



Sidelines

Hawks win opener

Senior Beth Leeb tossed a two-hitter Wednesday as Farmington Harrison won its softball season opener at Livonia Stevenson, 5-0. The Hawks spoiled the coaching debut of the Spartans' Rob Witherspoon. Leeb struck out four and walked only two in seven innings. Losing pitcher Julia Vecchioni allowed 10 hits, walked four and struck out five in going the distance. Harrison struck for four runs in the fourth inning and one in the sixth. Merrill DeRose led the Hawks with two hits, while Katie Ross contributed an RBI triple. Roya St. Clair and Emily Alderman had the lone hits for Stevenson.



Harrison's Stephanie Klosek (center) and Berkeley's Leah Galopin chase a free ball during a Thursday soccer game, which Harrison won, 1-0.

Harrison, North girls win again; both 2-0

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Harrison remained not only unbeaten but unscored upon in girls soccer Thursday with a 1-0 victory over visiting Berkeley.

Sophomore Stacey Potrykus scored the goal — her first of the season — with 15:16 remaining in the game.

Taylor Wong and Diana Platt were credited with assists on the play, which began with a throw-in by Wong.

Platt directed the ball to the opposing goal, and Potrykus knocked in the rebound.

To that point, it had been a close game and remained so with the Hawks, who are 2-0, clinging to a one-goal lead.

Each team managed just three shots on goal. Freshman goalie Ashley Avery earned her second shutout in as many games.

Harrison has outscored its first two opponents, 3-0.

"The kids are pretty thrilled," Harrison coach Stacey Punzal said, adding the team's starting lineup consists mostly of sophomores and freshmen.

"It's going to be a learning year. We make a lot of mistakes but continue to grow with each game."

"Each half we play together we get better and better. We learning on the go."

Freshmen Sara Abou-El-Scoud and Alex Stankovich and sophomore Ashley Nelson were defensive standouts Friday, Punzal added.

"My defense never comes off the field," she said. "They play 80 minutes a game."

Raiders also unbeaten
North Farmington also put its record at 2-0 when it defeated visiting Westland John Glenn

Wednesday, 2-1.

The Raiders had to come from behind after Meghan Johnson scored for the Rockets with 55 seconds left in the first half.

The North defense allowed only four shots on goal overall, but the Raiders weren't passing or possessing well, according to coach Tim Russell. That allowed Glenn to continuously kick the ball deep.

"Since we try to play a possession style, we need to really focus on much better touches," Russell said. "Unfortunately, this contest was a step backwards from our performance against Milford."

The Raiders, who were rained out Friday night at Clawson, did show character and composure with their second-half comeback, he added.

Annie Gabriel tied the score with 18 minutes left, pouncing on

PLEASE SEE SOCCER, C3

Falcons prep for new season

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington High begins the 2003 baseball season with a varsity team composed mostly of veteran players. That bodes well for the Falcons, who were Lakes Division champions and overall runners-up in the Western Lakes Activities Association last year.

BASEBALL

But they must overcome a couple unexpected personnel losses and establish themselves in a new league.

Junior Jeff Fischer, the starting shortstop for two years, had knee surgery and is out for the season, and senior Anthony Volpe, who would've been the catcher, isn't playing baseball.

Farmington, which finished last season with a 17-13 record, will be in Division II of the Oakland Activities Association.

The division opponents will include Birmingham Groves

and Sealham, Waterford Mott, Berkeley, Troy Athens and North Farmington.

"It depends how quickly we can develop," Farmington coach Pete Finn said. "We have the right attitude."

"We put the challenge out there. We have to improve at a greater rate than everybody else. They've put in the time. We'll see how that goes."

"I can't say we'll be division champs right off the bat, but I think we'll compete for it. With good pitching we'll be right there."

PLEASE SEE FALCONS, C3

Raiders start with pair of wins

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

BASEBALL

North Farmington's varsity baseball team is off to a great start after winning its first two games of the season.

The Raiders edged visiting Walled Lake Central in the season opener Wednesday, 7-6, and followed that with an 8-5 victory Friday over visiting Westland John Glenn.

North struck for five runs in the first inning against Glenn and was ahead 8-3 after five innings.

Junior Jon Noble pitched the first four innings to earn the win. He gave up two runs on five hits and two walks while striking out four. Gary Kennedy worked two-plus innings and

Bryan Smith finished up. Each team had nine hits.

Scott Moscow went 3-for-4 with a solo homer for North. He also stole a pair of bases and scored two runs.

The Raiders' Tom Rossanna was 2-for-3 with a double and had four RBI; Brad Levick hit a two-run double, and Chris Clark added an RBI single.

PLEASE SEE RAIDERS, C3



State champs

Farmington Hills Mercy's figure skating team won the Level B high school state championship for the second year in a row March 22 at Novi Ice Arena. The members of the Mercy team are (front row, left to right) Meredith Galt, Alex Muma, Gwen Braude, Jessica Courtland, Kayla Bridges, Ali Ostrowski, (second row, left to right) Allison Mooney, Marie Pacini, Nicole Zaleski and coach Ann Seror. Not pictured are Lisa Malloure and Erin Genrich.

Whalers win series with Attack, 4-0

BY C.J. RISKAN
STAFF WRITER

It's over. The Owen Sound Attack's third-period comeback fell short Thursday, allowing the Plymouth Whalers to avenge their embarrassing first-round elimination last season with a series-clinching 5-2 victory Thursday at Owen Sound.

The Whalers, the No. 2 seed in the Ontario Hockey League's Western Conference, beat the Attack four-straight games. Their second-round

opponent won't be determined until the two remaining Western Conference series — London vs. Windsor and Guelph vs. Sarnia — are decided.

Plymouth's first game in Round Two is tentatively scheduled for Saturday at Compuware.

"We played very well in the second period," said Whalers' coach Mike Vellucci. "But then we had some penalties in the third and they got a couple of power-play goals."

"We got a big goal from Jonas Fiedler again."

PLEASE SEE WHALERS, C3

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