

Sports & Recreation

The Farmington
Observer

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FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Myslinski hitting streak

Senior outfielder Jenny Myslinski of Farmington Hills is second on the Western Michigan University softball team with a .341 batting average in Mid-American Conference play.

Myslinski, who bats in the leadoff spot, has raised her average nearly 30 points with the help of an eight-game hitting streak.

The former Harrison High stand-out's MAC batting average is .370 (10-for-27); she also has four walks with only three strikeouts.

For the season, Myslinski ranks fourth on the team in hitting with a .256 average. She leads the team with 31 hits and 121 plate appearances.

Her hits include two triples and three doubles; she has six RBI and a .961 fielding percentage in left field.

Myslinski also is the only WMU player to be in the starting lineup for all 34 games this season.

Collegiate track news

Jami Snow of Farmington Hills (Mercy High School) contributed to Western Michigan University's first-place finish April 15 in the Bowling Green (Ohio) Invitational.

The Broncos compiled 165 team points in the women's track-and-field event to finish ahead of host BGSU (147) and Youngstown State (50).

Snow won the triple jump by reaching a distance of 33 feet, 10 inches. Her jump is the best by anyone on the WMU team this year.

Teammate Devron Kennedy (Harrison High School) has the fourth-best time in the 400-meter dash (57.4) on the WMU team and third best in the 400 hurdles (1:05.7).

Anne Grimaldi of Farmington Hills (Farmington High School) was fourth in the 3,000-meter run (11:18.25) and sixth in the 1,500 run (6:06.13) at the Saginaw Valley State University invite on April 15.

Grimaldi has Alma College's best times this year in both events at 11:04.04 and 6:04.41, respectively.

CC summer camps

Redford Catholic Central will have its annual summer football and basketball camps in June at the high school. Any student who will be in grades five through nine for the 2000-01 school year can participate.

The basketball camps will be June 12-16 and June 26-30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day; the cost is \$130. The camp includes fundamental instruction, a personal evaluation, contests, awards, games and a camp T-shirt. The camp is run by CC basketball coach Rick Coratti and assistant coach John Mulvey.

The Shamrock Westside Football Camp will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 19-22 and will cost \$210. The non-contact camp will include individual instruction for offense and defense, emphasis on technique, weight training, motivational talks, skill testing and a T-shirt.

The instructors are CC football coach Tom Mach, CC assistant coaches, area grade school coaches and college players. For more information on either camp or for a brochure call (313) 534-1310.

Sailing Instruction

The American Sailing Institute, a non-profit corporation dedicated to teaching sailing and seamanship in the Detroit, will begin classes the beginning of May for sailors of all levels, from beginner to advanced.

Sessions include classroom instruction with different formats, dates and locations and on-water instruction, taught mostly at Kensington MetroPark. ASI classes are available through Schoolcraft College. Depending on the type of class chosen, the costs range from \$170 to \$255.

ASI is entirely a volunteer organization. For class schedule or other information, call Diane, the ASI secretary, at (248) 624-4030, or try the ASI website at www.sailasi.org.

Youth soccer tourney

The Michigan State Youth Soccer Association in conjunction with Tide (detergent) is sponsoring a recreational tournament in Midland Saturday and Sunday, May 20-21.

All Michigan recreational teams are invited to play. Team managers should call the MSYSA at (249) 657-6220 for an application or visit its website at www.msya.net.

Hockey heroes hail from Farmington Hills



Fantastic foursome: Four hockey players from Farmington Hills are members of the Artic Whalers, who won the Bantam 'A' state championship in March. The players are (left to right) Andrew Spoley, Jeff Deaton and Brian Norville and Mike Hand.

Overtime goal lifts Whalers to victory over Greyhounds

Justin Williams scored the winning goal in overtime Friday night as the Plymouth Whalers defeated Sault Ste. Marie, 2-1.

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The theme song from "Mission Impossible" blared over the Compuware Arena public-address system with just over seven minutes remaining in overtime in Friday night's game four of the Ontario Hockey League Western Conference final series between Plymouth and Sault Ste. Marie.

And for good reason: The Whalers had just been whistled for a penalty, giving the visiting Greyhounds a potential game-deciding power play.

However, less than a minute later, Plymouth right-winger Justin Williams proved nothing's impossible as he took a feed at center ice from Libor Ustrnul, outtraced a Greyhound defenseman and rocketed a low, sizzling slap shot past goalie Ray Emery to give the Whalers a dramatic 2-1 victory.

