

## FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

### Johnson fires another ace

At this rate, Lou Johnson will need two hands in the near future to count the number of hole-in-ones he has recorded.

The 85-year-old Farmington resident posted his fourth hole-in-one June 18 when he aced the 150-yard, 14th hole at Chandler Park Golf Course on Detroit's East Side. He used an eight iron to make the shot.

Johnson had his third hole-in-one just a year ago while playing in Florida. He had been playing golf for nearly six decades without having a hole-in-one when he recorded two in 1989 — the aces coming just three weeks apart.

Johnson, who is retired from the U.S. Air Force, started playing golf in his early teens and was a caddy at East Lake Country Club in Atlanta where Bobby Jones was a member.

He doesn't have what he considers a regular course but plays a lot of golf at the Selfridge Air National Guard base in Mount Clemens.

"Other than that, I play all over," Johnson said. "I play sometimes twice a week, unless somebody calls me.

"This is my first year of riding a cart; I used to walk. I don't give out; I just get tired."

### Kaufman named all-state

North Farmington freshman Mike Kaufman was named one of 12 singles players on the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association Division II all-state team.

Kaufman led the Raiders to their sixth straight Western Lakes Activities Association championship, a regional title and an eight-place finish in the Division II state meet.

Birmingham Brother Rice's Matt Christian and Livonia Stevenson's Brady Crosby made the Division I team as singles players.

Earning honorable mentions were Kurt Zinke of Brother Rice and David Attallah of Redford-Detroit Catholic Central in singles and CC doubles players Mark Fleszar and Paul Switaj.

### Founders Festival softball

The City of Farmington Hills Recreation Department is accepting registrations for the Founders Festival men's softball tournament to be played Saturday and Sunday, July 20-21.

Games will be played on the fenced fields at Founders Sports Park. Softballs and umpires are included in the fee of \$160.

For more information call the recreation department at (248) 473-1800 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### Gems shine in softball

The Farmington Hills Gems won the first game of a girls softball double-header June 18 from the Livonia Red Sox in a Girls Incredible Fastpitch Softball League game, 4-0.

Sydney Close pitched a one-hitter, struck out eight and walked none. Close, Amanda Post and Katie Boland sparked the offense with doubles. Ashley Scheer, Danielle Kaplan and Stephanie Silberstein contributed single-base hits.

The Red Sox won the nightcap, 8-6. Close had two hits, including a triple.

### Terek 9th in USA meet

Decathlete Paul Terek finished ninth Thursday in the USA Outdoor Combined Events Championships held in Berkeley, Calif., with a point total of 7,445 points, well below his performances at both the NCAA and Big Ten meets.

The outgoing senior from Michigan State and Livonia Franklin High School was an NCAA Outdoor runner-up in the decathlon and NCAA Indoor runner-up in the pole vault this season.

He was also Big Ten outdoor champion in both the pole vault and decathlon.

Tom Pappas, representing Adidas, won first place with 8,396. Ryan Clay of Azusa Pacific University (Calif.) took second with 8,230. Michigan native Phil McMullen (Nike) took third with 7,934.

Former Olympic gold medalist Dan O'Brien, who did not compete in the 400 or 1,500, was 10th with 6,904 points in his comeback bid.



**Extended effort:** Farmington Post 346 infielder Chris Chesney makes a diving attempt to reach a batted ball Monday during an American Legion baseball game with visiting Royal Oak, which earned an 11-1 victory at Farmington High School.

## Royal Oak halts Post 346 streak

BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER  
domeara@oe.homecomm.net

### BASEBALL

Farmington Post 346 started a three-game winning streak in American Legion baseball Friday when it stomped visiting Rochester, 12-2.

Preston Picard pitched a complete game, scattering eight hits over seven innings while striking out three and walking three.

Tony Luttman was 2-for-2, walked once and scored three runs. He had three RBI with a two-run double and a sacrifice fly.

Anthony Velpe and Craig Mickelsen hit two-run singles, and Bob Houchins walked three-times and scored each time.

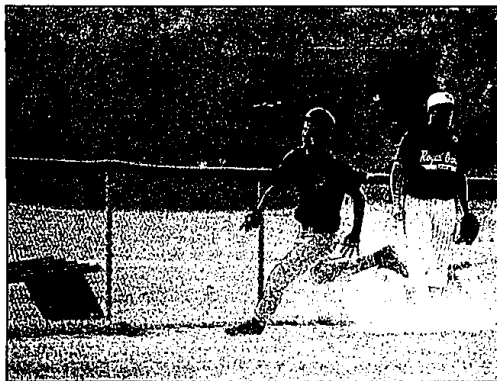
Farmington (6-4) swept a double-

header Sunday from visiting Clarkston, winning both games by a score of 11-1.

