

SPORTS

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THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1992

FARMINGTON FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Tennis recruit

Nadine Nemes of Farmington Hills and Mercy High School is one of four players to sign letters-of-intent to play for the newly-created women's tennis team at the University of Detroit-Mercy.

Nemes is joined by Karren Jeppesen, Bay City Central; Hillary Hart, Wyandotte Roosevelt; and Laura DiBasio, Livonia Stevenson. Nemes was a state qualifier at No. 1 doubles while playing for Mercy.

UD Mercy coach John Cochran is still seeking qualified high school players who would like to compete for a Division I program. Scholarship assistance is available. For information, call Cochran at 993-1700.

Tournament golf

John Ponczik of Farmington Hills finished eighth in the 16-17 age division at the Pine Valley Junior Open golf tournament Friday. Ponczik shot 79 to tie two others.

Tim Fox of Mount Clemens was first among 57 golfers with a 74. The tournament was part of the Macomb Junior Golf Classics.

Richard Trebaine and Doug Cumming of Farmington Hills were among 11 players tied for 12th place Monday following the first round of the Michigan Public Golf Association Match-Play Championship.

Al Whited (Taylor) and Joe Starck (Lake Orion) were tied for first place after shooting 72 at The Pines Golf Course in Weidman.

All-state tennis

The Redford Catholic Central High doubles team of Chris Matson and Dave Gallagher recently earned Michigan Interscholastic Tennis Coaches Association All-State honors in Class A.

Singles player Chris Alente of CC gained honorable mention honors.

Livonia Stevenson coach George Croll, whose team qualified for the state tourney, was named Region IV Coach of the Year. Farmington's Tim Prince was also saluted as Region VIII Coach of the Year.

Carnes scholarship

Kil Mastroberto, an all-state hockey player from Livonia Stevenson High, is one of two recipients of the Neil James Carnes Memorial Scholarship Award.

Mastroberto joins Rochester's Matt Fleury (Birmingham Brother Rice High) as winners of the \$1,000 scholarship, given in memory of Neil Carnes, a Plymouth resident and Montreal Canadiens' draft pick who was killed three years ago in a motorcycle accident (July 30, 1989). The scholarship fund was established by Carnes' parents, Neil and Lois, of Livonia.

The award goes annually to former members of the Michigan National Hockey League. Mastroberto played for the national champion Little Caesars Midjet Major squad.

Both Mastroberto and Fleury plan to attend the University of Michigan this fall. Mastroberto carried a 4.26 grade-point average (Summa Cum Laude) at Stevenson.



Mallon homecoming: Meg Mallon returns to her roots at Mercy and Edgewood Country Club for a second benefit golf outing Tuesday, Sept. 1.

Mercy plans 2nd Mallon golf event



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Meg Mallon might be the most popular Mercy High School graduate, and her alma mater remains just as popular with Mallon.

Now a nationally known sports figure and successful member of the Ladies Professional Golf Association, she will lend her support Sept. 1 at the Second Annual Meg Mallon Golf Outing and Tribute Dinner to benefit Mercy.

"When she sat down to put together this year's schedule, the first thing she said was to set aside time for that," said Paul Mallon, one of Meg's brothers and biggest fans. "She had a real good experience at Mercy, and she wants to give back to the school."

The event raised \$42,000 for the Mercy general fund last year, and the goal is \$50,000 this year, according to school spokeswoman Johanna Monaghan.

"People respond to Meg because she's such a great champion and has such a wonderful personality," Monaghan said. "It's kind of like a homecoming."

Following the golf at Edgewood Country Club in Union Lake, Merrily Dean Baker, the new Michigan State University athletic director, and Mel Farr, the former Detroit Lion and area businessman, will receive the Mercy Sports Achievement Award at the Tribute Dinner.

Baker will be honored as the "first woman AD at a Big Ten school, and

she's also a big Meg Mallon fan and quite a golfer, too," Monaghan said.

Farr and his family have a longstanding friendship with the Mallons, going back to his days as a Lions running back in the late 1960s and early '70s.

When knee injuries threatened to end his football career, Farr looked to the auto business as his post-NFL career. Meg's father, John Mallon, was in charge of the minority dealership development program for Ford Motor Co. and helped get Farr, who now owns four dealerships, started in the business.

Farr returned the favor in 1986 when Meg turned professional. He was among the businessmen who sponsored her "when no other sponsors were knocking down the door," Paul Mallon said.

"That debt has since been retired by Meg, but there's a closeness that remains," Monaghan said.

Mallon, who won her first tournament last year and four overall, including the LPGA and Women's U.S. Open titles, has no wins yet this year but is having another fine season.

Having played in 17 tournaments, Mallon has 11 top-10 finishes, which is second best on the Tour. She was second in the Inamori (San Diego) and Phar-Mor (Youngstown) events.

Mallon, who earned \$28,000 for finishing fourth in the U.S. Open July 19, is seventh on the money list this year with \$308,045.

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South Farmington 2-peats as state champ

For the fourth consecutive year, a South Farmington team has won the state championship in the Bronco Division of Pony baseball, winning three games without a loss last weekend in Lansing.

