

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1996

SPORTS

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FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

May signs with Wolves

North Farmington graduate Carrie May has committed to play basketball at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

A four-year varsity letter winner, May earned second-team, All-Observer honors after averaging 14 points and seven rebounds per game as a senior last fall.

The 6-foot-8 swing player has a 3.4 grade point average and scored a 23 on her ACT test. May is interested in pursuing a degree in the medical field.

U-M Dearborn is a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics member and plays in District 23 with Madonna University. The Wolves were 13-18 a year ago under coach Dave Mann, who also coaches Redford Bishop Borgese.

"It looks like I'll be studying a lot and playing basketball; that'll be my life the next three, four years," May said.

May said she has wanted to play collegiate basketball since she was a member of the CYO team at St. Fabian in Farmington.

The YMCA is where May has honed her skills over the years, playing pickup games since her freshman year in high school with teammates Shannon McCoy (Lake Michigan College) and Alisha Gordon (Wayne State).

Mann holds U-M Dearborn practices in the morning at Borgese prior to school, which is something May looks forward to trying.

"I'm kind of happy about that," she said. "Plus, one of the players (Kelly Taylor) said she feels like a normal student that way."

Michigan Amateur results

Doug Cumming of Farmington Hills won his first two rounds of match play Thursday and was still alive Friday in the Michigan Amateur Golf Championship at Michawhite Hills Golf Club in Gaylord.

Cumming defeated Bryant MacKellar (Rochester Hills) 3-and-1 in the first round and advanced further with a one-up victory over Brent Idalski of Ann Arbor.

In two rounds of stroke play, Cumming finished 40th out of 156 players with a 152 total (82-70) but behind Idalski, who was eighth (145), and MacKellar, who was 29th (150).

Josh Fryer of Farmington Hills lost his first-round duel in match play to Tom Werkmeister of Wyoming on the 19th hole.

Fryer was 48th in stroke play (163). Ron Jena of Farmington Hills missed qualifying for match play by one stroke. He shot 166, but 165 was the cutoff.

Classic to benefit CATCH

A preview party for Sparky Anderson's Ninth Annual Motor City Golf Classic to benefit CATCH (Caring Athletes Team for Children's and Henry Ford Hospitals) will be Sunday, July 14, at the Dearborn Inn.

Among the celebrities scheduled to attend are Anderson, the longtime Tiger manager; Edsel B. Ford II, Mitch Albom, Vinnie Johnson, Ron Kramer, Bill Freehan, Bo Schembechler and Mickey Lolich.

In celebration of the automobile centennial and in recognition for their support of CATCH and the Motor City Golf Classic, ceremonies will be conducted for 1996 honorees: Bob Eaton (Chrysler), Jack Smith (General Motors), Shinji Sakai (Toyota) and Alex Trotman (Ford).

A live and silent auction will also be staged with trip packages to the Caribbean, Las Vegas and Florida and sports memorabilia signed by Steve Yzerman, Alan Trammell, Joe Dumars, Grant Hill, Chris Osgood, the Russian Five, Barry Sanders, Pete Rose, Katarina Witt, Greg Norman, Anderson and others.

Tickets, \$100 per person, are available by calling the CATCH office at (313) 678-9399.

Jansen names assistants

New Madonna University women's basketball coach Marylou Jansen has named her assistant coaching staff for the 1996-97 season.

Jennifer Dempster, 27, a Rochester High and Oakland University grad, and Andrea Fron, 31, a Dearborn Divine Child and Ferris State product, will comprise the new staff.

Dempster played four years at OU where she was member of the 1990 NCAA Division II Final Four team. She was All-America in 1991 and '92.

Her coaching experience includes one year of freshman basketball at Birmingham Marian, one year head softball coach at Divine Child and three years JV softball at Rochester.

Fron played four seasons at Ferris where she was team captain in 1984 and '86. She was also an academic All-OLAC choice in '85. Fron has been an assistant varsity basketball coach nine years at Marian.

Spring hockey champions

The Squirt Panthers of Livonia recently finished first with a 13-1 record in the A Division of the Farmington Hills Spring Hockey League.

