



Our prep picks

This week's grid picks and football outlook. D2
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Raiders forfeit grid win; record now 3-2

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

North Farmington will forfeit one of its four football victories for having used an ineligible player during a 47-0 victory over Rochester Stoney Creek.
The player in question played only a couple offensive plays at the end of the Sept. 19 game, according to North coach Rich Burrell.
The Raiders reported themselves to the

PREP FOOTBALL

Michigan High School Athletic Association after later learning of the player's status and the error, he said.
North, which is idle this week, had won four straight games since a loss to Bloomfield Hills Andover in the season opener.
The Raiders now have a 3-2 record

with three games remaining. Because they play eight games instead of nine, they must win a minimum of five to automatically qualify for the MHSAA playoffs.
"It gives our final three games a much more immediate focus," Burrell said.
"The kids have handled it real well."
"They said, basically, 'Don't worry about it, coach; we're going to play hard and take care of it our own way.' Our goal is to win two out of three; then it's a non-

issue."
The Raiders had needed to win one more game to qualify, but Burrell sees a silver lining in the situation as it exists now.
"On the positive side, everything we do from here on out has an immediate purpose to it," he said. "The kids are fired up about it, the challenge before them."
"I think it's going to work to our benefit as far as game preparation and mental

PLEASE SEE FORFEIT, D2

Sidelines

Falcons perfect

A headline in the Sunday Farmington Observer sports section should have read "Farmington still perfect." Farmington High School's varsity football team remained undefeated by defeating Ferndale Friday, 41-13.
The Falcons have started a season 5-0 for the first time since 1966, and they can be 6-0 for the first time since the 1950s with a victory Saturday afternoon at Pontiac Central.
The Farmington football player in a photo in the Sunday sports section should have been identified as Ben Bersche.

County meet

The annual Oakland County girls swimming and diving championships will have a new home this fall.
After a long run at Royal Oak Dundero, the county meet will move to Lake Orion High School. The Dragons will host more than 20 schools at Saturday's meet slated to begin at 1 p.m.
Farmington Hills Mercy has dominated the meet, winning five consecutive titles. Birmingham Marian was second last year followed by North Farmington, Rochester Adams and Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood.
The Marlies are ranked third in the Division I state rankings and are favored to win a sixth consecutive championship. However, undefeated Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm and Bloomfield Hills Lahser hope to make a run at the title.

Whalers win

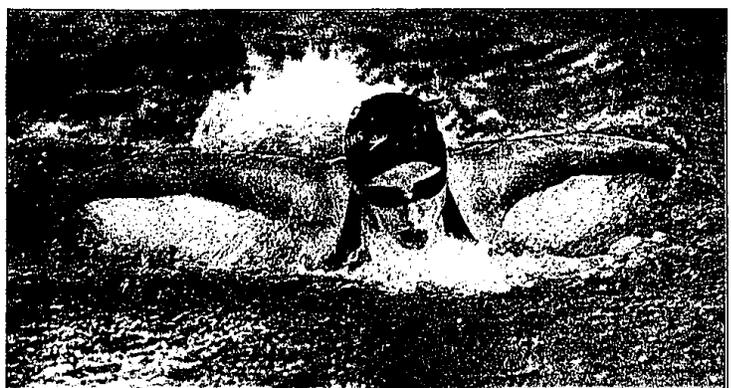
Let's just say that, after a wild start, the Plymouth Whalers outlasted the Guelph Storm and came away with a 6-4 victory in an Ontario Hockey League game played Saturday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.
Chad LaRose continued his offensive assault, getting a hat trick for the Whalers and adding an assist. Ryan Ramsay was extremely productive as well, scoring one goal and assisting on four others.
LaRose now has five goals and two assists in the last two games (seven points). The Whalers (2-1) play at Oshawa Friday, at Belleville Saturday and at Mississauga Sunday.

Players needed

The Farmington Hills Adult Hockey Association needs players for its over-30, over-40 and over-18 divisions. The season started in early September but continues into March. Anyone interested in playing should call the FHAHA at 248-471-604 and leave a message or visit the Web site at www.fhaha.com.

Making it right

A North Farmington soccer player in a photo in the Sunday paper should have been identified as Andrew Mouriane.
A sentence in the North-Lahser soccer story should have read "North goalie Alen Lubayevsky only faced four shots on the night."



