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Sidelines

Zdyrski ace

Donald Zdyrski of Farmington Hills shot a hole-in-one Tuesday at Glen Oaks Golf Course. He used a five iron to ace the 170-yard 15th hole. It was the first hole-in-one for the 57-year-old Zdyrski after 30 years of playing golf. He shot 45 for the nine-hole round.

North nips FHS

North Farmington edged Farmington High in a dual golf match Wednesday at San Marino Golf Course, 170-172.

North's Tony Rea shot 37 to earn medalist honors in the Oakland Activities Association Division III contest.

Mike Cooke and Scott Weintraub shot scores of 44 each. John Noble had a 45, Jeff Patterson 47 and Eric Sweldan 50.

Mike Schuyler and Eddie Weinger shared the team lead for Farmington with rounds of 42.

Joe Stefan shot 43, Mike Welsh 45 and Adam Ellis 46 and Brad Cregar 50. Both teams are 1-1.

Intramural hoops

Registration for the 2002 St. Fabian intramural basketball program will take place 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8, in the school lobby. All St. Fabian boys and girls in grades five through eight are encouraged to sign up.

The program is intended for kids of all skill levels.

Volunteer coaches, referees and scorekeepers are needed and may sign up during registration.

The five-week season begins Saturday, Sept. 14, and ends Saturday, Oct. 19. For more information call Bob Cipriano at 248-478-3070.

Adult hockey

The Farmington Hills Adult Hockey Association is conducting registration for the upcoming season, which starts Sept. 3 at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

The FHAHA is registering teams for the over-35 division, teams and individuals for the over-30 and individuals for the over-40 and over-45.

To sign up call the FHAHA at (248) 471-6004 or leave a message on voice mail.

Challenge race

The Ann Arbor Track Club will host the John Rogucki Memorial Kensington Challenge Saturday, Sept. 14, at Kensington Metropark.

Events include the 5-kilometer run, 15K run and mile run walk (where everyone receives a ribbon).

Five-year age-group divisions include open and clydesdale categories.

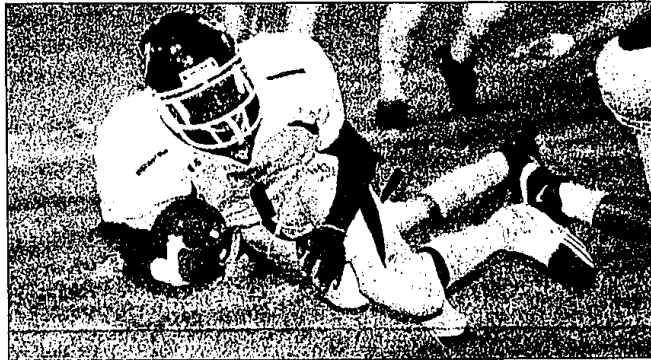
If registered by Friday, Sept. 6, participants will receive a T-shirt.

There will also be a post-run drawing. To register online or print out a race application, visit www.aatrackclub.org.



PHOTOS BY BILL PRESLER/OBSERVER

Farmington's Brad Walsh picks up yardage before being run out of bounds by Madison defender Ricardo Robertson in the season opener Thursday.



Freshman Phillip Champion rushed for three first-half touchdowns in Farmington's 51-6 victory over host Madison Heights Madison.

PLEASE SEE FALCONS, C2

Falcons roll over Eagles in 51-6 rout

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Not all the Oakland Activities Association football games will be as easy as Farmington High School's first.

The Falcons made their debut in the new league Thursday by rolling over undersized and outmanned Madison Heights Madison, 51-6.

"We knew Madison is undermanned and doesn't have the numbers right now," Farmington coach John Bechtel said.

"There's no doubt we played well defensively. We knew we were going to be a good defensive team." Despite the lopsided final score, the visiting Falcons struggled in the first half to sustain an offensive drive.

They capitalized on three turnovers, scoring from short distances, en route to a 28-6 halftime lead. Farmington had a handful of holding penalties and didn't overpower the opponent. But it was apparent Madison wasn't going anywhere, period.

The Falcons held the Eagles to a grand total of zero net offensive yards. The Eagles, who had six turnovers overall, had a negative-18 rushing and a plus-18 passing.

"We have to execute at a higher level than we did offensively," Bechtel said. "We have to get better. It was a good start for our kids. We were 0-0. But the score is not indicative of the game tonight."

