



Health
Find a workout program that's right for you and stick with it. C5

Sidelines

Blazer signs

Livonia Ladywood senior Kristen Bacher's volleyball career will mean zip next year. Actually, she'll be playing for the University of Akron Zips, after signing with the Mid-American Conference school for a volleyball scholarship recently.

Bacher, a Farmington Hills resident, was a four-year player for the Blazers, and was team captain and co-MVP last season. She carries a 2.56 grade point average and was a member of the National Honor Society.

Her AAU team was also the state champion last fall. She stands 5-feet-9 and will play outside hitter for the Zips.

Softball sign up

The City of Farmington Hills is accepting new adult team registrations for men's, women's and coed softball. Registration is based on a first-come, first-serve basis. Leagues will play one night per week. Call (248) 473-1800. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rockets football

The Farmington Rockets are in need of varsity football players (ages 12-14) and cheerleaders (ages 8-14). Football players should call Dick Heist at (248) 478-9341 to register, and cheerleaders should call Rick Curtis at (248) 478-6989.

All-Americans

For the first time in Madonna men's basketball history, there are two players who received NAIA All-American honors.

Junior point guard Dan Kurtinaitis and sophomore shooting guard Noel Emenhiser were both singled out. Kurtinaitis (from Dearborn Edsel Ford) averaged 14.6 points and four assists per game and, despite suffering a knee injury in the final regular-season game of the year, was named to the all-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first team.

Emenhiser (from Monroeville, Ind.) averaged 17 points a game, second best total in the WHAC, and 4.8 rebounds. He was a second team selection to the all-WHAC squad.

Hoop camp

Registration is under way for Bernie Holowicki's All-Star Basketball Camp, taking place at Madonna University this summer for players 8-15 years old. The boys camps will be held June 8-12, June 13-17 and June 18-22. All three camps run 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and cost \$150. The girls camp will be held July 8-12, with the time 5-9 p.m. July 8-10 and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. July 11-12. The cost is \$125. For more information, call Bill Derderian at (313) 937-0966, or holowicki at (734) 261-3346 or (734) 432-5591.

Coaches needed

Plymouth HS needs a head pom pon coach and a head cheer coach. Those interested should FAX their resume to athletic director Terry Sawchuk at (734) 582-5700 or (734) 582-5702.



BOB BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

North Farmington sophomore Mike Kaufman works on his game at a recent tennis practice. Kaufman and the Raiders kick off a new era in the OAA Division I this season after winning eight straight WLAA championships.

Raiders ready for OAA I tennis competition

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
STAFF WRITER

The North Farmington boys tennis program had built a dynasty of sorts over the past decade in the Western Lakes Activities Association. Eight straight league titles carries you such a designation.

But now, the Raiders are in uncharted territory, joining the rest of Farmington School District athletic teams in joining the Oakland Activities Association. This team in particular jumps into the OAA Division I, offering the best competition in any single league in Oakland County, a challenge coach Mark Shenton welcomes for his team.

"Every team we're going to play is loaded," the coach said. "This move may give us more losses in the regular season, but will get us much more prepared for state tournaments."

Last year, North finished in eighth place in the Division I state meet, with a number of young players in the lineup. This year, those players have another year of growth and experience under their belts and Shenton is counting on that experience to guide the team through a tougher regular season schedule.

"The Raiders will join the OAA I, which already includes defending Division 2 state champ Bloomfield Hills Lahser, Bloomfield Hills Andover, West Bloomfield, Birmingham Groves, Rochester Adams and Troy.

A mix of experienced players and talented underclassmen will highlight North's lineup this spring. Sophomore Mike Kaufman returns as the No. 1 singles player after a terrific rookie campaign in 2002.

"He is very talented and having that year of high school tennis experience will help him excel this year," Shenton said. Kaufman was an All State selection as a freshman last year.

