

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Lees shine as golfers

■ Kenny Lee of Farmington Hills, a 1999 graduate of Harrison High School, tied for medalist honors while shooting a 74 Sunday to lead the Saginaw Valley State University men's golf team to the Hillsdale College Invitational title.

The Cardinals and Findlay (Ohio) were tied at the end of regulation play, but SVSU won a sudden-death playoff on the first hole to capture the championship.

Saginaw Valley shot even par on the first playoff hole at Blackberry Patch Golf Course in Coldwater while Findlay was one over.

The Cardinals have one spring tournament left before the NCAA Division II regional May 7-9 in Southfield, R.I. The national tournament will be hosted by Grand Valley State University in Allendale.

■ Matt Lee, a junior at Harrison, qualified for the U.S. final of the World Junior Cup Saturday at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Millford.

He won a sudden-death playoff on the first hole, chipping for a birdie two on the par-3 hole, to earn the qualifying spot.

The U.S. final will be June 24-27 at Disney's World Palm Golf Course in Orlando, Fla. A top-five finish there will put Lee on the U.S. World Junior Cup team that will play in the international final Aug. 5-13 at St. Andrews in Scotland.

College baseball news

A pair of Farmington Hills players are members of the Kalamazoo College baseball team.

Junior pitcher Zach Burton (Harrison) threw six innings, struck out eight and allowed only three hits April 18 in an 11-0 win over Concordia College.

He has a 2-2 record with 28 strikeouts for the Hornets, who are 1-5 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association and 5-15 overall.

Freshman outfielder Garry Penta (North Farmington) is batting .310 with four doubles and a home run.

Penta, a transfer from Grand Rapids Community College, has pitched 22½ innings and has a 1-4 record.

Marlins win golf dual

Farmington Hills Mercy is 3-0 in Catholic League girls golf dual meets after defeating Birmingham Marican 170-500 Monday at Glen Oaks Golf Course.

Maureen McFawn posted the lowest score of her career, 39, to lead the Marlins, who are 4-0 overall.

"She said she had never hit so many greens in regulation before," Mary coach Vicky Kowalski said, adding McFawn "had six pars. "As windy as it was today, all our scores were pretty good."

Erin Borowiec shot 40, Christina Cibrario 45 and Jackie Shinnery 46 for the Marlins.

Marican's low scorers were Katie Woch and Laura Calkins with 49 strokes each; Ashley Baraszu had 50 and Katherine Lucas 52.

The Mustangs are 0-2 in the league and 0-2 overall.

Mercy was a 210-215 winner over Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood April 17 at Wakelee Country Club. Neither school had its entire team present due to spring break.

Despite poor conditions — the temperature was 44 degrees with a wind chill of 22 — when the match started, Borowiec still managed to shoot 41.

Cibrario finished at 52, Cibrario Andersen-Watts 58 and Courtney Meyer 59. Liz Vollman was low scorer for Kingswood with a 45.

■ Farmington Unified improved to 3-1 overall and 2-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association when it defeated Plymouth Canton at Glen Oaks Monday, 202-229.

Sarah Laird and Kelly Raymond shot scores of 48 apiece to lead the Eagles. Jen Barucci contributed a 51 and Brittany Nucitelli a 55.

Terek breaks record

Michigan State University junior Paul Terek (Livonia Franklin) bettered his own school record in the decathlon with 7,441 points en route to a third-place finish last weekend at the Mount San Antonio College Relays in Walnut, Calif.

Terek, competing against some of the top talent in the country, smashed his previous school best of 7,225.

He also finished fifth in the pole vault at 17 feet, 7 inches.

Marlins recapture county golf crown

Led by individual champion Erin Borowiec, the Farmington Hills Mercy girls' golf team regained the Oakland County championship Tuesday, edging defending champ Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood by one stroke.

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
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Wind, sleet and cold couldn't stop Farmington Hills Mercy's golf team.

Facing rough conditions, especially on the front nine, the Marlins were victorious in the 21st Annual Oakland County Division I girls golf tournament Tuesday at Pontiac Country Club.

Mercy won its fourth title in five years by the razor-thin margin of one stroke over defending champion Bloom-

field Hills Cranbrook Kingswood.

Led by all-star Erin Borowiec's medalist round of 82, Mercy edged the Cranes, 382-383, to capture the championship. Only 10 golfers broke 100, due primarily to the high winds and on-and-off rain that plagued the event through the morning hours.

"The scores were much higher all the way around, and it was a wet course," Mercy coach Vicky Kowalski said. "Everyone shot higher scores than they thought they should have, but consid-

ering how bad things were in the morning, I was very happy with how our kids shot."

Kowalski said the key to Borowiec's victory was her 38 on the front nine, which put her well in front of everyone else.

"I know she's not happy with an 82, but we'll take it on a day like today," Kowalski said. "She's played in tournaments all over the country, so she knows how to play in adverse conditions. She stays focused and doesn't let those things get in the way of her game."

Rounding out the top teams at the tournament were Rochester, which was third (415) followed by Troy (419), Rochester Adams (424), Birmingham Marian (426) and White Lake Lake-

land (436). South Lyon, Farmington Unified and Milford also finished in the top 10 in the 16-team tournament.

Cranbrook coach Del Walden said he was disappointed his team lost the title it owned for two years, but he hopes the Cranes can rebound from here.

