

Sports

PREPS ■ RECREATION ■ HEALTH



Walking with joy

Surgery puts boy back on his feet. C6

www.observerandeccentric.com

Sidelines

Family search

The Plymouth Whalers hockey team is searching for host families for its players for the 2002-03 season.

Each year, players on the team live with host families in the Plymouth area while they play and go to school. The families will be responsible for providing a home to the players for the season, which runs from September until June.

Anyone interested in being a host family should contact Alex Roberts at (734) 453-8400.

The Whalers are also looking for interns to work in hockey operations, public relations, marketing, broadcasting, promotions and game-night activities. Anyone interested should also contact Roberts.

The Whalers are also in search of video and statistical interns in the hockey operations department, which are unpaid positions for the season. Interested people should contact Roberts or e-mail him at alexr@plymouthwhalers.com

Martin dinner

Madonna University will hold its Inaugural Julie Martin Scholarship Award dinner, 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5, at the University Center dining room on campus.

The dinner is in honor of 1998 MU alumnus Julie Martin, a former NCAA All-America volleyball player who died of cancer in 1998. The cost of the dinner is \$25 per person with all proceeds to benefit the Julie Martin Endowed Scholarship for Academic and Athletic Excellence.

It will also kick off the Fourth Annual Julie Martin Women's Volleyball Tournament Friday and Saturday, Sept. 6-7, at Madonna. For ticket information, call Brian Rizzo at (734) 432-5604 or Dr. Richard Sax, Dean of College of Arts and Humanities, at (734) 432-5542.

Wolfman fires ace

After 40 years of playing golf, Hy Wolfman of Farmington shot his first hole-in-one Aug. 5 at Glen Oaks Golf Course. He used a four iron to ace the 147-yard 18th hole.

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 over-40 divisions for the over-40 and over-48.

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

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

OAA move creates interest in grid season



Dan O'Meara

With fall practices due to begin officially Monday, it's not too early to start thinking about football in Farmington.

There's always a lot of eagerness and anticipation at the start of a new season. It's a fresh start

for each team with new players and renewed hopes.

But that's especially true this year as the Farmington schools prepare for a new experience and their first taste of competition in the Oakland Activities Association.

The sense of excitement and interest is especially keen this year because of the change of leagues and the new opportunities, as well as challenges, it will bring. For the record, Farmington's three high

schools left the Western Lakes Activities Association after 20 years in search of a more equitable arrangement in the OAA.

The consensus among people with whom I've talked in the last year was this: Good move for everything (including teams in other sports) but Harrison football.

The Hawks, to no one's surprise and as everyone assumed would be the case, have been placed in the OAA Division I with

many of the biggest schools in the county. The Rochester, Troy, Clarkston and Lake Orion are, for post-season playoff purposes, Division I schools based on their large enrollments; Harrison has been Division III since the MHSAA expanded the football tournament in 1999.

But you won't find anybody shedding tears for the Hawks, and I'm fairly certain I might have stirred a few people to anger

PLEASE SEE OAA, C4



Elizabeth Carnegie | Observer

Learning the game

Nine-year-old Vance Porter (left) gets past 8-year-old Robert Delhoff during a practice drill at Hill Coleman's Total Football Camp last month at the William Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills. Coleman, a former Harrison High School, college and professional football player, offered one week of instruction to area youths age 6 to 14.

Givens, Heebner lead YMCA Stingrays

The Farmington Family YMCA Stingrays earned several top-16 finishes in the Michigan Long Course State Championship swim meet Aug. 1-4 at Oakland University. The team placed 10th out of 45 teams.

In the 10-and-under age division, Garrick Givens was double state cham-

ption, winning the 50-meter breaststroke (43.02) and the 100 breaststroke (1:33.02).

He also placed third in the 200 IM (3:06.79), fifth in the 200 freestyle (2:41.64), fifth in the 50 butterfly (40.30) and sixth in the 50 free (34.00). Givens was awarded a trophy for a

second-place tie in the overall high-point standings in his age group. Hannah Heebner is the state champion in the 50 breast (41.36). She also placed fourth in the 100 breast (1:33.40), 13th in the 200 free (2:44.60), 13th in the 100 free (1:16.62)

PLEASE SEE YMCA, C5

Cobras win invitational at Hillsdale

The NFWB Cobras defeated the Pioneer (Ohio) Tigers to capture the 10-and-under division championship of the Hillsdale "Field of Dreams" Invitational Aug. 3-4.

Two NFWB pitchers — Blake King of West Bloomfield and Brett Lubanski of Farmington Hills — combined to hold the Tigers to six hits in the final game, which the Cobras won, 9-0.

The tournament championship was the fifth of the 2002 season for NFWB, giving the Cobras a final overall record of 46-14.

The coaching staff was extremely pleased with what we accomplished in 2002, manager Paul Lubanski said, "especially considering the fact that all of our players came from within the NFWB geographical boundaries."

"In 2003, we will be able to expand our roster to three players from outside North Farmington-West Bloomfield. So, naturally, we have the potential to be even stronger."

Tryouts for the 11-and-under 2003 team will be 5-7 p.m. Aug. 24 and 25 at Drake Park in West Bloomfield (Saturday) and Pioneer Park in Farmington Hills (Sunday).

Drake Park is located between 14 Mile and Maple roads. Pioneer Park is on the west side of Farmington Road between 13 and 14 Mile roads.

For more information, send an e-mail to Lubanski at CompuwareCoach91@aol.com.

Cyclists compete against the clock

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Feel the need for speed? It's not quite the Tour de France, but it may be the next best thing as area cyclists will compete today in the Hines Park Time Trial, a 20-kilometer (12-mile) race designed on an out-and-back course featuring rolling terrain with mostly new pavement.

The event, sanctioned by the U.S. Cycling Federation, is being put on by Team EQ and Cycling Saddlemen of Dearborn. The Time Trial is sponsored by BikeSport of Dearborn and Red Bull Energy Drink.

The Time Trial start will be at Hines Drive Parkway at the Helms Haven picnic shelter, which is located just west of Outer Drive. The route goes out to Farmington Road and back.

"It's a sprint, but you also need some endurance," said Andre Champoux of Farmington, a member of the Wayne-based Team EQ, which wears the distinctive green jerseys. "This is our first year and we need about 100 participants to cover our expenses."

The first rider will go off in the individual time trial at 8 a.m. Successive riders will follow at 60-second intervals. Pre-registered riders will follow day-of-the-event riders.

Race-day registration is from 7-8 a.m. The cost is \$25 for Senior/Master riders and \$20 for Juniors. Senior men and women will be classified into categories 1-5. Junior age groups include 19-22, 17-18, 15-16, 13-14, 10-12, while Masters (men only) features 35-45, 45-55 and 55-and-up.



KATY BALDWIN | OBSERVER

Mark Walls and other Team EQ cyclists will race against the clock today in the Hines Park Time Trial.

The event also offers two-person team trial, which will start a half-hour following the conclusion of the race event. Categories included men, women and mixed.

PLEASE SEE CYCLISTS, C5

It's time to come clean.



Clean that attic, garage, basement or closet and sell it all with a classified ad! —1-800-579-BELL