Seniors Dan Carlson and Dan Levy, who played at Nos. 3 and 4 singles last year, return to the team and advanced far into the state tournament. Shenton said he is counting on their leadership this year.

"Both of them had successful years," Shenton said. "We have a fairly young team this year, and we lost about half of

PLEASE SEE TENNIS, C2

Defense deserts Ocelots in NJCAA loss

This game was nothing like its predecessors. Schoolcraft College displayed solid defense in its first two games at the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Tournament, a win over Redlands (Okla.) CC and a loss to Dixie (Utah) CC. The Ocelots surrendered a total of 125 points in those two games combined.

In Thursday's consolation-round game against Monroe (N.Y.) CC, SC left defense out of the equation and lost, 103-97.

The Ocelots, ranked seventh coming into the tournament, finish with a 1-2 tournament record and a 31-4 overall mark. Monroe, ranked 17th coming in, advanced with a 30-4 record.

"We started off the game good, but we had too many peaks and valleys and not much defense," said SC coach Carlos Briggs. "After a team loss, they're not having as much fun and they're just going through the motions."

"You give up 103 points and you're not going to win. There was not much effort on defense." The Ocelots certainly had their chances, leading 48-35 at the half and 54-37 with 17:28 left in the game. But from that point on, the game belonged to Monroe.

The Tribunes outscored SC 40-22 in the next 12:08, taking the lead 77-36 on a three-pointer by Kevin Bell. The Ocelots never led again, managing to tie it at 80-all on two James Holmes' free throws.

"We wanted to get it under 10 the first five minutes of the second half, but they hit some shots," said Monroe coach Jeff Brustad. "Then we seemed to play with more energy, and Kingsley (Edwards) played with a lot of heart the whole game."

"It was gut-check time and our guys wanted to play another game." Marcus Bennett led SC with 29 points; he also had six rebounds and five assists. Holmes

PLEASE SEE OCELOTS, C4

Hawks moving to OAA with soccer improvement ahead

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
STAFF WRITER

One of the biggest beneficiaries from Farmington schools' move to the Oakland Activities Association this year could be the Harrison girls soccer team.

After a 3-15-1 record in the loaded Western Lakes Activities Association in 2002, the Hawks find themselves in more equitable surroundings in the OAA Division III in 2003.

The other teams in the league include Waterford Kettering, Waterford Mott, North Farmington, West Bloomfield, Rochester Stony

Creek, Clawson and Berkley. Second-year coach Stacey Punzal said the move to the OAA is a positive one for her team.

"I think this really levels the playing field for us," she said. "It gets us away from some of those powerhouse schools and allows us to be much more competitive."

Being competitive is among the team's top goals this season, the coach said. With a very young varsity team, Punzal said she wants the team to be a tough one for all of its opponents.

"Win or lose, if we stay competitive in every game, I think we'll be successful," she said. "The move to the OAA will help our program."

That program will enter the season with 14 of its 20 players as freshmen or sophomores. Many of them are lined up for starting positions on the field when the season starts Monday with a game at old WLAA rival Westland John Glenn, starting at 5:30 p.m.

Freshman Ashley Avery will see most of the playing time in goal, while fellow freshman Alex Starkovich will

PLEASE SEE HAWKS, C2

Cavs put end to dream West Bloomfield season



BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

The dream of a state championship ended Friday for West Bloomfield's gritty Lakers. But players still were pinching themselves after the 63-56 loss to Flint Carman-Ainsworth, just in case it hadn't.

"You look up and you hear that horn and in the back of your head you know it's over," lamented West Bloomfield senior forward Ed Richardson, following the Class A semifinal at Michigan State University's jammed Breslin Center. "But you say 'It's not the fourth quarter, it can't be over.'"

"It feels horrible," said junior guard David Merritt. "You worked so hard all season to get

The Laker bench dejectedly watches the last few moments of Friday afternoon's Class A state semifinal game at the Breslin Center in East Lansing.

PLEASE SEE LAKERS, C2

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