Still, the OAA crossover game - Farmington is a Division III team; Madison plays in Division IV - was hardly a contest.

The Eagles scored their only points on a fluke play early in the second quarter, trimming the Falcons' lead to 14-7.

Madison punted from its own end zone; the Falcons let the ball roll, but the officials ruled it touched a Farmington player. Madison's Kevin Law picked up the loose ball and ran 70 yards for a touchdown.

Freshman tailback Phillip Champion scored the first three touchdowns for Farmington on runs of 1, 6 and 3 yards.

On the first play from scrimmage, the Eagles lost a fumble at their 12, and Champion carried on four

Raiders rock in soccer win over Mott

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Seven players figured in the scoring Thursday as host North Farmington blanked Waterford Mott in an Oakland Activities Association Division II boys soccer game, 8-0.

The Raiders made their season and OAA debuts. It was the second loss for the Corsairs (0-2), who were beaten by Farmington High Monday, 9-0.

Jon Parker was the only North player with more than one goal. Andrew Mouranie, Greg Pekarsky and Parker gave the Raiders a 3-0 halftime lead.

The Raiders won going away in the second half with additional goals by Robert Camaj, Parker, Bill Thomas, Kyle Heller and Scott Moscow.

North goalie Alex Lubyansky made two saves to preserve the shutout.

BEARS BEAT HAWKS

Ryan Mettes scored the final three goals and rallied Berkley to a 4-2 victory Wednesday over host Farmington Harrison.

The Hawks took a 2-1 lead five minutes into the second half when Brett Laird scored on a free kick from 25 yards.

Harrison had been controlling

PLEASE SEE SOCCER, C3

Marlins take aim at tennis title repeat

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills Mercy has the talent to have another fine season in girls tennis, according to coach Ken Stocker.

The Marlins are the defending Catholic League champions, and they were third in the Division I state tournament.

Stocker believes the Marlins, who opened last week with 7-1, dual-meet victories over St. Ignace, St. Ignace Prep and Harper Woods Regina, can repeat as league champs.

"Absolutely. There's no question we can win it again," he said. "We think we can be successful at state, too. We have a lot of depth, and we get

stronger every week."

The Marlins don't have Kristen Palombo any longer. She played No. 1 singles for four years and is now a member of the St. Mary's College team in Indiana.

Junior Mary Atallah makes the jump from No. 1 doubles and is very comparable to Palombo, Stocker said. Atallah

and sophomore Kali Blanchard were state semifinalists last year.

Senior Angela Kaza, also a state semifinalist, returns to play No. 2 singles.

Junior Ashley Worford, who reached the state semis at two doubles, will play No. 3 singles.

PLEASE SEE TENNIS, C2

Athens defeats Harrison in Tipoff Classic final

BY MARY BUONER
STAFF WRITER

For the first time in the brief three-year history of The Eccentric Newspapers Tip-Off Classic, the host team can display the championship trophy.

The Troy Athens girls basketball squad captured the tournament crown Thursday evening with a 42-29 triumph over Farmington Harrison.

The Red Hawks fell in the title game of the inaugural tournament title game two years ago to Detroit Country Day and were eliminated in the first round last year.

Athens made the most of its return trip to the championship game. Coach Joe Clinton's team pressed from the start and controlled the majority of action in the 13-point triumph over Harrison, a newcomer this season to the Oakland Activities Association.

"It was exciting to win it. We really pulled it together as a team," said senior forward

Allison Bullard who played most every position and was one of two Red Hawks named to the All-Tournament team. "I think we still have a ways to go, but we really picked it up at the end to put the game away."

Athens will play this fall in OAA Division I while Harrison is a Division II member. In the first meeting between the schools, Athens used a 12-0 run early in the second quarter to take charge.

The Red Hawks pressed from the outset - Harrison had 30 turnovers - to dictate the game's tempo and the Athens defense limited the Hawks to just three first-half baskets.

Clinton admitted his team needs a little work, but, was satisfied with the overall effort.

"We'll get better than this. Obviously, when we play the West Bloomfields and the Clarkstons we're going to have to play bet-

PLEASE SEE FINAL, C2



TOM HOFFMEYER/ECCENTRIC

Harrison's Maggie Condeli drives through the opposing defense during the final game Thursday of the Tipoff Classic at Athens.

READY FOR FALL?

How's your siding? Do those curtains look a bit faded? What needs to happen to get your yard and garden through the winter? Don't miss "Spotlight on Fall Home Improvement." COMING SOON