

Sports

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Division II
Raiders capture OAA
baseball crown, D2

PREPS • RECREATION • OUTDOORS

Mercy, North advance in softball tournament

BY DAN O'NEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills Mercy softball players began their quest for a return trip to Battle Creek with a 14-3 victory over Redford Union in a pre-district game Tuesday.

The Marlins, who were state runners-up in Division I last year, will play Farmington Harrison in the district tournament Saturday at Mercy.
Dana Frantz pitched a three-hitter

against RU, striking out 13 while issuing three walks.

The Marlins supported her with 15 hits, led by Carly Tracey. She had four hits, including a pair of RBI singles, and scored four runs.

Mercy (24-2) scored three runs in both the third and fourth innings for a 7-0 lead, which grew to nine runs before RU scored.

Sarah Roman and Kalli Blanchard were 2-for-4. Roman received credit for four RBI with a two-run double, an RBI sin-

gle and a bases-loaded walk. Roman also scored two runs, and Blanchard had two RBI.

Erin Agemy was 2-for-3 with a triple that knocked in a run. Nicole Gonzales and Tummi Karagosian contributed RBI singles.

Kelly Ferrara also was 2-for-3 and scored three runs. Anna Schneider had one hit but scored two runs.

The visiting Panthers (8-19) scored all their runs in the sixth inning. Kelly Hazlewood had a double in that inning

and Courtney Rosin an RBI single. Helene Lloyd pitched five innings and took the loss. She allowed eight runs (six earned) on 10 hits and four walks. Amy Corbin pitched the other two innings.

Raiders win in 16 innings

Senior Beth Danielewicz was one strikeout short of a state record Tuesday when North Farmington outlasted host Milford in a pre-district softball game.

PLEASE SEE SOFTBALL, D2

Sidelines

U-M tournament

The 12th Annual 3-on-3 Micro-Soccer Shootout sponsored by the University of Michigan men's soccer team will be Saturday, July 12, at U-M's Mitchell Fields.

The cost is \$64 per team before June 20 and \$50 after that date. Each team is guaranteed four games.

The age groups range from 7-year-old boys and girls to adult (men and women), with recreational and competitive divisions available in each age bracket.

Registration forms can be obtained at a local soccer store or via the web at www.umsoccer.com/3v3.asp.

For more information call (734) 615-5141 or send an email to ogobue@umsoccer.com. Reservations must be post-marked by July 3.

New soccer loop

Borden Park in Rochester Hills will be the site of a new 3-versus-3 soccer league that is open to residents of Oakland County.

Ages 9 and up are eligible. There will be divisions for boys, girls, high school students and adults, as well as a co-ed league.

Games will be played July 12 through Aug. 21. The cost is \$50 per player; there is a six-person per team limit. Call United Sports Marketing at (248) 652-9909 to register.

Jr. Crusaders win

The 12-and-under Madonna Crusader junior volleyball team won a tournament May 17 at Walled Lake Central.

After going undefeated in pool play, the Crusaders sliced through the playoffs, beating WP-Heather, 25-16, 24-26, 15-5, in the championship match.

For the tournament, the Crusaders posted a 10-1 record. For the season, they were 41-7, with two additional tournament wins and a second-place showing.

The team members were Kristy Becker, Lindsay Hostetter, Lindsey Warey, Erin O'Dowd, Kaitlyn Williams, all of Livonia; Kacy Moran, Plymouth; Bridget Hickey, Farmington; Andrea Conover, Emily Grant and Emily Pawlik, Northville; Mary McGovern, Canton; Kalle Hatz, Westland; and Kim Hildreth, Novi. The Crusaders were coached by Lori Brauer.

Health screening

Athletic health screening exams for the 2003-04 school year will be done 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, at North Farmington High School.

The program is for Farmington Public School students who will be entering the sixth through 12th grades. The fee is \$15, cash only.

Forms will be available at the school on that date. Parents must sign the form.

Sports correction

North Farmington's baseball team was misidentified in the lead headline in the Sunday Observer sports section. The headline should have read "Helping Hand gives Raiders 1st league title since 1996."



Mike Hand pitched a solid game Tuesday to lead North Farmington to a 12-2 victory over Milford in a pre-district baseball game at Walled Lake Western. Hand has a 7-3 record.

Bill Bresler | Staff Photographer

Raiders win pre-district game, 12-2

BY DAN O'NEARA
STAFF WRITER

Mike Hand improved his pitching record to 7-3 as North Farmington mercifully host Milford in five innings Tuesday in a pre-district baseball game, 12-2.