Williams was mobbed by his teammates and coaches at center ice seconds after the goal, which gave the Whalers a commanding 3-1 advantage heading into Saturday night's game five at Compuware.

Prior to his game-winning heroics Friday night, Williams had never scored an overtime goal, let alone a short-handed one in the playoffs.

"It's definitely the biggest goal I've ever scored," Williams said, recounting the slapshot that just eluded Emery's outstretched glove. "When I first saw Libor get to the puck, I thought he was going to dump it in. But he got it to me somehow. We had been missing high on (Emery) all night, so I knew I was going to try to beat him low." Whalers coach Peto DeBoer said



Playoff hockey: Whalers captain Randy Fitzgerald (17) gets tied up by the Greyhounds' Chad Spurr during the OHL playoff game.

Williams' goal salvaged a win in a game that had the Sox's number written all over it from the opening faceoff.

"There's no doubt they had outplayed us tonight going into the overtime," DeBoer said. "They were playing desperate hockey, like it was a do-or-die kind of game."

"But Justin has been an opportunistic player for us all season. He didn't have a lot of jump to his step all game, but when he got the puck on the game-winning play, he put it in a higher gear."

CD nabs ugly win from CC

By Paul Beaudry
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To call Thursday's baseball game between Catholic Central and Detroit Country Day ugly would be an insult to ugly.

At one point in the late innings the two teams had combined for more hit batters than hits.

But it was one key hit that broke the ice and gave the Yellowjackets a 6-4 comeback win over host CC.

"It wasn't the prettiest game in the world, but it was a great competitive game," said Country Day coach Frank Orlando. "We played a great game against Troy and lost 1-0 because we didn't execute. This one we did."

BASEBALL

CC (10-3) took a 4-2 lead into the top of the sixth, holding the Yellowjackets (7-1) to just two hits but only able to muster three of its own.

Country Day manufactured its first run in the sixth with walks to David Barkholz and Matt Collins by reliever Ryan Rogowski (2-1). Sean Gallagher advanced the runners with a sacrifice bunt. With Mike McGavin up, the runners moved up on a passed ball to cut the lead to 4-3.

Then McGavin drilled a shot to left-center field that froze CC outfielder Brian Williams. The ball took two bounces and disappeared into the trees beyond the fence. Williams held up one hand, and most thought it was a ground-rule double that would have merely tied the score. But the umpires called it a home run, giving the Yellowjackets a 5-4 lead.

"It was a tough call with a shorter fence," said CC coach John Salter, whose protest went for naught. "But that didn't lose the game for us. We had two walks to start the inning and we had an opportunity to score and didn't."

The last opportunity came in the bottom half of the fifth inning. Williams led off with a single but was out at third on a fielder's choice. Still, another fielder's choice and a walk left runners at second and third with two outs.

Matt Loras struck out, but the ball got past DCD catcher Joe McCarthy and Loras got to first. And yet neither CC runner advanced on the play, despite Salter telling them to run, and DCD got out of the inning.

"We messed that up," said Salter. "We should have had someone get in."

The scoring in the sixth was a far cry from the first half of the contest, when Barkholz and CC's Adam Kline didn't give up many hits but walks, hit batters, wild pitches and passed balls accounted for the scoring.

For example, CC opened the scoring in the first with Dave Tovey leading off by being hit with a pitch, taking second on a fielder's choice and scoring on two passed balls.

The Shamrocks grabbed three more runs in the third on only two hits — the big one a two-run single by Kline, with John Hill adding an RBI single. They got the runners on base with an error and two walks, with a wild pitch thrown in for good measure. But CC also led the bases loaded in the inning.

"Sometimes (Barkholz) starts out that way," said Orlando. "He just wasn't too fluid at the start. But once he got settled down, he got into it."

DCD manufactured its first two runs. Jason Probert led off the fourth with a single for the Yellowjackets' first hit, took second when Barkholz was hit by a pitch, went to third on a fielder's choice and scored on a passed ball.

It was a similar situation the next inning when Brian Haveri reached on an error, took second on a fielder's choice, got to third on another error and scored on a single by Andrew Steln.

All three pitchers — Kline, Rogowski and Barkholz — suffered from the passed ball/wild pitch syndrome, with seven in the game.

"Still, I thought (Kline) threw a good game," said Salter of his pitcher, who gave up two hits, two runs and a hit batter, with four strikeouts. "He gave us some good innings."

Mike Maczek helped Redford Union snap a three-game losing streak on Thursday with a 4-1 win over Southgate Anderson. He was 3-for-4 with four stolen bases and two RBI.

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