

Observer Sports

The Farmington
Observer

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Thursday, May 4, 2000

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FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Hole-in-one for Bridges

Chip Bridges of Farmington took a break from track and field last week and played some golf, with a memorable result.

Bridges, who coaches the Farmington High School boys cross country and track teams, shot a hole-in-one Friday at San Marino Golf Course while school was out on spring break.

It was the first ace for the 35-year-old Bridges, who has been golfing since the age of 9. He used a seven iron on the 167-yard No. 3 hole.

"The nice thing about the hole-in-one is that my dad was playing in the group ahead of me, and he got to see it," said Bridges, who shot 33 for the round.

"As soon as I hit it, I knew I hit it well. I was afraid it was going to go over the green. I saw it come down and hit right there. I said, 'Go in the hole.' It took one hop and, sure enough, it did. It kinda spun back and went in."

Summer Hoops Camp

Larry Baker's "Summer Hoops For Girls 2000" basketball camp will be June 26-30 at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College.

The camp is open to girls in grades five through 10. The camp begins at 8:45 a.m. each day and ends at 3:30 p.m. Campers must provide their own lunches.

The cost is \$120. Girls who submit their registrations with six or more friends pay \$110.

Baker is the former Mercy High School coach. He had 381 career victories, took the Marlins to the state finals five times and sent 31 players to play college ball.

He will be assisted by Mike King, a former Mercy JV coach who has 21 years of camp experience and currently coaches at the CYO level.

For more information or to register call Baker at (248) 476-8020, ext. 242.

Flag football league

Total Soccer in Wixom is offering a six-on-six flag football league starting Thursday, July 13.

Trophies will be awarded to each league champion in the following age groups: 15-18, 19-30 and 30-and-over. The team fee is \$400 (14 players allowed per roster). The individual fee is \$50.

Registrations will be taken by phone at (248) 869-9817. Send checks payable to: Total Soccer, 30990 Wixom Road, Wixom, MI 48393.

Mercy keeps winning

The Farmington Hills Mercy golf machine just keeps grinding out victories.

The Marlins split their squad Tuesday and defeated both Birmingham Marian and Dearborn Divine Child.

Mercy knocked off host Brighton and Grand Lodge in a tri-match Monday at Oak Pointe. On Friday, coach Vicky Kowalewski's squad was second to host Coldwater in the Cardinals' tournament.

"We're playing much better," Kowalewski said after Mercy improved to 7-1 overall. "Our highest score (Monday) was 46 with eight players. That's good depth."

Erin Borowicz was the medalist in each event she played. Tuesday she medaled with a 39 at Stonycroft in Mercy's 179-209 victory over Marian. Lindsey Denmore shot 46, Maureen McFawn 46 and Katie Dinmore 48.

The remainder of the squad went to Coyote Golf Course and defeated Divine Child, 181-216. Christina Cibrario and Kim Wazyne co-medaled with 41 each; Erin Swihart shot 47 and Michelle Kelly 52.

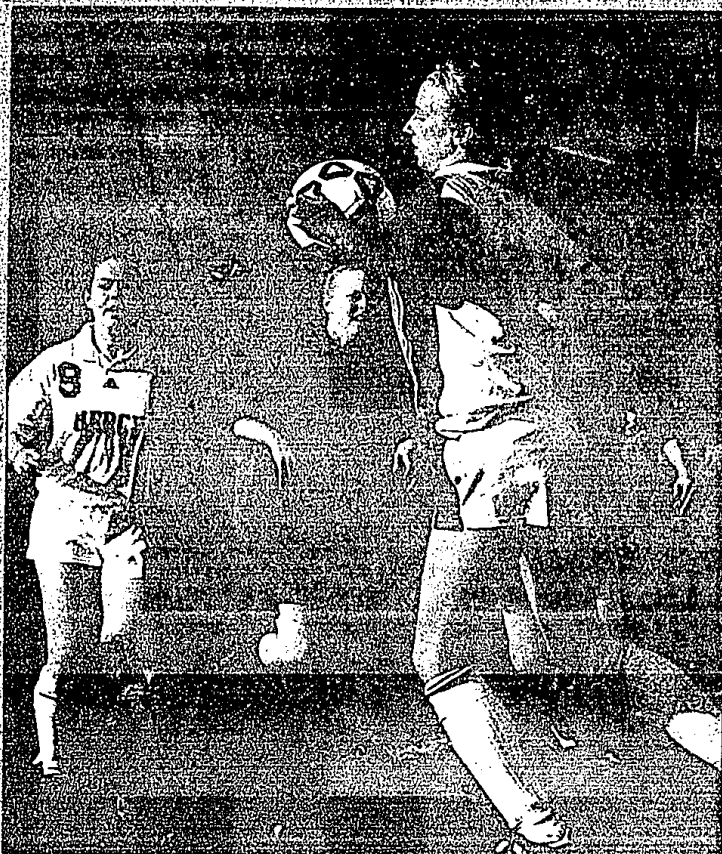
Mercy totaled 161 to host Brighton's 172 and Grand Lodge's 178 Monday at Oak Pointe. Borowicz's 37 made her the medalist; Cibrario fired a 30, Wazyne 42 and Swihart 43.

