

Sidelines

■ Tomey an all-star

Eastern Michigan University right-handed pitcher Anthony Tomey (Farmington Hills) was named to the Central Illinois Collegiate League All-Star team as a member of the Springfield (Ill.) Riles, who finished 29-22 and reached the semifinals of the league playoffs.

Tomey, who earned honorable mention honors for CCL Pitcher of the Year, pitched 80.1 innings and was second in the CCL in strikeouts with 71.

The Redford Catholic Central graduate led his team with a 5-3 record, which included four complete games and a 2.03 earned run average.

■ Stingray signup

The Farmington Family YMCA Stingray swim team will conduct registration for its short course season beginning Wednesday, Sept. 4.

There will be an informational meeting 7-9 p.m. Sept. 4 at the Farmington YMCA where registration forms will be available for new swimmers.

The competitive swim program runs from Sept. 9, when swimmer evaluations for group placement will begin, to early March.

Team participation is open to anyone between the ages of 6 and 18. Participants are required to be a YMCA member.

There are five groups levels and, depending on ability, participants will swim either at the YMCA or one of the local high school pools.

For more information visit the Website at www.flyss.org or call Cathy Warnick at (248) 553-0272 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

■ Adult hockey

The Farmington Hills Adult Hockey Association is conducting registration for the upcoming season, which starts Sept. 3 and runs through March at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena. The FHAA is registering teams for the over-18 division, teams and individuals for the over-30 and individuals for the over-40 and over-48.

There will be a player draft in divisions that have individual registration. Goalties are needed. Teams in the over-30, over-40 and over-48 groups will play 42 games plus playoffs.

To signup call the FHAA at (248) 471-6004 and leave a message on voice mail.

■ Rockets camp

The Farmington Rockets will sponsor a youth football camp 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, at Farmington High School.

The camp is open to youth between the ages of 7 to 14. The camp will be under the direction of former Harrison High School and Michigan State University standout Mill Coleman.

The cost of the camp is \$25 per player, and that includes lunch and a camp T-shirt. For more information call Dick Heist at (248) 478-9341.

Harrison's Stanton sparks East victory

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Ten football players from Observer & Eccentric communities went out as winners Saturday when their prep careers officially ended on a balmy August evening in Ann Arbor.

All contributed in some way to the East's 28-7 victory over the West in the 22nd Annual Michigan High School All-Star Football Game at Michigan Stadium.

Three of the more visible East all-stars were Farmington Harrison quarterback

Drew Stanton, Livonia Clarenceville tailback Tim Shaw and Birmingham Brother Rice kicker Ross Ryan.

Stanton, who started the game but shared time with Utica Eisenhower's Joe DiGiorgio, was 6-of-14 passing for 79 yards and one touchdown, and he also rushed four times for 12 yards.

Those numbers, combined with his leadership and overall performance, were worthy of a possible MVP award, but such post-game honors weren't part of the deal.

Wide receiver Charles Searcy (Romulus) would have been a good

choice, according to Stanton. Searcy, who caught a 6-yard TD pass from Stanton, had three receptions for 43 yards and two carries for 14 yards.

After a missed field goal by the West, the East opened with Stanton throwing the bomb to Searcy on the first play, although it went incomplete.

A Stanton-to-Searcy TD pass was nullified by a penalty later on the same drive before they eventually connected for the first points of the game with 2:54 remaining in the first quarter.

"On that first play, we were trying to go for it all," Stanton said. "That's a play

we run at Harrison. We didn't get it, but it was a fun drive. It took up a lot of time, and it was a great start for us."

Stanton's completion percentage was around 80 percent early in the game, but several passes slipped through the fingers of his receivers and the final number suffered.

But the East coaches, headed by Dearborn Fordson's Jeff Stengalas, employed a wide-open attack and gave Stanton a chance to show what he could do.

"I love to stand up in the shotgun and throw it," Stanton said. "The coaches allowed me to do that, and we had good enough players to be able to do it. "It was fun just getting out and playing. It was a nice end to my high school career and now, hopefully, it will continue in college."

Stanton said he wished Harrison teammate Agim Shabay, an all-state wide receiver and fellow Michigan State recruit, could have played in the all-star game, too.

The Michigan High School Football Coaches Association allows only one player per school to participate, however.

"It would have been a lot more fun," Stanton said. "We read each other perfectly. We would've done what we did the last two years at Harrison."

RYAN DOES THE KICKING

Ryan was listed on the roster as a punter, but he had a larger role than that. He did all of the kicking for the East and was on the field as much or more than many position players.

