

Mercy repeats as county champ

Farmington Hills Mercy set a tournament record when it posted a 350 team score and won its second straight Oakland County girls golf championship Tuesday. The old record was 367 by Birmingham Marian in 1988.

Oakland County girls golf teams have to be just a little intimidated by the highly-regarded and finely-skilled Farmington Hills Mercy golf squad.

The Marlins dominated the 18th Annual Oakland County Tournament played under near ideal conditions Tuesday at the Pontiac Country Club. Mercy shot a record 350 to beat second-place Rochester Adams by 25 strokes.

The scary part is it wasn't even Mercy's best score this spring. The Marlins won the East Lansing Invitational with a round of 343. They also shot a 332 and only placed second to defending Class B-C-D state champion Grosse Ile at the Brighton Invitational.

"This is the best team we've ever had," said veteran Mercy coach Vicky Kowalski. "Even when we had (current LPGA touring professional) Meg Mallon, we weren't this good. This team has talent and depth."

Mercy's tremendous depth stood front and center on the 5,561-yard PCC course. All four Mercy scorers earned medals by placing among the last 16 golfers. Mercy was so dominant Kowalski didn't need Sarah Cahill's excellent round of 99. The Marlins still would have defeated more than half the field of 28 teams had they counted Cahill's score. Junior Jennifer Borowiec, last year's

individual medalist with an 80, finished third overall with a consistent round of 80 (40-40). Junior Angela Harbar struggled a bit early but rebounded nicely to finish with an 87 (47-40) and place fourth overall.

Mercy two other scorers were senior Kristen Smith at 89 (seventh) and freshman Erin Borowiec at 94 (12th).

"I felt more confident about our play this year than I did last year when we only won by one stroke (over Troy)," said Kowalski, whose team now owns three Oakland County golf titles.

"Overall, I was very happy with our performance. Going in we knew we were going to face a big challenge from Rochester Adams. But our team came to the forefront and shot some big scores."

Adams, which placed sixth at last year's state meet and is expected to be a Class A title contender this year with a veteran lineup, fired a 376 but couldn't dent the Mercy lead.

"I really thought it would be between Mercy and us," Adams coach Carl Pasbjerg said. "I think we can play better than we did today, but I don't know if we could have beaten Mercy even if we had shot our best. Give Mercy a lot of credit. They shot very well today."

Adams, which is undefeated in five dual meets and won the first Oakland Activities Association golf tournament,

was led by junior captain Kim Benedict, who fired a 79. She bogeyed the final hole and finished one stroke behind individual tournament champion Shellie Morton of Cranbrook Kingswood.

"Kim was leading by one stroke going into the last hole," said Pasbjerg. "But she tipped the hole and Morton birdied the 18th to win by one."

Junior Jessica Felker (96) and senior Cathy Dacpano (97) registered sub-100 rounds, and junior Natalie Vujovich carded a 103.

"I thought we could break 160," said Pasbjerg. "That's what my thought was, but I didn't want to tell the girls because I didn't want to put any more pressure on them. For us to get to a higher level, we'll have to turn it up a notch in the state tournament."

Morton, a senior, shot 40-38 to finish with a low score of 78. It marked the third time in four years she has won medalist honors in the county tourney.

Marlins win key dual meet

Mercy earned an important victory in a Catholic League contest Monday, defeating host Harper Woods Regina at Gownie Golf Course, 176-183.

The Saddlelites won the regional tournament last year, forcing the Marlins to settle for second, and Mercy coach Vicky Kowalski figured the dual match would be a close contest.

Regina's Amanda Pettit was the medalist (42), but Mercy had three golfers finish at 43: Jennifer Borowiec, Kristen Smith and Erin Borowiec. Angela Harbar rounded out the Mercy score with a 47.



Team leader: Jennifer Borowiec of Mercy finished third overall.

Herrington enters Hall

Farmington Harrison High School's John Herrington is one of three Michigan coaches who will be inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Herrington, who has coached varsity football at Harrison since the school opened in 1970, will be inducted June 25 at the 33rd Annual NCHSAA Convention in Maryland.

Lofton Greene, the legendary River Rouge basketball coach, and Grosse Pointe University Liggett's 1966 coach Robert Wood also will be inducted at that time.

Herrington has a 248-54-1 career record at Harrison, which includes a 43-8 record in the state playoffs. The Hawks have won eight state titles and are the reigning Class A champs.

Gymnastics standout

Shelby Gribeck, 14, of Farmington Hills represented Farmington Gymnastic Center in the Level 9 regional meet last weekend and qualified to represent Michigan in the U.S.A. Eastern Championships May 15-17 in East Lansing.

Gribeck took first place in her session with an all-around score of 36.3. Her score held up for second place overall after both sessions were complete. Her score for bars was 9.15, beam 9.25, floor exercise 9.1 and vault 8.8.

Gribeck competed against 75 other gymnasts from Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and Michigan in Noblesville, Ind.

Gribeck, who is a seventh grader at East Middle School, has been involved in gymnastics since age 7.

Golfers 3rd in tourney

Farmington was third in a scramble golf tournament Saturday at South Lyon. Each school entered two four-player teams.

Brighton (343) won the eight-team event; Livonia Stevenson (349) was second followed by Farmington (356) and Novi (369).

Farmington's top foursome of Cassie Jamison, Carrie May, Katie Perry and Karen Pawloski scored 171, two strokes behind Brighton and one behind Stevenson.

Stephanie Unger, Laura Cunniffe, Nichole Bourgeois and Karen Berger comprised the second foursome.