The Raiders will play White Lake Lakeland in the district tournament Saturday at Walled Lake Western. The survivor meets the Western-Walled Lake Central winner for the championship of the Division I district later that afternoon.

"We were in the pre-district last year and lost, so it's nice to get back to Saturday," North coach Irv Horwitz said.

"Lakeland has a heckuva pitcher (Kyle Fedorka). I would imagine they'll pitch him, so it's going to be a good game."

Hand, who will likely start for the Raiders (12-8) in the district opener, and Fedorka both signed last week with Madonna University.

The North ace scattered seven hits and didn't allow a walk while going the distance Tuesday. He struck out four.

PLEASE SEE RAIDERS, D2

Falcons earn tourney win over Marlins

BY DAN O'NEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington gave up an early goal but battled back Tuesday to earn a 2-1 soccer victory over visiting Farmington Hills Mercy in a Division I district tournament game.

The Falcons (9-5-2) will play state-ranked Novi in a second post-season game tonight at Novi Middle School, located at 11 Mile and Thft roads. Game

GIRLS SOCCER

time is 7 p.m. The championship game will be played Friday night.

"They're a good team and playing well," Farmington coach Steve Montgomery said of the Wildcats. "It will take us playing some of our better soccer to compete with them."

"We seem to rise to the occasion in some big games, and that's what we have to do."

Mercy scored first, just two minutes into the game Tuesday, on a goal by Christine Herzog, who was assisted by Jessica Greaney.

"They had plenty of time," Montgomery said of the Marlins. "It was a long shot and she buried it. We were way too relaxed."

Montgomery speculated the Falcons might have been taking the Marlins (1-8-3) too lightly.

"I think the girls talked amongst

PLEASE SEE SOCCER, D4

Wolves, Blue Jays are county champs

BY DANIEL STICKRABT
STAFF WRITER

At the beginning of the season, Southfield boys track and field coach William Howard gave his team members a power-point presentation listing several realistic goals his Blue Jays could reach this season.

One of those goals became a reality Friday evening at Lake Orion High School.

BOYS TRACK

Southfield ended a 14-year drought by winning its first Oakland County title since 1989 with 78 points, outdistancing a strong field that included defending champion Farmington Harrison (62 points).

Pontiac Northern finished third with 50 points. West Bloomfield, Lake Orion, Birmingham Brother Rice, Birmingham

Seaholm, Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western and Waterford Mott rounded out the top 10.

"I gave them a presentation back in March, and we talked about the things we could do as a team this year," Howard said. "We were second at the regional; we won the league meet, and now we won the county. This is a step in the direction of building this program."

PLEASE SEE COUNTY, D3

Seaholm, Brother Rice share relays title

BY MARTY BUONER
STAFF WRITER

It's only appropriate that Birmingham Seaholm and Birmingham Brother Rice shared top honors in the final Ambrose/Eccentric Track and Field Relays.

The Maples and Warriors each scored 62 points in the 10-team field and tied for first place in the 36th annual meet Tuesday at Seaholm High School. Runners from each team took a post-meet victory lap together with the traveling trophy as a prized companion.

After the meet, Kermit Ambrose, the legendary former Seaholm track coach for whom the meet was named, announced it would be the last Ambrose/Eccentric Relays that he would organize.

Brother Rice, with 14 wins counting this year, owns the most Ambrose victories in the meet's storied history. While it was just Seaholm's second win, the Maples managed to claim a share of the title on the track where Kermit

Ambrose successfully coached for so many years.

"We're always proud to compete in this meet, but the meet is primarily about Kermit and what he's done for track," said Brother Rice coach Bob Stark. "I hope his retirement announcement at the end doesn't mean somebody won't pick up the meet and continue to call it the Ambrose/Eccentric meet."

Current Seaholm coach Bill Johansson echoed Stark's sentiments. "The kids have fun here and there's no question this meet is all about Kermit," said Johansson. "After he had all the frustrations of setting this meet up, and doing this and doing that, it's fun to see him come out here and have as much fun as the kids."

Seaholm captured wins in four relay events — the most of any team in the field. However, the Maples rallied for a title share by winning the last two relays.

Seaholm needed to win the last relay

PLEASE SEE RELAYS, D4



JOEY ZOLNERSKI | Staff Photographer
Matt McManus of North Farmington runs the final leg of the shuttle hurdles relay Tuesday in the 36th Annual Ambrose/Eccentric Relays at Seaholm High School.



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