January, CC went undefeated



Post-game celebration: Catholic Central hockey players surround the championship trophy and celebrate their 5-1 victory in the state final Monday night. It was the fourth-straight title for CC.

in its final 18 games, including the state championship game.

Junior Eric Giosa scored on a quick slap shot from the point to give CC a short-lived 1-0 lead early in the first period. But Marquette's Ryan Daust banged in a rebound through a goal-mouth scramble to tie the game 1-1 late in the first period.

Being tied in games was nothing new to the Shamrocks, and the experience of winning close games was very evident in this one. Just 1:41 after Daust's

game-tying goal, CC sophomore Jeff Prough scored the first of two goals on the night with a perfectly placed top-shelf goal from a tough angle to send the Shamrocks into the first intermission with a 2-1 lead.

Championship teams put contenders away no later than necessary, and the Shamrocks did exactly that in the second period, scoring twice in a 56-second period to remove all doubt. Junior Brandon Naurato continued his clutch postseason play by backhanding in a

rebound to make it 3-1 CC just 3:56 into the second period, his fourth goal in five playoff games. Prough, who scored CC's first goal of the postseason, tallied his second of the game on a similar play to Naurato's goal, scoring off a rebound when the Shamrocks were on a 5-on-3 power play. Giosa set up the goal with a hard shot from the point, and Prough tapped it in, untouched.

Senior forward Ryan O'Dea added a

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# Farmington girls place 5th in state

BY DAN O'MEARA  
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The final standings didn't read as the Tri-Farmington gymnasts had hoped, but the girls still comprised one of the best teams in the state.

Tri-Farmington entered the state championship meet last week entertaining the thought of winning it all.

Top-ranked Rochester Adams ran away with the team title, however, scoring 147.200 points Friday night at Rockford High School.

Tri-Farmington finished a respectable fifth, just 1.225 points behind runner-up Northville-Novi, which posted a 144.675 team score.

In fact, there was a mere difference of 1.250 between the next five teams after Rockford: Grand Lodge was third (144.550) followed by Troy Athens in fourth place (143.650), Tri-Farmington in fifth and Portage Unified (143.325).

"Ultimately, our goal was to win it," Tri-Farmington coach Jeff Dwyer said. "I knew Adams would be tough. Realistically, we were looking at state runner-up."

"I think all the girls are a little disappointed. But I tried to tell them we were shooting high this whole season and, by doing that, we won a regional, and that gave us a shot at bringing home a trophy at state."

Only the top two teams received trophies, however. Tri-Farmington had to

## GYMNASTICS

count a fall on floor and three on beam, causing its team total to drop.

"I don't want them to dwell on that," Dwyer said. "We had a fantastic season, and at least we were in the running."

"If anyone was watching the Olympics, there were a lot of favorites that didn't end up getting gold, silver or bronze either. Competition is tough that way."

Tri-Farmington, which posted a 10-1 record in dual meets and won a regional for the first time, has finished sixth, third and fifth in three of the last four state meets. The one year it didn't qualify, it was fourth in the regional and one place away from doing so.

Tri-Farmington senior Chelsea Keesling was voted the Senior Gymnast of the Year by the coaches and judges across the state.

Keesling, who placed in the top 10 in every event and was seventh in the Division I all-around, was one of five nominees.

"She mentioned to me at the very beginning of the year her goal, besides the team going after the state title, was to be Senior Gymnast of the Year," Dwyer said.

"That's a huge goal. You have to do a lot of things right. The person chosen is an ambassador for the sport. She has fun doing gymnastics, and it appears that way in her routine."

The honoree must also be an accomplished gymnast, and Keesling has been for four years. She is the first Farmington gymnast to win the award, which

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State-finals standout: Tri-Farmington's Sara Houchins placed fifth in the Division I all-around Saturday at Rockford High.

# Top-ranked Ocelots continue storybook year

BY BRAD EMONS  
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It took nearly 13 hours for the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team to travel Saturday to Wapeton, N.D.

But the arduous journey turned out to be well worth the hassle Sunday as the Ocelots outdueled host North Dakota State College of Science before a packed house of 4,000 Wildcat fans, 96-84, to win the NJCAA District 12 championship.

Five Ocelot players scored in double figure led by guard Javon Clark, who rattled the Wildcats for a game-high 25 points, including five 3-pointers.

Forward Mike Williams (Detroit City) added 23

## BASKETBALL

points and 15 rebounds, while point-guard Rulon Harris had 20 points and nine assists.

Two players with local ties, 6-foot-6 Emir Medjanin (North Farmington) and 6-8 Yaku Moton-Spruiell, each finished with 11 points.

"Our defense once again pulled us through and we made shots down the stretch," said Schoolcraft coach Carlos Briggs. "North Dakota was well coached, they had size and good shooters."

"It was our 16 against their 4,000 and we played one of the best games we played this season."

Schoolcraft will take a perfect 32-0 record and a

No. 1 ranking next week into Hutchinson, Kan. for the 16-team NJCAA Division I tournament.

The Ocelots, making their second straight appearance in the nationals, start their quest for a national title at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday against 32-2 Alleghany (Md.), last year's NJCAA runner-up to Wabash Valley (Ill.).

Schoolcraft had little time to prepare for North Dakota Science, a team with a 32-1 record and a No. 6 NJCAA ranking, following a 72-62 win Thursday night in Cincinnati over Vincennes (Ind.) for the Region 12 title.

After getting off the bus mid-Friday afternoon, the

Please see OCELOTS, D7