

New titlists rule, as rain shortens tourney

By DOUG FUNKE

New champions were crowned in each of the four flights Sunday during the rain-shortened Observer & Eccentric Golf Tournament.

The tournament was contested over the 6,265-yard, par-71 Whispering Willows Municipal Golf Course in Livonia.

John Lyons, a Southfield resident who attended the University of Kansas on a golf scholarship, carded a two-under par 69 to claim low gross (actual score) honors in the Championship Flight.

Doug Harmala, a draftsman and Farmington resident, scored 77 to set the pace in Flight 1.

Nick Lubnik, a real estate broker

who lives in Farmington Hills, bested the field in Flight 2 with a score of 75.

Peter Nathan, an attorney who also makes his home in Farmington Hills, turned in a round of 97 to outscore all comers in Flight 3.

The original 36-hole tournament became an 18-hole event when Saturday's round was washed out by rain.

Gary Whitener, golf professional at Whispering Willows and the tournament director, made the decision to go with one round late Saturday after consulting with Ron Reinke, director of the Livonia Parks and Recreation Department.

Other commitments at the golf course and for many of the golfers figured in the decision not to make-up the

18 holes at a later date.

The rainout Saturday was the first time in the tournament's history that a scheduled round was cancelled due to bad weather.

Play began as scheduled at 7:30 a.m. Saturday in a steady rain, but at about 11:45 a.m. and after several brief delays due to intermittent downpours, Whitener called the golfers off the course when it began lightning and thundering.

Whitener officially postponed the day's activity an hour later. None had completed an entire round, but many players had finished as many as nine holes.

LYONS, 21, who intends to turn pro-

fessional after another year of seasoning, fired a birdie on the eighth hole — his 17th hole of the tourney having started on the back nine — for the margin of victory.

Bill Curtis, from Farmington, and Jim Montiegel, a Rochester resident, tied for second place in the Championship Flight at 70, one stroke behind Lyons.

"A friend told me that Mr. Curtis was in at 70 when I was on number seven," Lyons said. "I made a 25-foot putt for birdie on number eight and made a 15 footer on my last hole for par."

HARMALA, a recent Lawrence Institute of Technology graduate, was competing in only his second O&E

Tournament, although he said he plays at Whispering Willows often.

"I played the back nine first and played poorly," he said. "Then I played the front nine and had a few good chips and a few long putts and that helped out."

Harmala chipped directly into the hole once for birdie and another time for par.

Four players — Ken Johnston, Livonia, Paul Rys, Redford, Terry McNamara, Livonia, and Don Rieman, Canton — tied at 78, one shot behind Harmala.

Johnston eventually won the four-way playoff for second place on the fifth extra hole.

LUBNIK, who finished second last year in Flight 2, used a steady putting stroke to win a title yesterday.

"I three-putted only one green and had a lot (six) of one-putt greens," he said.

Jim Allie, a Livonian, finished second to Lubnik in Flight 2 with a score of 80, five shots back.

NATHAN was a member of the final group to finish in the damp, windy dusk Sunday evening. "I played pretty steady until the last three holes," he said.

Bill Ellwell, from Livonia, won the second-place trophy in Flight 3 with a round of 99, two shots behind Nathan.

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sports

Tom Baer editor/591-2313

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Class B Harrison '11' can play with the giants

By TOM BAER

When it comes to high school football, Farmington Harrison doesn't respect the state's class distinctions. Harrison, which dropped to Class B last winter after nine years of competition in the larger Class A category, proved Friday night that it could still play with the grid giants by nipping Class A Birmingham Groves, 13-12, in non-league action.

Both teams scored two touchdowns, but Groves place kicker Ken Granader failed to convert on both point-after-kicks. Harrison's Dave Blackmer, a sophomore, made good on one of two PATs to account for the one-point difference in the final score.

"Our kids had a lot of heart," said Bob Sallow, an assistant coach at Harrison. "We knew we had to be ready because Groves is an excellent football team. But we got fired up and we just outplayed them."

Sam Lunetta, who gained 70 yards for Groves, opened the scoring on a one-yard run with 8:19 left in the first quarter. Granader then missed the extra point.

Harrison's Reggie Upshaw, a 6-foot-2, 176-pound running back who didn't play much of a role in the Hawks' season-opening victory over Farmington High, scored on a three-yard run with 4:45 left in the second quarter. Blackmer's PAT attempt was wide.

UPSHAW SCORED again on a 24-yard pass play from senior quarterback Jim Macielak midway through the third quarter. Blackmer's kick was good. Jim Larrman closed out the scoring with a 10-yard TD run with 4:26 left to play.

Upshaw may have scored the touchdowns for Harrison, but the real workhorse was tailback Ken Kopko. The 6-foot, 190-pound senior gained 106 yards in 25 carries. Upshaw added 44 yards in 10 tries.