The South Farmington Blues compiled a total of 33 runs and 32 hits in the 11-12 age division while their opponents managed only seven runs on 14 hits.

The Blue also racked up 50 stolen bases and had just two runners thrown out as opposed to nine steals and three unsuccessful attempts by the opposition.

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield Red Sox were the first to fall to the

Blues in a five-inning mercy game, 11-1. Matt Derocher, Nick Pourcho and Mike Haller combined on a two-hit pitching performance.

The six-hit offense was led by Brennan Connelly, Jim Carson, Chris Ghannam, Zach Cornwell, Andy Pjeter and Derocher. Cornwell also made a fine defensive play at third base.

Jon Rospierski turned in an outstanding pitching effort against NFWB I in Game 2, allowing two hits and two walks in seven innings for a 9-1 win. He struck out 10.

After retiring the first 16 batters, Rospierski's bid for a perfect game was spoiled by a walk in the sixth inning, followed by a scratch hit that scored the

only NFWB run.

The Blues had nine hits and 18 stolen bases. Rospierski had three hits, Cornwell a two-run homer and three RBI and Tim Hatch a timely triple. Nick Falvo, Mike Volsin, Carson and Haller also contributed to the offense. Pourcho played a key role defensively at second base.

The tournament finale pitted South Farmington against the host team, the Lansing Athletic Connection. The Blues won 13-5.

The Lansing pitchers were no match for the Blues as South Farmington pummeled its opponent with 17 hits. Volsin had three hits while Ghannam, Dan Fleury, Cornwell and Rospierski

had two each. Each player batted at least twice, with Pjeter, Cornwell, Fleury and Rospierski collecting two RBI apiece.

The Blues defense was highlighted by Connelly's diving snare of a hot grounder and ensuing throw for the assist-out. Cornwell, Volsin and Derocher shared the pitching duties, allowing 10 hits and four walks. Cornwell had five of the trio's seven strikeouts in three innings.

"This is one of the quickest teams South Farmington has had, and our pitching staff is second to none in the state," Blues manager Chris Ghannam said, adding the team has a 1.47 earned run average.

NFWB wins district title in Connie Mack tourney

North Farmington-West Bloomfield 1 Reliable had the better pitching and proved it Tuesday by winning a district championship in the American Amateur Baseball Congress tournament in Ann Arbor.

NFWB made a clean sweep of its five-game Connie Mack series against Westland 1 this year, whipping its Little Caesars Baseball Federation rival 16-4 in the final at Concordia College.

Reliable and Westland tied for third place in the LCBF with 12-5 records, but NFWB had prevailed in three meetings prior to the district. NFWB rallied to beat Westland 8-4 in eight innings earlier in the tournament.

"The reason we were successful is that we are deeper in pitching than most teams," NFWB coach Bill Gaughan said. "Having two come-from-behind wins against the two toughest teams in the district was really a key to winning the title."

NFWB (28-8) advances to the regional tournament, which begins Friday at Bailey Park in Battle Creek. After late-inning rallies to beat Westland and Ypsilanti (9-7), NFWB's pitching strength enabled it to dominate the district final.

Mike Pesci, a post-season draftee from South Farmington, pitched the last three innings to earn the win in relief of starter Brian Sumner, a pick-up from the Garden City team.

Pesci allowed one run on four hits and walked none. Sumner gave up three runs and four hits over four innings.

NFWB also had some offensive power left, too, scoring eight runs in the first inning to all but decide the issue.

Doug Gaughan capped the big inning with a bases-loaded triple. Marcus Sarnovsky and Gerard Romej had RBI singles earlier in the inning, and Dan Pydyn

and Daryl Ferguson received RBI walks.

Sarnovsky and Pydyn went 3-for-4 with three RBI apiece. Mike Jehle added two hits.

NFWB reached the final with a 10-1 victory over Brooklyn earlier Tuesday behind the solid pitching of Sarnovsky, who worked a complete game while scattering five hits, striking out nine and walking four.

Gaughan had two of NFWB's 11 hits and Ferguson two RBI. Jehle and John Heller drove in one run apiece.

NFWB had an exciting, if not nerve-racking, experience Monday when it came from behind to defeat Westland in a game postponed from Saturday and then Ypsilanti.

Reliable trailed 4-2 in the top of the seventh Saturday but scored twice to tie with two outs and nobody on base. Following a single by Gaughan and walk to Pesci, an error by the second baseman on Heller's grounder allowed the tying runs to score.

The game was stopped after seven innings because of darkness.

NFWB scored four runs in the eighth Monday to win. Ferguson knocked in the winning run with a double, and Ian Friedenber, Jehle and Adam Wood followed with RBI singles.

Romej was 3-for-4, and Heller had two hits and two RBI.

Jason Farrell pitched one inning Monday to get the win. Sumner, Pydyn and Temple, who had a two-run double in the first inning, took the mound in that order Saturday.

In the Ypsilanti game, NFWB was down 7-5 going into the sixth, but it scored four times in that inning to win. Gaughan hit a two-run single to tie, and Pesci and Sarnovsky followed with RBI singles.

See NFWB, 2B

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