"Most of our kids lost focus early when the weather was bad," Walden said. "We had some kids who should have shot better, and they know that."

"When you lose by one shot, you can look in any number of places to see where you could have made that up. But I'm not worried about our kids. They'll be fine."

The Marlins were pleased to regain the championship, which they had won three consecutive times until finishing

Please see COUNTY CHAMPS, D2

OHL playoffs:
The Whalers' Tomas Kurka tries to control the puck while being shadowed by Brad Boyes of the Erie Otters in an Ontario Hockey League playoff game Tuesday at Compuware Arena. The Otters won, 4-1, to even the Western Conference final at one game apiece.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL THURMAN

Whalers suffer 1st playoff setback

BY C.J. RUSAK
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Less than a minute remained and there was James Wisniewski, lying in his own crease, at that particular moment in time feeling very alone.

Wisniewski, a junior at Plymouth Canton and the year's defenseman with the Plymouth Whalers, had misplayed the puck while trying to clear it away from the Whalers' unguarded net. With Plymouth goalie Rob Zopp already pulled for an extra attacker, Wisniewski retrieved the puck in the crease but mis-hit it. The Erie Otters' Brandon Cullen pounced and knocked it into the empty net.

HOCKEY

In truth, the goal meant next to nothing. Instead of losing by two, the Whalers lost by three, falling 4-1 on Tuesday to the team that recorded the best regular-season record in the Ontario Hockey League playoffs. What the loss did mean was this: The Whalers would not wait through the playoffs undefeated — not that they ever expected to, but going into Tuesday's game they had won nine straight — and very little of what could commonly be expected would occur in this series.

Example No. 1: Home-ice advantage.

"I'm not sure there is a home-ice advantage," Otters' coach Dave MacQueen said, then added, "Once you get to this point, it doesn't mean a whole lot."

But when these teams meet, it never means much. Although the Otters were the OHL's best team this season, Plymouth had a 3-2-1 record against them. In fact, the Whalers were unbeaten against Erie in Erie (2-0-1).

By the same token, the Otters were 2-1 against the Whalers at Compuware Arena.

That was during the regular season, but the first two games of the Western

Fenton regained the lead in the fifth, 3-2. Marcus Mencotti started the Harrison seventh with a bunt single; Nick Vitanis and Tim Doig walked to set the table for Stanton's one-out hit.

Matt Zatkis pitched the first 4 2/3 innings for Harrison. Stanton finished the fifth and Andy Wingert worked the last two (hitless) innings to pick up the win.

Fenton had a 7-6 edge in total hits. Stanton was 4-for-4.

In a Western Lakes Activities Association game Monday, Harrison rallied with nine runs in the top of the sixth inning to beat host Northville, 9-6.

Vitanis started the rally with a lead-off homer. After Doig and Stanton reached on errors, Zerkow and Jake Ghannam had RBI singles; Bill Richeson walked with the bases loaded; Brad Hocking hit a two-run single, and Stanton capped the effort with a three-run double.

Stanton pitched the last three innings to earn his first win. He allowed just one hit and two walks while striking out eight. Wingert started and was relieved by Rob Whipple, who worked three innings.

Harrison, 2-0 in the WLAA Western Division, had nine hits. Hocking was 3-for-4 and Vitanis 2-for-4.

Falcons improve to 8-1

Please see WHALERS, D5

Please see BASEBALL, D6

North has plan to win 5th league title in row

BY DAN O'MEARA
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North Farmington has won the last four Western Lakes Activities Association championships in boys tennis and is hoping to make it five straight next month.

Despite losing half of its 12-man starting lineup to graduation, North is expected to continue the tradition and be among the WLAA contenders again.

The Raiders also would like to extend their streak of three consecutive regional titles and do well in the state tournament again. They were fourth in Division II last year and runners-up the previous season.

"I would think we could be right up there (in the WLAA)," coach Mark Sheaton said. "This year we have some younger, inexperienced guys who have to step in and take up where the departing seniors left off."

"I know it's going to be tough in our league, because a lot of teams are much stronger this year."

Senior Jay Berman, who was 26-2 and a semifinalist in the state tournament, moves up to No. 1 singles in

BOYS TENNIS

place of Chris Erickson. Berman was the WLAA and regional champion at No. 2 singles.

"Coming into the year, I knew one thing and that was Jay would play No. 1 singles, and the rest of the field would be wide open," Sheaton said.

Senior Chris Copeland, who was second in the WLAA and regional, goes from No. 3 singles to Berman's former position.

"Stepping up to No. 2 will be a challenge for him, but I think it's definitely something he can do," Sheaton said.

Sophomore Dan Carlson will probably stay at No. 3 singles after making the jump from four doubles, where he and sophomore Mike Levy combined to win a WLAA title.

Junior Rob Frankel, who teamed with senior Greg Boothroy to win No. 3 doubles championship in the WLAA, will play No. 4 singles this year.

"It's probably going to take a good week to make sure this thing is all set

Please see TENNIS, D4

Falcons best Hawks on tennis court



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BERNARD

Tennis tussle: Farmington High's Jon Gore makes a return shot in his No. 1 singles match with Harrison's Greg Gaynor Monday. Farmington won the contest, 6-2. See results on D4.