Farmington Hills Mercy's B squad defeated Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard at Coyote Golf Course Monday, 189-238. Tanya Foster shot 44 to lead the Marlins. Lindsey Denamore had 45, Laura Hurches 47 and Corrie Greenshields 53.

SEHL hockey tryouts

The Space Coast Blast hockey team will conduct a regional tryout camp at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena on Saturday and Sunday, May 30-31, for players 17 to 21 (born 1977 to 1991).

The Blast is based in Boca Raton, Fla., and is a member of the Southern Elite Hockey League, which is set to begin its inaugural season in September with six teams and a 50-game schedule with playoffs. The SEHL is an amateur league with the goal of developing young hockey players.

The Blast will be coached by Peter Jervis, a former professional goaltender who played for the Jacksonville Bulls and Jacksonville Lizard Kings.

More information about the Blast is available on the Internet at SpaceCoastBlast@webtv.net. The phone number for the Blast is (904) 448-6360.

OCC honors athletes

Danielle Wilson and Amanda Jenkinson shared the women's Athlete of the Week honor at Oakland Community College.

Wilson, a freshman from Walled Lake Western, became the first women's golfer in school history and also won the women's division of the Schoolcraft Invitational with a 116.

Jenkinson, a sophomore from Clarkston, batted 14-for-27 with a home run, seven RBI, seven stolen bases and seven runs scored as the OCC women's softball team went 4-4. The men's Athlete of the Week is today Thomas, a freshman golfer from Rochester Adams. He shot even-par 72 and was the medalist, leading OCC to a third-place finish in the Schoolcraft Invitational in Ann Arbor.



Last line of defense: Mercy goalkeeper Kristen Pimlott grabs a free ball away from a Divine Child attacker Tuesday during the Catholic League contest.

Roble goals lift Marlins to win in soccer game

Consecutive second-half goals by sophomore Susie Roble enabled host Farmington Hills Mercy to move forward and claim a 4-2 victory over Dearborn Divine Child in girls soccer Tuesday.

The Marlins led 1-0 at halftime with a goal from Colleen Scisson and assist by Carrie Kluska, but the Falcons regrouped and took a 2-1 lead in the second half.

An unassisted goal by Roble tied the score, and she put Mercy ahead with 15 minutes to play when she scored off a pass from Mary Gignac, who converted a penalty kick for an insurance goal.

Mandy Yeager scored the first Divine Child goal, and the Falcons went ahead when the Marlins put the ball in their own net.

Mercy, which lost 5-2 to Madison Heights Bishop Foley on Saturday, is 5-2 in the Catholic League and 6-2 overall. "We wanted to get back on track after the match with Foley," Mercy coach Deepak Shivraman said. "We needed this game; we needed to score a couple goals to get our confidence back as we get ready to play Ladywood on Thursday and the Catholic League (playoffs) after that."

"Susie Roble had a strong performance with two key goals and so did Mary Gignac."

Defensively, a big key was containing Erin Stohl again. Erin Cain did a very good job of shutting her down, and Marie Lentz had a very good game defensively.

Mercy goalie Kristen Pimlott stepped nine Divine Child shots. Abbey Shepherd and Sumbal Ahmad scored the Mercy goals Saturday in the Foley game.

"We were a little tentative and anxious, because it was the first time we played them," Shivraman said. "Foley is a very good team. They move quickly and pass the ball well."

Hawks settle for 4-4 draw with Patriots

It may not be nice to kick an opponent when it's down, but it certainly makes coaches happy.

Farmington Harrison squandered a two-goal first half lead Monday and had to settle for a 4-4 with visiting Livonia Franklin.

"We seem to need to find that killer instinct in the second half," Harrison coach Glenn Breuhan said. "We can't seem to finish a team off in the second half. We get a lead; they tie it up and then we start playing again."

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Hawks triumph again in city meets

In a repeat of last year's results, host Farmington Harrison retained the boys and girls championships in the annual Farmington Public Schools track-and-field meets Saturday.

It was the second consecutive title for both teams. The Harrison boys have won six of the last seven years, the Harrison girls three of the last four.

The Hawks edged North Farmington in the boys competition, 79-75. Farmington finished with 20½ points. The Hawks were runaway winners in the girls meet, scoring 85½ points to Farmington's 55½ and North Farmington 42.

"We didn't think we were the favorite in this one," Harrison boys coach John Reed said, adding the Hawks had lost two dual meets in a row, including one to Walled Lake Western, which North had beaten.

TRACK AND FIELD

"I think the kids decided they had enough of losing, and they were really fired up. They were very enthusiastic."

After dropping a dual to Livonia Franklin on Thursday, the Hawks regrouped mentally and were determined to rebound against their city rivals, according to Reed.

"They decided they wanted to do something big in the city meet," he said. "In the big meets, they seem to rise up. I think we're a better big-meet team than a dual-meet team."

"I'm glad we're back on the right track. This is going to make a big difference for us the rest of the season. The kids are thinking they're better than

they thought and can do some pretty good things."

Harrison had double individual winners in Kevin Woods and Jason Sharp. Woods won the long jump (20-3) and 100-meter dash (11.2). Sharp the high hurdles (14.95) and 400 dash (53.1).

Keith Battle, Woods and Sharp had four firsts apiece when relays are included.

Battle, who won the 200 dash (22.8), and Sharp combined with Andre Davis and Woods to win the 800 relay (1:32) and with Wes Morland and Brad Perren to win the 1,600 (3:55). Chris Kostani, Battle, Davis and Woods won the 400 relay (45.1).

Harrison's only other victory was by Derek Laskowski in the pole vault (12-6).

North dominated the distance events with Dan

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