Luttman struck out nine and allowed only three hits in the first game, which ended after five innings due to the mercy rule.

Jake Ghannam got Post 346 rolling in the first inning with a three-run homer. Farmington had a seven-run fourth in which Picard hit a bases-loaded triple.

Bob Houchins followed Picard with another triple; Chris Chesney drove in Houchins with a sacrifice fly; Luttman



**Heading for home:** Joe James rounds third base en route to scoring Post 346's lone run Monday against Royal Oak.

Please see LEGION, D2

## Whalers have 3 players selected in draft

BY BRAD MONASTIERE  
STAFF WRITER  
bmonastiere@oe.homecomm.net

### HOCKEY

The wait on draft day for a prospective pro athlete can be some of the longest hours of a person's life. The wait turned out to be worth it for Plymouth's James Wisniewski.

The 18-year-old Canton High School graduate was picked 156th overall by the Chicago Blackhawks in Saturday's NHL Entry Draft. Wisniewski is a defenseman for the OHL's Plymouth Whalers, and is coming off a severe knee injury.

The Whalers had two other players selected in the draft. Left wing Gregory Campbell was taken in the

third round by the Florida Panthers, and Jonas Fiedler was picked 86th overall by the San Jose Sharks.

Although Wisniewski hoped to be drafted higher, he said Tuesday he was very pleased to be picked by a team with a rich history like the Blackhawks, and looks forward to bouncing back from his injury.

"It's just a great experience to be drafted by a team like Chicago with all the history they have," he said. "I had a feeling that might be the team to pick me. I

had an interview with them in Toronto a few weeks ago and it went pretty well."

Wisniewski, known for his offensive skills from the blue line, had 11 goals and 25 assists in helping to lead the Whalers to the best regular season record in the OHL in 2001-02. Coach Mike Vellucci said he feels the best is yet to come from Wisniewski, who he said felt the pressure of being a potential draft pick last season.

"I think he put a little too much pressure on himself playing in his draft year," Vellucci said. "But that happens to the best of them. He's a great player and

Please see WHALERS, D2



**All-Observer:** Farmington High School junior Erica Rose is one of 11 players on the 2002 all-area first team in girls soccer.

## Former star player now winning coach

### Pats' Barker receives top honor

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER  
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

### ALL-AREA SOCCER

Jenny Barker has the pedigree to run a successful girls soccer program.

Though she is only 22 years of age, the second-year Livonia Franklin coach played on a pair of state championship teams at Livonia Stevenson and was an NAIA All-America goalkeeper at Madonna University.

Those experiences and knowledge proved to be invaluable for Barker, who led the Patriots to a remarkable turnaround this season.

Franklin finished 2-10-3 in Barker's first season as head coach, but this year the Patriots proved to be more than formidable with an 11-6-2 record.

Franklin, which started as many as four freshmen, also beat rival Churchill for the first time and tied Plymouth Canton.

It was only the second winning season in school history for girls soccer at Franklin. For her efforts, Barker was named Observerland Coach of the Year.

"A lot of it was the talent of the freshmen, who brought up everyone's level of play," said Barker, an all-state keeper who helped Stevenson win the 1997 and 1998 state crowns.

"The girls worked hard and they never would give in. They would perse-

vere night in and night out, because they wanted to do something special."

Barker spent two years as an assistant before taking the varsity coaching reins at Franklin. The three-time All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference selection is currently attending Madonna where she is majoring in math and secondary education.

"We've had a couple of significant classes come in," Barker said. "And we have a good crop of players coming back, not only with our freshmen, but also some of our JV players."

That bodes well for the Patriots, who hope to move up the ladder again next season in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

This year's All-Observer squad is dominated by the WLAA, which gobble up nine of the 11 first-team spots.

### ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

Briana Wolcott, GK, Canton: A three-year letter winner, Wolcott has started in goal for the past two seasons for Canton.

She surrendered just seven goals in conference play, collecting seven shutouts. Her performance earned her all-conference, all-district

Please see ALL-AREA SOCCER, D3