At Coldwater on Friday, Borowicz medaled with a 77, but Coldwater edged Mercy, 343-359. Cibrario was 10th with a 93; Wazyne shot 94 and Dinmore 95.

Farmington United's Cassie Jemison was the match medalist Tuesday with a 42 score, but Livonia Stevenson defeated host Farmington at Oak Glen Golf Course, 185-194.

Sarah Laird shot 46 for Farmington (2-2), Katie Perry 52 and Chrissy Dwyer 54. Kristen Polanski and Katie Carlson scored 45 apiece to lead Stevenson (3-1).

Marlins have to settle for tie with Falcons



Scoring opportunity: Farmington Hills Mercy's Carrie Denton tries to control the ball in front of the Dearborn Divine Child goal Tuesday. With goalie Angela Lentz on the ground, Denton kept the ball in front of her but fired a shot inside of the net. The teams tied, 1-1. See C2 for details.

Falcons defuse Rockets

BY RICHARD SHOOK
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SOCCER

It was, coach Steve Montgomery said, a good evening for his Farmington girls soccer team to get reacquainted.

Lorianne DeDomenico and Beth Kolacki each scored goals in the first half Monday night and the Falcons staved off Westland John Glenn for a 2-0 victory in their first game back off spring break.

"It was pretty scary after a 10- or 11-day layoff," Montgomery said. "Most of my team was gone (during the break). It was the first time we'd seen each other since the 19th (of April)."

Dana Wartin played a solid game in goal for visiting Farmington, recording

10 saves. Meantime, her teammates were flushing 34 shots at John Glenn's goal.

"Their goalie did a good job," Montgomery said. "She did a lot of scrambling and knocking shots out."

Sweeper Shanna Burkum stood out for the Falcons, while Kara Tvedund, Erica Rose, DeDomenico and Kolacki also were outstanding.

Megan Gutierrez made her first start for the Falcons at outside midfielder. "She played the whole game and did really well," Montgomery said.

Farmington played Wednesday at Canton.

The Falcons took a 5-4 record into

that game, with all the losses at the hands of ranked teams. They were 3-2 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Raiders are winners, too

North Farmington used the time during spring break to heal some injuries, and the healthy Raiders returned to action Monday with a 4-2 win over host Livonia Franklin.

"All in all, we didn't play a very good game, but it's good to win when you don't play a good game," North coach Tim Russell said. "The girls walked away knowing they could play a lot better."

"One of the nice things about break is that it allowed us to heal a lot of

Please see SOCCER, C2

Whalers advance to finals

BY C.J. RUSAK
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What more could someone ask for in a series?

The Ontario Hockey League Championship has a bit of everything, including a wide array of intriguing questions that add to the drama.

In fact, there are enough tempting queries to push that "Whalers: The team nobody thought would be here" angle to the back of the bus.

Speaking of buses, has the U.S. Border Patrol been alerted?

HOCKEY

A cheap shot, maybe, but this entire episode involving the Barrie (Ontario) Colts, the team Plymouth plays for the OHL title, and the smuggling charges against their first-year coach, Bill Stewart, have to be at the top of the aforementioned list.

Stewart, it seems, instructed one of his players, Vladimir Chernenko, a Ukrainian-born defenseman, to hide in the baggage compartment in the bus when he discovered Chernenko didn't have the proper papers to enter the U.S.

The first reported occurrence was Oct. 15 when the Colts came to Plymouth to play the Whalers.

Chernenko was later traded and the incident was brought to light. OHL commissioner David Branch stripped Stewart of his dual title as Barrie's general manager.