Lindsey Legacki had four first-place swims Tuesday night to lead host North Farmington to a dual-meet victory over Farmington Harrison in girls swimming and diving.

North girls record win over Harrison

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Freshman Lindsey Legacki had four first-place swims Tuesday to lead North Farmington to a 118-67 victory over Farmington Harrison in girls swimming and diving.
She made a Division I state cut in the 100-yard butterfly and also won the 200 individual medley. (See statistics summary for times.)
Legacki, Valencia Smith and Emily Howard combined with Kristen Wolff to win the 200 medley relay and Kristi Bendiek the 400 freestyle relay.
Other North winners included Bendiek in the 200 freestyle, Howard the 50 freestyle and Smith the 100 freestyle.

GIRLS SWIMMING

PLEASE SEE SWIM, D4



Harrison's Jessi Waldecker was a winner in the 100-yard breaststroke Tuesday during the dual meet at North.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER/OBSERVER

PLEASE SEE RUNNERS, D5

North nips Farmington again by 1

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

North Farmington earned another one-point victory over cross-town rival Farmington in girls cross country Tuesday, 27-26.
This time it occurred in an Oakland Activities Association Division II dual meet. Previously, the Raiders edged

CROSS COUNTRY

the Falcons, 35-36, in the annual city meet Sept. 4.
North is 3-1 in the division and overall. Farmington is 2-2 and 3-2.
"It was a big meet for us today," North coach Bill Pinnell said. "We knew it was going to be a close meet and the girls were going to have to rise to the occasion. We knew it would be somewhere between a one- and three-point meet either way."
Both teams defeated Southfield Christian in a double dual at Oakland Community College. The Raiders won, 24-22, and the Falcons, 23-35.
North's Susan Barrows was the overall winner in 20:39. Katie Milan was sixth (22:27) for the Raiders. Amy Miller seventh (22:31), Jackie Murrenus ninth (23:00) and Katie Petersen 13th (24:03).
The Falcons were led by Rachael Dutton and Claire Czaplicki, who were second (20:58) and third (21:24), respectively. Janelle Lindman was eighth (22:44), Magalie Anthouard 11th (23:16) and Emma Czaplicki 12th (23:52).
"We had some really good performances," Pinnell said. "Susan ran as we expected. Katie Milan and Amy Miller ran very strong for us and did what they had to do. We had good races from Jackie and Katie Petersen, too."
He added Milan, Miller, Murrenus and Petersen ran personal bests at OCC, and Murrenus and Petersen had their best times of the season.
"They really rose to the occasion,"

Soccer teams struggle to get back on track

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

It was a rough night Tuesday for two otherwise successful soccer teams as North Farmington and Farmington lost 3-1 decisions.
North suffered its second straight defeat after going unbeaten through its first nine games, dropping an Oakland Activities Association Division II game at Birmingham Groves.
Farmington slipped back to .500 in the OAA Division I as host Royal Oak Kimball averaged an earlier loss by the same score.
The Raiders are 6-2-1 in their divi-

sion and 8-2-1 overall. The Falcons, who began the week ranked sixth in the state in the coaches poll, are 4-4 and 9-4.
"Some people are scratching their heads and wondering what's wrong," North coach Ron Meteyer said. "We're 8-2-1. It's not like the sky is falling."
"We just have to settle back down and do the things we were doing well at the beginning of the season as we head down the last couple weeks."
The Raiders have a number of players who are injured at present. Other players have to step up, and the team has to play through it, Meteyer added.
Groves, which failed to score on a penalty kick midway in the first half,

"We're 8-2-1. It's not like the sky is falling."
Ron Meteyer
North coach

Holland put a penalty kick in the opposing net.
In an attempt to tie the score, North left one player back on defense and pushed everyone else up on the attack.
The Raiders had several shots blocked; the Falcons got a quick reversal, and Jason Rito scored the last goal on a two-on-one breakaway.
"When you're taking a gamble like that, sometimes you lose," Meteyer said. "We were hoping to get the equalizer, but they ended up getting a goal instead. It backfired on us."
Joe Russo scored Farmington's only goal when he converted a penalty

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