Members of the Panthers, coached by Gary King, include Chris Attard, Matt Dunatchik, Matt Hartzel, Andrew Hinkle, Shawn Jank, Andrew Kins, Derrick Laschki, Chris Miller, Justin Stadler, Scott Stevens, Mike Tokarsky, Tim Wilson, Nick Wood and Mike King (goalie).

Assistant coaches include Jim Hinkle and Dave Wood.

Barons begin with Mack win

The South Farmington Barons began their Connie Mack summer baseball season Thursday with a 7-6 victory over the Michigan Rams at Farmington High School.

The Barons were a little late starting because of the high school season in which some of their players were still competing at the regional level two weeks ago.

Nick Latra (Farmington) allowed only two hits over 5 1/3 innings to earn the pitching victory. He retired the first nine batters he faced, eventually striking out five and walking four.

Chris Karney (Catholic Central)

went the last 1 2/3 innings on the mound after Bill Morris (Redford Union) hit a three-run homer to make the score 6-3.

The Barons had solo homers from Mike Daguanno (Farmington/GC) and Dave Viane (CC). Daguanno's long-ball blast traveled nearly 400 feet.

Karney went 2-for-4 and scored two runs as did Daguanno, who also walked two times.

Robert Seper had two hits and Brian Maticic an RBI double for the Rams.

The Barons are still affiliated with the Little Caesars Baseball Federa-

tion but playing in the eight-team Elite Connie Mack League that includes teams from Adrian, Royal Oak and Ann Arbor this year.

Blues batters stymied

The South Farmington Blues were the victims of a one-hit pitching performance by Andy Smith Wednesday during a 2-1 loss to the Michigan Indians in a 13-year-old Sandy Koufax game.

The victory improved the Indians to 8-0 in Little Caesars play and dropped the Blues to 5-3.

Chris Petersen pitched five innings and took the loss. Rob

Keuten had only hit, driving in the Blues' lone run with a single.

Smith helped his cause with two hits, and Justin Ockerman had two RBIs for the Indians.

On Monday, South Farmington defeated NFWB 8-5. Scott Miller worked five innings on the mound for the victory with relief help from closer Mark Lundquist.

The Blues had nine hits, including two apiece from Keuten, Mike Walsh and Anthony Coratti. Tommy Larson, Keuten and Coratti also drove in two runs each.

See BASEBALL, 3C

Farmington 6 earn All-Area



BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Redford Thurston baseball coach Emil Majeski knew he'd achieve his 400th career victory this season, but nothing was certain beyond that.

Majeski, who began his 31st season at Thurston with 388 career wins, ended up celebrating Class B district and regional championships before the Eagles bowed out of the state tournament with a 5-0 quarterfinal loss to Harper Woods Notre Dame.

The Eagles, who started only three seniors (twins Art and John Hoffmeyer and Chad Putnam), reeled off 11 straight wins before their season-ending loss and finished with an 18-10 overall record.

For this, Majeski is a dual Coach of the Year as selected by the Observer sports staff.

Emil Majeski

The kids practiced right and started jelling and playing well at the end," Majeski said. "It was great because we had only three starters back. They really came through. It was a real team effort."

Majeski, whose Thurston team won the 1984 Class B state title, has a 416-378 career record. His teams have won four districts and two regionals to go with 11 league or division titles.

Majeski is a native of Port Austin, near the Thumb, and a graduate of North Huron High School. A three-sport letterman there, he was a defensive back on the football team at Eastern Michigan University between 1968-71.

Majeski was a year at a student teacher in the Willow Run school district. Majeski accepted a teaching and coaching position at Thurston.

He has coached several all-stars and players who have gone

on to play collegiately. Among them are Jeff Lance (still playing, most recently at Henry Ford Community College), Art George (Evanston), Bob Rutan and Tim DeMarco (members of the state champion team), Dennis Kuschel (an all-star in the 1970s), John Roy (Western Michigan) and Bob Holmes (Eastern Michigan).

Coaching the Eagles this season was like taking a rip out of the Fountain of Youth for Majeski, a social studies and business teacher who hasn't set a retirement date.

"After a season like this, you feel like you can go forever," said Majeski, a 23-year resident of Livonia with his wife, Nancy, and children Emily and Matt. "The kids worked so well together. As long as I feel good and feel I can contribute, it's gratifying to see kids succeed."

