



INSIDE SPORTS: ANNAPOLIS WINDSURFER CLOSES IN ON SECURING OLYMPIC BERTH / B2

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The Capital Sports

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Wildcats no longer awe-struck

Arundel puts together
perfect volleyball run

By **BRANDON HOPP**
Staff Writer

When the members of Arundel's volleyball team walked onto the court at Ritchie Coliseum for the Class 4A state semifinals last November, their eyes widened.

The underdogs all season, knocking off Broadneck, Severna Park and South River on the way to their first region title since 1966, the Wildcats had never been in an environment quite like that.

"Last year, they were sort of star-struck," Arundel's fifth-year coach Ashley Yuscavage said. "They were looking around at the gym itself, which was kind of scary. We didn't play like we wanted to play, but we were very proud of them."



Loaded with juniors and 12 underclassmen, including All-County selections Shannon

DISTRICT V SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS



River Hill's Sheridan Street, right, squares off with Severna Park's Kendall Kosman last night.

By Joshu McKerrow — The Capital

Bruins, Falcons fall short

Injuries add to defensive Navy woes

Troubled unit banged up

By **BILL WAGNER**
Staff Writer

Navy's defense has struggled mightily during the team's current five-game winning streak. Adding injury to insult, the unit suddenly finds itself extremely banged up.

Navy ranks at the bottom of the 120-team Football Bowl Subdivision in just about

every defensive statistical category. The Midshipmen stand 95th and 83rd in total defense and scoring defense, allowing opposing opponents an

NAVY vs. NOTRE DAME

WHEN: Saturday, 3:30 p.m.
WHAT: College football
WHERE: Notre Dame Stadium, South Bend, Ind.
RECORDS: Navy 2-5; Notre Dame 4-3
LINE: Notre Dame by 20 1/2
TV: 4, 11. **RADIO:** 1430-AM; 1090-AM

average of 424 yards and 30 points per game. Navy ranks 103rd in rushing defense (196.3 yards allowed per game) and 111th in pass

SPORTSLINE

Redskins' Cooley finished for year

The Washington Redskins have placed tight end Chris Cooley and running back Tim Hightower on injured reserve.

Cooley's season comes to an end because of a balky left knee and a broken left index finger. He had knee surgery at the end of last season and never fully recovered, then hurt his finger in the loss to Philadelphia on Oct. 16. He had his knee re-examined in the wake of the finger surgery to determine whether he should return this season.

Cooley caught eight passes for 65 yards, by far his worst season. Fred Davis has picked up the slack and become the Redskins' top passing game threat.

Local windsurfer eyes Olympic berth

Annapolis' Hall takes home bronze at Pan Am Games

By **BILL WAGNER**
Staff Writer

Annapolis resident Farrah Hall is one step away from earning the lone United States berth in women's windsurfing class for the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. Hall's performance last week in the waters off Mexico shows she can compete successfully on an international stage.

Hall earned the bronze medal in women's RS:X Windsurfing class at the Pan American games, held off the resort city of Puerto Vallarta. The Broadneck High graduate placed second or third in seven of 10 races en route to totaling 36 points — one ahead of fourth-place finisher Nikola Ulrike Girke of Canada.

"I'm absolutely thrilled. I've worked really hard this year and made a lot of progress so this is a nice reward," said Hall, who is sponsored by Compass Marketing in Annapolis.

Patricia Freitas of Brazil captured the gold medal in dominating fashion, counting all first-place finishes in the 10-race, one-throut series then finishing second in the medal race.

Hall had a shot at the silver medal, but finished fifth in the medal race that pitted the top five competitors in the main portion of the series. It marked the best finish at an international event for Hall, who has been mountain an Olympic campaign in windsurfing for the past six years.

Hall didn't want to get too excited because the Pan American Games fleet was just seven boards and comprised competitors from North America, South America and the Caribbean. European competitors have dominated women's windsurfing over the years.

Hall qualified for the Pan Am Games by placing 12th overall and first among Americans at the Miami Olympic Classes Regatta in January. She is currently ranked No. 1 in the women's RS:X Windsurfer category by US Sailing ahead of Solvig Sayre, who is just a sophomore at Martha's Vineyard Regional High in Massachusetts.

"I'm now the old veteran among American windsurfers," joked the 30-year-old Hall, whose top previous result against international competition was a ninth at Kiel Week in 2009. "Most of the other Olympic hopefuls are all 21 years old or younger."

Hall took the first step toward qualifying for the 2012 Summer Olympics by being the top United States finisher at the Sail for Gold Regatta in Weymouth, England this past June. The Arnold native can wrap up the lone U.S. berth in Women's RS:X Windsurfing by beating every other American entrant at the International Sailing Federation World Championships, being held in December off Perth, Australia.

Meanwhile, Arnold resident Geoff Becker was a member of the U.S. team that captured the silver medal in J/24 class at the Pan American games. Becker, former junior program director at Annapolis Yacht Club, crewed for skipper John Mollicone, who won the series, but placed fifth in the medal race and finished a point behind the Brazilian team skippered by Mauricio Oliveira.