

O&E area can boast nation's best

THE GEOGRAPHICAL area in which the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers are distributed contains the greatest concentration of outstanding bowlers in the U.S. — and perhaps the entire world.

I could get into a big argument with a statement like that, but the facts and figures are there to back me up.

There are about 30 bowling centers in the O&E area, which blankets much of southern Oakland and Western Wayne counties. Our "Classic" leagues are loaded with talented bowlers, capable of competing with the highest level of professional bowlers. Some of these bowlers have competed in the professional tour and others could go pro with adequate financial backing.

Many of the line amateur bowlers in the local leagues are consistently delivering big scores. The youth programs are producing future "superstars," such as the kids now bowling in the Sunday Youth Classic (SYC), the Western Wayne Youth Travel League and the Ward's Youth Travel Classic.

At last week's Michigan Junior Masters Association tournament in Bridgeport, Paul Samuay, a 17-year-old southpaw from the SYC, bowled his first 100 game. The perfect game was part of a string of 23 consecutive strikes.

LIVONIA's Eric Tulley has progressed to collegiate bowling as a member of the University of Houston team, which has been breaking all kinds of records, thanks to Eric, who has been leading the way.

The Cougars recently scored a four-man team score of 3,035 for three games — the second highest ever and only seven pins off of the all-time record. Eric contributed with 285-255-246, good for a 787 series. Their second game total set city and state records for a four-man team.

I receive weekly reports from the Schaefer Beer All-Star Travelling Classic and the H & L Distribution day All-Star Classic leagues. To print the outstanding scores would take more space than this page, so unfortunately, many great games are not recognized.

The Ansara's Big Boy team of the Schaefer Beer



10-pin alley
Al Harrison

League recently cracked the nation's high series and set a new all-time Michigan record with a 3,731 series at Redford Bowl. The team consists of: Dick Beattie, Nunoze Marino (Livonia), Tony Sulpeck (Redford), Paul Grauser (Westland) and Ken Wyatt.

THE MICHIGAN Major Bowling Association closed out its season with the first Tournament of Champions, with Troy Stus of Garden City taking top honors. Stus has since taken the giant step by joining the pro bowlers tour.

In the Mid-States Masters tournament earlier this month, Ed Dudek of Livonia was the top qualifier with 1,130 for five games. Rumors have it that Ed Grace of Farmington Hills is about to test his abilities in the pro tour south.

Several of the mixed leagues have bragging rights when it comes to bowling ability, as proven by the Greenfield Mixed Leagues (Friday nights at the Country Lanes in Farmington) with 44 couples. Ten men average over 200 and 20 of the ladies average 160 or better. This league is over 40 years old and keeps getting stronger.

There are many senior citizen leagues that also deserve plaudits, and the scores reported every week are amazing. Anyone who wants to see some great bowling should check out the senior action at Mayflower Lanes in Redford Township.

Our communities can truly boast about our great bowlers, ranging from 10-year-old Charlie Thompson, who has bowled several high 200 games and a 600 series at Drake's Lanes in Farmington Hills, to 78-year-old

Jayr "the Mechanic" Woeike of Redford, the "king of senior bowlers." Woeike won last year's Old Timers tournament with a record setting 733 series. There is also Redford's Jon Reed and his back-to-back 300 games.

THE NAMES are plentiful. I wish I could mention all the fine bowlers from our own hometowns and there are plenty more that do not get reported in this column. We apologize if we sometimes miss a few.

If you have any doubts about the area's bowlers, then take a look at the following scores.

Super Bowl (Canton Township) will host the MPVA "Wheelers" league starting Jan. 19. This is open to all wheelchair bowlers. Ample family members can also bowl. This is every-other Saturday over a 20-week period.

The GDBA announced the closing dates for the regular team and mixed team entries have been extended to Jan. 5.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

Red Area Lanes (Farmington) Senior League (Thursday) — Mark Lundy, 290/728; Matt Freeman, 246/664; Joyce DeLuca, 247/674; Mark McGee, 258; Fred Robinson, 255/711; Gene Labov, 268/742; Paul Koenig, 267/664; Tony Fazio, 245/685; Wade Smith, 268/714; Keith Dyer, 251.

Blue Lady of Sorrows — Ron McGee, 289/706.

YABA Saturday Masters — Dave Orfan, 248/683.

Drake's Lanes (Farmington Hills) Sunday Men's Junior House — Mark Harris, 287/722; Wayne Lundy, 279/688; Duane Hayman, 255/681; Jerry Olsen, 263; Brian Rafter, 263.

Men's City Stars — Fred Freeman, 280/782; Ron Fazio, 277.

Greenfield Mixed Leagues (Farmington Hills) Farmington Mixed League — Ed G., 279/744; Goya Mertz, 277/555; Mary Franz, 274/587.

Levitt, Wal Virel — Mark Souders, 267; Carl Bern, 283; Joey Gave, 272.

Greenfield Mixed Leagues — Garry Perma, 287/686; Joan Souders, 243; Duane Dwyer, 272/686; Tim Schaefer, 271/623; Debbie Van Meter, 270; Carol Bodgett, 271.

Country Figures — Keith Dandowski, 257/711; Dennis Harris, 267/600; Mark Howe, 264; Jerry Heath, 245.

Evergreen League — Ron Mathison, 268/733; Sam Scidmore, 696; Kevin Harkness, 278/653; Stan Macgregor, 260/625.

Greenfield Mixed League — Jack Tieder, 258; Dave Richardson, 766.