Thurston was the only regional winner in Overlandland. Westland John Glenn, Livonia Stevenson, North Farmington and Redford Catholic Central won Class A districts, and Redford St. Agatha won a Class D district.

Following are profiles of each player on the All-Observer first team as chosen by the sports staff:

ALL-AREA TEAM

Art Hoffmeyer, pitcher, Thurston: No one in the area had more confidence in his curve ball than Hoffmeyer, who was known for his pitch on 3-and-1 counts. The crafty senior left-hander also had command of his fastball, as evidenced by his 125 strikeouts and 217 wins in 70 innings.

Hoffmeyer pitched as a starter or reliever in all of Thurston's important games, finishing with a 2-0 record and four saves. He had a 2.23 earned run average.

The team's most valuable player was a center forward, who had nothing.

"Art led by example and that was nice," Majeski said. "He had excellent control. He could get the boys over any time he wanted. He was a real team player."

Mike Latta, pitcher, Farmington: The senior left-hander pitched a baseball school record 100 innings over a five-year career, earning a 1.40 earned run average. He had 96 strikeouts and only 10 walks in 50 innings. He holds

See ALL-AREA, 3C



STAFF PHOTO BY BRADLEY LEMMON

All-Area standout, North Farmington senior first baseman reaches for the ball in an attempt to make a putout on Brother Rice's Mike Plani in a regional tournament game.

League set to drop puck on new season

BY C.J. HUSAK
STAFF WRITER

Now this is the way hockey is supposed to be. Traditional.

Eight teams. No expansion. Everyone in the playoffs. May the best squad win.

That's been the format for the Metro Summer Hockey League since its inception more than a decade ago. There haven't been any major upheavals, no switching venues, no changing for change's sake.

All the games are played at the Plymouth Ice Arena, with one exception: A league semifinal, which by necessity must be at Canfield Arena in Dearborn.

The biggest thing that happened in this league was a switch in directors, when the MSHL's founder, A.J. Baker, took a job as an assistant coach at Alabama-Huntsville and left town. He turned the league over to Keith Pietila to operate.

Pietila began his third year as director when the league opened Sunday with three games. The remainder of June and nearly all of July.

The first round of the playoffs will be July 28.

SUMMER HOCKEY

31. The conference finals will be Aug. 1, with the title game scheduled for Aug. 4.

The names of the conferences - Eagle and Bakes - are the same. The names of the eight teams - Wolverines, Broncos, Spartans and Bulldogs in the Eagle Conference, and the Huskies, Wildcats, Falcons and Lakers in the Bakes Conference - also remain intact.

"We may be a little more competitive," Pietila answered to describe what changes have been made in the MSHL. "I think we have more college-level players this year."

"It seems to be (gaining in popularity). Players are looking for ice time, I guess. And this is competitive hockey."

There will be some slight differences. For starters, the top three scorers from last year - Kris Cantu, Dave Weaver and Jason Weber - aren't returning.

But don't worry. The scoring still figures to soar, as it usually does in the MSHL.

Then there's the summer league version of the

Russian Five. Eugene Afanasiyev, Konstantin Kalmikov, Polg Pansenko, Anatoli Bulgin and Fedor Fedorov will all play with the Wildcats, courtesy of team coach Bob Nagy, whom they play for during the winter months.

And, yes, they are indeed Russian.

There are some familiar names in the league, too. Like Brad Dicks, Kevin Bernard, Edward Krusack, Thomas Taylor and Dominic Cattan. And, of course, the players from the previous season, like Mike Schmidt, Jordan McCormack, Brian Calka and Kyle McNeillance, from Livonia Stevenson; and Rickey Marnon, Jason and Jesse Hubenschmidt, from Redford Catholic Central.

Some other familiar names? How about Pietila? The league director will have three other relatives playing with him on the Lakers: Paul, Ron and Jim. Also, Dave and Aaron Davantilla, two other members of the Lakers, are cousins.

There should be plenty of talent, once again. Each team will be limited to 17 players (15 forwards and defensemen, two goalies).

"There's enough talent that every team has enough talent," Pietila said.

See ICE, 3C