Harrison dominated the statistics, rushing for 158 yards to Groves' 113. Harrison completed five of nine passes for 70 more yards. Groves' passing game — three completions, seven attempts — netted only 15 yards.

Two standouts on Harrison's defense were linebacker Bruce Yeager (15 tackles) and end Steve Waldron (10).

Groves, now 1-1 after its season-opening win over Southfield High, plays next at home at 8 p.m. Friday against Bloomfield Hills Lahser in the Metro Suburban Association opener.

Harrison, now 2-0, travels to Plymouth Canton on Friday for the start of the Western Six League season. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

HARRISON 13 — GROVES 12

	HHS	BG
First downs rushing	8	3
First downs passing	0	2
First downs penalty	0	0
Yards rushing	158	113
Yards passing	70	15
Plays	5-9	3-7
Points — average	4.47	2.375
Fumbles — No. lost	3-2	3-2
Penalties — yards lost	6-50	7-55

HARRISON	0	6	7	0	—13
GROVES	6	0	6	0	—12

SCORING PLAYS

GROVES — Sam Lunetta 1 run (kick failed).

HARRISON — Reggie Upshaw 3 run (kick failed).

HARRISON — Upshaw 24 pass from Jim Macielak (Dave Blackmer kick).

GROVES — Jim Larrman 10 run (kick failed).



Reggie Upshaw of Farmington Harrison has his sights set far downfield as he searches for a receiver on the halfback option. (Staff photo by Dick Kelley)

HHS girls log win for new coach

By TOM BAER

Farmington Harrison's girls' basketball team made Mike Hickey's coaching debut a success last Thursday with a 33-28 victory over Novi High in the season opener.

"There were a lot of first-game mistakes, but overall we were pleased with the effort," said Hickey, who established a successful junior high boys' basketball program at Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows before coming to Harrison.

"The kids just never quit," said Hickey, whose team didn't score a single point in the second quarter and trailed by a point (13-12) at halftime. Harrison outscored the opposition, 10-6, in the third quarter.

Lori Winkel, a 5-foot-5 junior forward, led Harrison with 12 points on five baskets and two of three free throws. Sue Ferguson added nine points and Susie Solomon had five for the winners.

Jayne Jordan and Margie Sroka each scored six points for Novi.

In another girls' basketball game last Thursday, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy made it two-straight this fall with a 79-33 thumping of Flint Powers.

Suzanne Dietz, Mercy's 5-11 senior forward, led all scorers with 20 points and pulled down 12 rebounds to help the Marlins dominate the boards. Sophomore Carolyn Burt played an outstanding game, scoring 12 points and playing a key role on defense.

"We pressed through the second and third quarters, and Carolyn got seven steals," said Mercy coach Larry Baker. "She's just a sophomore so this was a big game for her."

NANCY RADEMACHER scored 14 points for Powers, which trailed by 16 points (39-23) at halftime.

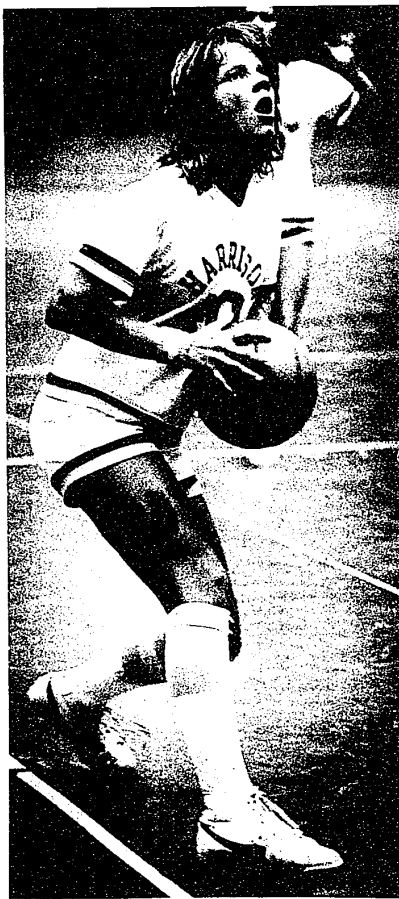
North Farmington is 0-2 this season after its 46-23 loss to Royal Oak Dondero Thursday in a consolation game of the Dondero Tournament.

Hapless North trailed by seven points (20-23) after three quarters and then failed to score a point in the fourth quarter. "Dondero was pressing, but we were terrible," said Greg Gradzicki, North's new coach.

"We missed the lead ends of four one-and-ones and one two-shot foul," said Gradzicki, whose team opened its season earlier last week with a loss to Lake Orion in the tournament.

Sue Bernas scored six points for North. Menya Reyman netted 16 for Dondero.

On Tuesday, Mercy plays at Walled Lake Central. Other area games on Tuesday: Livonia Bentley at Farmington High, Lutheran High Northwest at Lutheran North, and Harrison at Redford Union.



Harrison's Sue Ferguson scored nine points against Novi. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

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	YES	NO
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