

## SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT



Scott Osborne ■ Daily Times

Minford's Shane Price has a chance to break Minford's single-season scoring record of 47 goals. All he needs is three more scores.

# Price is right for Falcons

By **JOSH HICKLE**  
*PDT Sports Writer*

Shane Price is a fan of "hats."

More specifically, Minford's senior forward is a fan of hat tricks, something he has become proficient at scoring this season. Through 15 games, Price has scored 45 goals, an average of nearly three per game.

That scoring prowess has helped the Falcons to a 10-5-1 record this season, a marked improvement over last year's squad that won only three games.

"Coming into the season, I wanted to make our team better because I want Minford soccer to have a bright future," said Price. "We have shown that this year with

our record, I am definitely happy with the progress we have made in the season."

Price is making up for lost time, having suffered a stress fracture near the beginning of the 2003 season. A stint in summer ball rehabilitated the injury nicely, and Price was ready to return to the Falcons in the fall.

Return he did with a vengeance, and the goals came early and often. Price has routinely scored three and four goals in various, netting five apiece in back-to-back contests recently. He has been shut out only once. Along the way, he has also dished out 13 assists.

"I love to score goals, but I also enjoy giving my teammates the opportunities to score

because it builds their self-confidence," said Price. "Some of the goals were freak, but they were still goals, and that is what counts."

Price's 45 goals give him an outside shot of breaking the school's season scoring record of 47. Price would have to have scored six goals in Saturday's sectional matchup with Ironton St. Joe to break the mark, but the three shots he netted put him even closer to the total.

Either way, Price says the record is in his sights, but notes that helping the team is of utmost importance.

See **SPORTLIGHT**, B2

# Sportlight

From Page B1

"I am definitely going to do my best to break the record," he said. "If scoring goals helps the team, that is what I am here for. I would love to be forever remembered by future students of the school."

Price's goal-scoring barrage has brought about some negative consequences, though. Teams have zeroed in on the senior, sending double- and triple-team formations around him an effort to stop him. For the most part, the added pressure has not affected Price.

Those qualities speak volumes of his character, said

coach Dave Munion.

"My team is just better with him," he said. "He has made the team better as a whole with his leadership and his abilities. I don't have to coach him. It is just self-motivation and the love for the game that drives him. God gifted him, and that gift is on the soccer field. It is a definite pleasure to coach him."

Memories of last year's pains have been nearly exorcised for Munion, in his second year at Minford. He is hesitant to say that the team has come full circle, though. It has helped that Price has been part of the that process.

"We're close," he said. "With the way our program has been in the last few years ... it is hard

to go through those pains, but that is what happened last year. We are getting where we need to be. The real test will come in the tournament. We will see if we have made that circle yet."

Regardless of the outcome, Price has enjoyed his final season in the Scarlet and Gray of the Falcons. That experience could carry him to a Div. I university, where he hopes to continue his scoring prowess.

"It has always been my goal to go to a Div. I soccer school," he said. "If not, then I will at whatever college offers me the opportunity."

**JOSH HICKLE** can be reached at (740) 353-3101 ext. 241.