Now, according to a story appearing in Tuesday's Toronto Sun, there's some question whether Stewart will be allowed to enter the U.S. for the series, which opens tonight in Barrie then returns to Plymouth for games three (Sunday) and four (Monday).

No one is saying for sure what will happen, but a decision might not be made until Sunday when the Barrie team tries to enter the U.S. So stay tuned.

Now let's talk hockey.

What are the Whalers chances? Good, but even though they have home-ice advantage, don't make them heavy favorites. They lost both their matches to Barrie this year, although both occurred in October before the Whalers jelled.

The Whalers could be without the services of forward Damian Surma, their second-leading scorer during the regular season with 32 goals and 38 assists (70 points); in the playoffs, he had six goals and six assists in 13 games.

Surma suffered a knee injury in the second game of the Sault Ste. Marie series; his status remains day-to-day.

But Barrie has problems, too. Denis Shvidki, a first-round draft choice of the Florida Panthers and the Colts' second-leading scorer during the season (41 goals, 65 assists, 106 points), has been injured and out since the second game of the playoffs.

Barrie still has plenty of weapons, however, like Sheldon Keefe, who had

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30th Observerland title up for grabs

BY BRAD EMONS
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MEET PREVIEW

The field is set and it should be quite a race on Derby Day.

The run for the 30th Annual Observerland Boys Track & Field Relay appears to be wide open.

Post time is 3:30 p.m. Saturday when the field events get under way at Livonia Churchill. Preliminary heats for the 110-meter hurdles and 100 dash start at 6 p.m. The final events kick off at 8:30 p.m.

Admission is \$3. Two-time defending champion Plymouth Salom, which garnered five titles during the 1990s, appears to be an uncanny darkhorse for the 2000 meet.

"We're going to have to run out of our minds to contend," Salom coach Geoff Baker said. "But it appears to be a toss-up. There's no clear-cut favorite. We're young and we don't have

enough good seniors to go around. Our distance people are really not ready to handle it yet."

The Rocks shaved rival Plymouth Canton in a dual meet, lost to North Farmington and defeated Westland John Glenn.

Salem, however, will still be a factor led by seniors Gabe Coble (jumps and middle distance), Ryan Silva (high jump/hurdles) and Pat Johnson (sprints/long jump), along with juniors Mark Snyder (shot put) and Donnie Warner (distance).

Recently at the prestigious Mansfield (Ohio) Relays, Salem's distance medley team of Warner, Coble, Rob Showalter and Archie Kinney took a third.

One team that appears to be primed for a run is Canton.

The Chiefs, who have not won an Observerland title since 1986, own

dual-meet wins over Northville (73-64) and Farmington Harrison (72-65), while losing to Salem (69-68).

"We have a chance to score in most events," Canton coach Bob Richardson said. "If you're going to be in the top two or three at Observerland, you have to score in a lot of events."

"We've put together a strong lineup and hope to score in most events, but I'm sure other teams are doing the same thing."

Canton's strengths lie in the sprints, hurdles and jumping events. The Chiefs' distance team is young but improving each week," according to Richardson.

Jordan Chapman is a standout for Canton in the pole vault (13 feet), long jump (19'0") and high jump (6'-6"). Other standouts include senior captain Ana Hensley (shot put/discus), Jorry Gaines (middle distance), K.J. Singh (sprints) and Chris Kalis (hurdles).

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TRACK & FIELD

BOYS TRACK & FIELD RELAYS

When: Saturday, May 6.

Where: Livonia Churchill High School, 9900 Newburgh (at Joy Road).

Teams invited: Livonia Churchill, Livonia, Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Plymouth Canton, Plymouth Salem, Garden City, Redford Union, Redford North, Redford Catholic Central, Redford Bishop Giguere, Farmington, North Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison, Northville and Southfield-Livonia.

Field events (8:30 p.m.): Pole vault, high jump, discus, shot put, long jump.

Preliminaries (8:30 p.m.): 110-meter dash, 100 dash.

Finals (7 p.m.): 5,000 relay, 110 hurdles, distance medley, 800 relay, individual 1,500 run, 2,200 relay, individual 100 dash, sprint medley relay, shuttle baton relay, 400 relay, 1,000 relay.

Medalists: \$3.

Meet officials: Ed Galarza, referee; McKenna and Terry Madigan, control clerk; John Davidson and Jim Munoz, starter(s).

Managers must monitor Fair Weather (Livonia-Garden City).