Don't overpower wood shots

It's time for our third lesson. This week I'll concentrate on woods, both fairways and the driver (tee slot). First, keep in mind that if you are hitting a nine-iron, a five-iron, a five-wood or a driver, the grip does not change. Hold the clubs in the same hand contitue.

hand position.
Golfers tend to put much more effort into a wood shot than an Iron. This is wrong. No more than 75 percent of the player's strength should be utilized. Here are some tips on hitting the driver, or tee shot.

• First, stand erect, with a slight flex in the knees and no weight on the

fier in the knees and no weight on the toes.

• Second, position the ball left of center, near the left heel or instep.

• Third, favor the left foot with your weight, never the right.

• Fourth, feel as though you are sweeping the ball and tee out to your target.

The target is most important. As you follow through to it, your weight should be abilting onto your left tig and foot. At the finish of all your wood shots, you should have pivoted to, and be facing, your target.

FAIRWAY WOODS are played from much the same position as the tee shot.



The golden rule is to stay down (don't rise on your toes at impact) and sweep the ball off the turf. Let the loft of the club face plot the ball up, not you.

Keep your balance. A common fault among golfers attempting to bit long

Keep your balance. A common fault among golfers attempting to hit long wood shots is that they force the shot and lose their balance. My recommendation to all beginners or for any golfer experiencing trouble hitting the driver is to tee off with a three or five wood. Keep the driver in the bag until you develop enough confidence to use it.

Next: trouble shots and adjustments.

Gary Whitener is the golf pro at Whispering Willows Golf Course in Livonia, the site of the Observer & Eccentric golf tournaments, and serves as secretary for the Michigan PGA. Whitener's column appears weekly in the O&E sports pages.

Waz wants starting assignment at MSU

Continued from Page 1

have been six more points for the East
— who won the game 24-7.

"We were going to throw more in the
second balf, but with the lead, the
coaches decided to keep the ball on the
ground," Wax said. "This was such a
disappointment."

disappointment. Was a looking forward to playing for Perles. When he was signed last year, Waz was touted as being one of the top offensive recruit for the Spartans. Then, a week later, MSU signed a speedy All-American receiver out of Chicago named Norm Dempsey. Suddenly, Waz was scarcely mentioned among MSU recruits.

BOTH WAZ and Herrington atill believe MSU is the right school.

"I think I have an advantage over Dempsey," Wax said. "He's only 5-foot-80 (Waz is 6-5) and I'm just as fast. I think Til have a great chance." Dempsey, though, is already being touted as the next Anthony Carter. Waz knows he'll have to work hard, but he's confident he'll be ready to accept the challange.

knows us to accept the confident be'll be ready to accept the confident be'll be ready to give 100 percent effort before," Waz sald. "I'll be giving it all I have in the fail." Indeed. It will be the biggest test of Wascenski's will be the biggest test of Wascenski will be the biggest test of Wasc

Women's, Men's golf tournament sponsored by O & E/Whispering Willows

Women's 18-hole medal play: Wednesday, Aug. 22. Entry fee is \$15. Handicap maximum is 40.

Mon's 36-hole medal play: Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 22-23, Entry fee is \$30, Handicap maximum is 36.

Women's entries close Wednesday, Aug. 17 at 6 p.m. For starting times, call 476-4493 after 10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 20.

Men's entries close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20. For starting times, call 478-4493 after noon Thursday, Sept. 20.

Send entry blank with check (not cash) payable to tournament director Gary Whitener, Whispering Willows, 20500 Newburgh, Livenia 48152.

Pairings will be made by the tournament committee. No requests for individual pairings will be taken. No changes will be made.

Open to all residents of Livenia, Plymouth, Canton, Garden City, Westland, Rectord Township, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Lathrup Village, Birmingham, Bewerly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Township, Bloomfield Hills, Troy, Rochester and Avon Township.

A shocker in men's soccer

Liveria Welves The Livonia Wolves, undefeated throughout the Great Lakes Mens Soccer League regular season, were stunned Sunday by the league's eighth-place team.

The University Michigan, a team that the Wolves demolished 9-0 during the regular sea-son, knocked the favor-ites out of the league

tournament with a 3-1
shocker.

"Since we beat them so
had earlier, I think we
had earlier, I think we
had ever and die," said a
shaken Wolves manager
Joe Manchil.

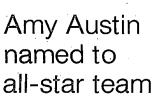
Craig Pickar scored
the lone goal for Livonia.

"We just got caught
flat-tooted, Manchi added. "I hope we have
learned a lesson."

rists will meet at 6 p.m. Sunday at Whitman Field for the championship.







Amy Austin, a graduate of North Farmington and the 1994 Farmington Observer Athlete of the Year, has been selected to layly in the prestigious Michigan High School Softball All-Star game. The games will be played Saturday at Ranney Field in East Lansing. The Class Co B games will get a support of the Part Saturday at Panney High Death Saturday at Panney High Carlos Company and Panney Saturday and Panney Saturday and Panney Saturday Saturday

3 p.m. Austin will be joined by All-Area performer Liz Gargaro from Livonia Stevenson on the East squad. Stevenson pitcher Lisa Bokovoy was also selected to the East team but had to withdraw because of a

to the East team out had to windman occases of a scheduling conflict.

Also on the East team will be Believille's two-year all-state pitcher Judy Wisalewski and outfield-er Jill Pence — both key figures on the Tigers' Class A state champloomhip team.

AUSTIN HAD a remarkable softball career at North. In her three-year varnity atint she batted 405, striking out just six times in nearly 200 athats. She swiped 71 bases in 74 attempts, was a mooth-fielding shortstop and owns every offensive record at the school.

Gargaro, a deft outfleider, hit .885 for the Western Lakes champion Spartans. She has displayed good power, singsing four home runs, five doubles and two triples.

Ranney Field is off 1-127 and Michigan Ave. in Fast Landies.









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