

Lots of tournaments are heading to town

Cloverlanes in Livonia carries the banner this year for the Greater Detroit Bowling Association's 90th Annual Championship Tournament. It began with the opening ceremonies March 22 and will run on Saturdays and Sundays through April 19 with squad times of 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Team, doubles and singles will all be at the same site. The tournament is open to all GDHA members and is handicapped based on 90 percent from 220.

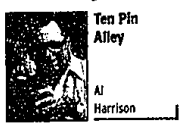
This gives all bowlers a chance to win some money. First place in the team event is worth \$5,000, second pays \$2,500.

The entry fee is \$20 per person per event with an optional \$10 for all events. If a player enters each event once, total cost would be \$70.

This year, the tournament is dedicated to Marvin Dooley of Southfield, the immediate past president of the GDHA.

New this year: You can enter and pay on-line at www.gdha.com, as well as get any other tournament information. The GDHA accepts Mastercard, Visa, cash or check. To enter, call (586) 773-6350.

Perfect game
Jim Heriford, a left-hander



Ten Pin Alley
AJ Harrison

From Westland, bowled a 300 game last month at Merrifield in Livonia while competing in the Sunday morning Lost Weekend, a trio league. Heriford is a home delivery manager for the Redford and south Livonia Observer editions.

Women's U.S. Open
With all the tournaments in our area recently, we now have the 2003 Women's U.S. Open coming May 24-June 1 to Sunnybrook Lanes, located on 17 Mile Road in Sterling Heights.

Yes, there will be a Pro-Am tied in with the tournament, a chance for any bowler to enter and compete for cash prizes, with the added advantage of having a professional bowler as your doubles partner.

The top women bowlers from across the nation, and other countries as well, will be there for their shot at the

"triple crown" of bowling and this prestigious championship.

The Pro-Am is May 24; the finals will be televised nationwide on ESPN on June 1.

For more information about the Open, call Gary Zarick at Sunnybrook at (586) 264-2700.

Seniors tournament
Also on tap for May, the Senior Professional Bowlers Tour will hit our area at Lodge Lanes in Belleville.

The Senior PBA Greater Detroit Open will run May 10-13 with Pro-Am squads at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 10. All entrants will receive a new Brunswick ball, the "Monster Frenzy" with their paid entry fee of \$140.

They will bowl three games with three different PBA Senior Tour stars as partners, all for cash prizes.

Among the pro bowlers taking part are Johnny Petraglia, Mark Roth, Dick Weber, Dave Soutar, Bob Glass and our local senior star, Gene Stus.

For further information, call Lodge Lanes at (734) 697-9178.

AJ Harrison is a Livonia resident and director of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association. He can be contacted at (248) 477-1839.



Those selected to the 2003 Eccentric All-Area Girls Gymnastics First Team Division 2 include (front, left to right) Sheila Orsey, Meghan Glessi, Kelsy Puffer, (back) Katie McGill, Kasia DeSteliger and Lindsay Smith.

ALL-AREA

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MEGAN MCGILL, Adams: This Highlander senior co-captain earned All-State honors on three events and posted a 10th-place showing all-around in state competition. McGill's strong work ethic enabled the two-year varsity performer to notch efforts of 9.5 on vault, 9.25 on bars, 9.3 on beam and 9.45 on floor.

"Megan is a really strong leader with a great work ethic," Mussal said. "She really got down to business and gained a lot of confidence. She's been a real integral part of this team's success."

RAVIN RALLIGH, Athens: A significant cog to the Red Hawks' team success the past four years, Ralligh placed 10th all-around at the state finals. Improvement on floor (led to eighth at state) and bars (15th) helped the Red Hawks qualify for the team finals where they finished sixth.

"Ravin has been the staple of this team," Fakhouri said. "She gained several new skills and was consistent all-around as always."

CLARA SEYMOUR, Tri-Farmington: A captain competing in her fourth varsity campaign for Tri-Farmington, Seymour was instrumental in the team's four-year run of placing sixth, third, fifth and third overall. Her best scores included 9.6 on vault, 9.4 on bars, 9.5 on beam and 9.3 floor.

"She's tough," declared Dwyer. "She is one of the toughest competitors I've seen. She's always focused and intimidating. A real warrior."

FIRST TEAM - DIVISION 2
KASIA DESTELIGER, Adams: A three-year performer for the Highlanders, Desteliger saved some of her best for last as she scored a season-best 9.25 on vault to earn an eighth-place showing at state. Other top scores included 8.8 on bars, 8.7 on beam and 8.5 on floor.

"She's a great kid," acknowledged Mussal. "She's a hard worker and has a knack of coming up with big showings at big times."

MEGHAN GLESSI, Rochester: The Falcons senior co-captain showed steady improvement in her final season of competition, especially on bars and beam where confidence enable "Liv" to be one of the area's best on each.

"She's been the staple to our team the past two years," Mussal said. "She kept the team together and took the initiative to do a lot of things. She's always been a hard worker, but this year gained a lot more confidence."

KATIE MCGILL, Adams: Only a sophomore, McGill contributed all-around to the Highlanders' success. Improved confidence aided McGill in scoring season-bests of 8.8 on bars, 8.7 on beam, 8.6 on vault and 8.5 on floor.

"Katie's a beautiful gymnast," described Mussal. "She's a great all-around performer, very motivated and pleasant to coach."

SHEILA OROSEY, Adams: Named to the First Team for a third consecutive time, 10th Highlander placed combined an incredible four-year career by winning the individual title on floor (9.35), finishing second on bars (9.2) and all-around (8.40). A captain, Orosey's top scores during 2003 were 9.6 on beam, 9.55

on floor, 9.35 on bars and 9.15 on vault.

"She's been my favorite," beamed Mussal. "She's a kid who has grace and maturity beyond her years and our program will miss her tremendously."

KELSY PUFFER, Adams: This Highlander freshman emerged onto the varsity scene and contributed greatly to the team's fortunes. Puffer scored top scores of 8.95 on floor, 8.95 on vault, 8.8 on beam and 8.2 on bars and will be looked upon to be a key component in the drive for a third straight state title.

"She has the potential to do some big things," Mussal said. "Her confidence grew as the season went on and I'm sure she'll fit nicely into our future plans."

LINDSAY SMITH, Tri-Farmington: A Junior, Smith used her athletic prowess to provide depth and stability in the lineup. Competing in her third varsity campaign, Smith notched top efforts of 9.5 on floor, 9.4 on beam, 9.2 on vault and 8.5 on bars.

"Lindsay's a great athlete, and if she did any sport, she would be great," Dwyer commented. "Every year I've seen improvement. She's very talented and not afraid to compete."

SECOND TEAM
JULIE DZIMECKI, Athens: A senior, Dzimecki battled injuries much of the year, but recovered enough to help the Red Hawks to a strong team showing in the finals.

"She had a tough year battling injuries," Fakhouri said. "But she recovered and did a nice job and really showed great improvement on bars."

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