Warren Cousino's Bill Koenig was supposed to do the kicking, but he wanted to play outside linebacker and conceded all the kicking duties to Ryan.

"I almost kicked my leg out," Ryan said. "We were doing two-a-days during the week, and I was using my leg. I was doing more kicking than I've done in my life. But I guess it paid off."

Ryan had an outstanding performance, averaging 43.5 yards on six punts and 60.5 yards on four kickoffs. His longest punt



BRYAN MITCHELL / OBSERVER

Farmington Harrison quarterback Drew Stanton eludes an onrushing defender during the 22nd Annual High School All-Star Football Game Saturday in Ann Arbor. Stanton passed for 79 yards and a touchdown in the East's 28-7 victory over the West.

PLEASE SEE VICTORY, D8

Coach Herrington wins award

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

John Herrington received the National Coach of the Year Award July 20 at the National Federation of State High School Associations' convention in Montgomery, Ala.

Herrington begins his 41st year of coaching this month, the last 33 as varsity coach at Farmington Harrison. He has a career record of 299-58-1 and 12 state championships with the Hawks.

Herrington was chosen by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association to be considered for the national award, and he was nominated by the Michigan High



Herrington

School Athletic Association.

He was first named Central Region Coach of the Year. The region includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan.

The NFHS-SA selected a Coach of the Year in every

sport. Eight regional winners attended the national convention. Kathy McGee of Flint Powers also won the national award in girls basketball.

"It's a tremendous honor when you think of all the great coaches in it," Herrington said. "The honor is given for record and also longevity. It's meant to honor your career in coaching. It's not really a coach of the year thing."

"I'm extremely proud to win it and very happy about it. It's a reflection on the whole program and the coaching staff. We're all a part of it."

Herrington was named National Coach of the Year in 2000 by Students Sports magazine. He is a member of the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame and the Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

PLEASE SEE AWARD, D2

The Return of Gus Macker 'Community effort' helps to launch hoop tournament

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

This weekend's Gus Macker 3-on-3 Charity Basketball Tournament promises to be another slam dunk, both as a worthwhile fundraising vehicle to help various youth programs and as an organized excuse for good old-fashioned one-on-one.

West Bloomfield High School, for the second consecutive year, will host the half-court action. More than 300 teams from Michigan and surrounding states plunked down \$95 to compete Saturday and Sunday in the double elimination tourney, sponsored by the Optimist Club of West Bloomfield.

Each team can put three players on the court at once, with a fourth player in reserve. Even if a team loses the first two games it plays, it will play a third outing, in the consolation "Toilet Bowl" bracket. Also on the agenda are slam-dunk and shooting contests.

"It's designed to be a family basketball festival. That's the mission statement. It's street ball, the driveway game, whatever you want to call it."

Dan West
Event co-chairman

"It's designed to be a family basketball festival," said event co-chairman Dan West.

PLEASE SEE TOURNEY, D4



James Landsberg of Farmington Hills watches his tee shot at the G&M championship at Oakhurst Golf & Country Club in Clarkston.

Strawser sees lead disappear

BY KEN ABRAHAMCYK
STAFF WRITER

Johnny Strawser burned the golf course on Monday, shooting 65 in the first round, then 68 in the second in the Golf Association of Michigan Championship at Oakhurst Golf & Country Club in Clarkston.

Tuesday was a different story for the golfer from Flushing.

The winds picked up a bit, the shots didn't fall quite so easily and his seven-stroke lead suddenly disappeared. After the third round was completed, Colby Beckstrom of Muskegon led with 212 or 4-under par, and held a one-stroke lead over Andy Ruthkoski, also of Muskegon, and Russ Cunningham of Dewitt.

Strawser fell to 215 with a score of 82 on Tuesday. "The course was little bit tougher today with the wind and the greens also firmed up a bit," Strawser said. "I pretty much played the same game as yesterday."

Eric Jorgensen of Grandville, Rob Tighe of Traverse City, Tim Katanski of Monroe and Brian Stuart of Jackson all finished at 216. Adam

The winds picked up a bit, the shots didn't fall quite so easily and his seven-stroke lead suddenly disappeared.

Walicki of Jackson and Gary Kraus of Livonia finished at 217.

Walicki said he "didn't play badly," but ran into trouble on the 15th, 16th and 17th holes. "I hit two in the hazard and had a six on the 15th, then I had a double on 16 and bogeyed 17," Walicki said. "That's four over on those three holes."

Michael Cairns of Orion Township made the cut of the top 30 of 78. On Tuesday, he shot a 77 to put him at 224.

"I just didn't hit the ball solidly," Cairns said. "I'm a little disappointed."

PLEASE SEE GOLF, D6

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