Greenfield Mixed League — G.M. Permy, 279/685; Chuck Oltman, 274; Stan Oltman, 282; Al Erickson, 268/622; Ron Turner, 250/669.

Van Goo, 243/678; Ryan Wilson, 243/661; Jim Ammonson, 233/642.

Van Goo, 238; Kathy O'Brien, 213; Jack Gattino, 204; Dale Franklin, 224; John Weid, 200.

Farmington falters in lower divisions

Jason Hood pinned Matt Siskowsky Wednesday to help push Westland John Glenn past host Farmington 32-24 in wrestling action.

Farmington drops to 4-3 overall. The Falcons lost matches in the 103-pound, 112-pound, 119-pound, 125-pound and 130-pound divisions.

"We just need to be more consistent in the lighter weights," Farmington coach Al Beyer said. "We had a chance to win it in the last match. John Glenn is a good team and we weren't ready for them."

In other matches: 103 pounds: Tom Pace (Glenn) defeated Brian Valtie, 6-2; 112: Jeremy Samples (Glenn) pinned John Lane, 1-28; 119: Brandon Udell (John Glenn) pinned Rian Demery, 0-28; 125: John Deif (Glenn) dec. Mike Pace, 5-1; 130: Rob Wilson (Glenn) dec.

wrestling

Steve Lemieux, 5-4; 135: Brian Lutz (Farmington) dec. Chris Ponzak, 12-7; 140: Keith Jackson (Glenn) dec. Jason Holiday, 13-2; 145: Shane Hall (John Glenn) dec. Rob Cavanaugh, 15-1; 152: Chris Kresl (Farmington) dec. Mike Reeves, 4-2; 160: Mike Fallo (Farmington) pinned Mic McGonnell, 2-17; 171: Steve Walter (Farmington) dec. Tony Pietruk, 10-2; 189: Ryan Adam (Farmington) pinned Ian Cowen, 4-22; heavyweight: Jason Hood (John Glenn) pinned Matt Siskowsky, 1-02.

Thurston, Wayne drill conference foes

Continued from Page 1

Tri-River League will Thursday. The Eagles, 5-1 overall and 4-1 in the Tri-River, took a commanding 41-16 halftime advantage.

Melvindale dropped to 3-3, 2-3 overall. Danny Pertulla led the Eagles with 14 points and Justin McEwen added 10 points.

Steve Ross topped Melvindale with nine points.

WAYNE 68, LINCOLN PARK 31: Junior forward Rick Barnes scored 15 points and junior forward

Greg Hartman added 14 as host Wayne Memorial beat Lincoln Park Thursday.

Wayne improved to 4-2, 3-0 in the Wolverine A League, while Lincoln Park dropped to 0-5 overall, 0-3 in the W.A.L.

Bill Howatt scored 11 points for Lincoln Park.

Wayne took an 18-7 first quarter lead and never looked back. They led 29-12 at the half and 45-17 after three quarters.

Harper Woods Lutheran East stay unbeaten Thursday.

Lutheran Westland was 0-for-13 in the third quarter from the field.

East went to 6-0 overall, Lutheran Westland is 1-5.

East senior forward Erich Frazzle led all scorers with 31 points.

Lutheran Westland got 20 points from senior guard Chris Habiba. He was eight-for-eight from the free throw line.

"Lutheran East's pressure defense was the key," Lutheran Westland coach Scott Welmer said. "We expected a game like this, but it's hard to tell if we've improved over the

season. In the second half we shot a little better, but our inability to shoot hurt us."

DIVINE CHILD 68, CLARENCEVILLE 50: Dearborn Divine Child used a 17-4 first-quarter run to hold off host Livonia Clarenceville Thursday.

Senior guard Jim Solsk paced the Falcons with 14 points and senior center Brian O'Donnell added 11. Clarenceville senior guard Frank Juncal led all scorers with 31 points. The loss dropped the Trojans to 2-3 overall.

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the week ahead

WEEK OF DEC. 24-29
BOYS BASKETBALL
Thursday-Friday, Dec. 27-28
N. Farmington at Troy Township, TBA
Friday, Dec. 28
S.C.S. Lake Shore at Redford CC, 7:30 p.m.
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 28-29
Bishop Borgess at Woodhaven Twp., TBA
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Thursday-Friday, Dec. 28-29
Schoolcraft at Battle Creek, TBA
Saturday, Dec. 29
CC Alumni Game (Redford Arena), 6 p.m.

Garden City at Red. Thurston, 7:30 p.m.
South Lyon at W.L. Western, 7:30 p.m.
A.A. Phoenix at Ry. Canton, 7:30 p.m.
Troyans at Ry. Salem, 7:30 p.m.
Bism. Seaholm at Farmington, 7:30 p.m.
Oak Park at Farm. Hendon, 7:30 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 5
Oakland CC at Delta CC, 7:30 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Alpena CC, 8 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 5
Schoolcraft at Alpena CC, 8 p.m.

WEEK OF DEC. 31-JAN. 5
BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Jan. 4
Bishop Borgess at Redford CC, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 4
Oak. Catholic at St. Agatha, 7:30 p.m.
Luth. Westland at St. Field Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Woodhaven at Luth. Church, 7:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Jan. 2
Liv. Church vs. Midford High
at Livonia's Edgell Arena, 8 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 4
Liv. Church vs. Howell High
Liv. Franklin vs. Midford Lakeshore
at Livonia's Edgell Arena, 4 and 6 p.m.

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