

Snowfall welcome sight for Marlins, Shamrocks

Thanks to last week's major snowfall, the Farmington Hills Mercy and Redford Catholic Central ski teams finally got to start the 1992 season.

The schools, which had two ski meets canceled earlier this month because of a lack of snow, began the season Wednesday and Thursday with meets at Mount Brighton.

Both CC and Mercy compete in the Brighton Division of the Southeastern Michigan League, which includes Brighton, Hartland, Birmingham School, Birmingham Groves and Howell.

Mercy, which finished fourth in last year's overall girls standings in the Brighton Division, took third place in Thursday's giant slalom competition and second in Wednesday's slalom race.

Freshman Nicole Gable excelled each day with first place finishes. The Marlins scored 46 points on Thursday to finish behind champion Brighton (41) and Seaborn (37), but Gable took first place individually in 46.16 seconds. Brighton's Heather Siegle was second (46.41) and Seaborn's Mira Sahney was third (48.38).

On Wednesday, Gable led Mercy with a championship in the slalom race (38.29). Seaborn's Liz Johnson was second (38.24) while the Marlins' leading returnee, Nicole Sinclair was third (38.41). Mercy scored 31 points, three behind first place Hartland (28).

Mercy coach Cass Zarlikowski wasn't surprised with the perfor-

skiling

mances of Gable, who skis in the United States Ski Association Junior Program.

"Nicole trains every day, even after our practices," Zarlikowski said. "She'll probably give Nicole (Sinclair) a run for her money and has a chance to place real well."

Sinclair, a senior, qualified individually for the state meet last year and was 10th all-around.

The return of Sinclair and a fine supporting cast should help Mercy contend for the division crown this year, Zarlikowski said.

"She's got a good chance to place in the top 10 or even better," Zarlikowski said of Sinclair. "She has a good attitude, is a good racer and very aggressive."

Other skiers for Mercy include juniors Maggie James, Jennifer Busser, Milla Martha and sophomore Allison Vigil.

CC, MEANWHILE, showed it can duplicate last year's success when it won the division, took second in the Class A regional behind Birmingham Brother Rice and was sixth at the state meet.

The Shamrocks on Thursday placed second in the giant slalom race with 36 points, nine more than first place Brighton.

Leading returnee Steve Wittek took

first place individually (38.52), while Jeff Kent of Brighton was second (39.26). CC's Ken Williams was fifth (41.73).

On Wednesday, CC won the slalom standings with 17 points, three less than second-place Brighton. Kent won the individual title (31.32), but three CC skiers were among the top five.

Jason Darnell took second place for CC in 31.88, while Wittek was fourth (32.48) and Andy Castella placed fifth (33.03).

Zarlikowski, who doubles as the CC coach, predicts Wittek will win the Brighton Division. Zarlikowski looks for leadership from Wittek, Williams, Darnell, Castella and Matt McIntosh.

"Wittek is an all-around excellent skier," Zarlikowski said. "He's dedicated, talented, and if he has a weakness I'll be bad luck."

McIntosh suffered a knee injury in the fall and will undergo surgery in March, but should be strong enough to give CC solid times, Zarlikowski said.

"He can't spend hours on the snow like he used to but he's got two or three hours a day in him and that's all I need," Zarlikowski said.

Another promising skier is junior Michael Kort. The key to Darnell is consistency, according to Zarlikowski.

"He goes all out every time and if he makes it (without falling), he's right on top, if he doesn't it's a different story," Zarlikowski said.

in 1:25; and Chris Mullett (1:35), by forfeit.

THREE CONSECUTIVE pins helped Plymouth Canton break an 18-18 deadlock and give the Chiefs a 36-30 wrestling victory Thursday over visiting Farmington Hills Harrison in the WLA's Western Division.

With the score tied after eight bouts, Joe Hunter (152) pinned Mark Rehtoy at 3:37. Chris Mullett (160) pinned Jason Blumberg in 45 seconds and George Young (171) pinned David Gloetzer at 1:34, giving the Chiefs a 36-18 lead.

Harrison closed the gap when Canton voided the 189 and heavyweight victories and allowed forfeit victories to the Hawks.

Brogan also captured top honors in the 100 butterfly (57.71) and Pekete was first in the 100 breaststroke (1:07.11), as the Shamrocks won every swimming event to run their overall record to 2-1. DeLaSalle is 0-1 in the Catholic League.

NORTH FARMINGTON lost to Dearborn 53-39 in boys swimming Thursday despite a strong performance from senior Chris Knoche.

Fuchs won the 200-yard freestyle (2:00.8) and the 500 freestyle (5:09.6), and he teamed with Steve Bockneck, Keith Lee and Adam Kammer to win the 200 freestyle relay in 1:33.1.

North's other winners were Jon Kershley in the 100 freestyle (51.45) and Mike Drelles in the butterfly (57.1).

The Raiders are 4-1 in dual meets.

sport shorts

FIGHTS IN CANTON

Livonia heavyweight Craig Payne will be part of a five-bout professional boxing card beginning at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Canton's Center Stage. The card will be part of the USA Network's "Tuesday Night at the Fights."

Payne, the 1984 U.S. Olympic Trials runnerup, has a 4-0-1 record as a pro. He will take on Cleveland's Luis Torrez in a scheduled four-rounder.

Also featured on the Ringside Productions card is Detroit Kronk's Jamal Hinton (21-0 with 15 KOs), rated No. 2 by the WBO and No. 3 by the WBA, will take on Jose Luis Torres (13-4 with 8 KOs) of San Diego, Calif., in a Super Bantamweight matchup.

Rounding out the undercard will be matches featuring Detroit's Tony Clark, Grand Rapids' Brian Blackley and Windsor's Todd Naden.

Tickets are \$20 ringside and \$10 general admission, available at the door or Ringside Production offices, 531-9787.

Center Stage is at 39940 Ford, just east of I-75 in Canton Township.

PRO BASEBALL CLINIC

Tiger players Mill Cuyler and Paul Gibson are scheduled to appear Saturday when Grand Slam U.S.A., 42930 W. Ten Mile, Novi, will present its Pro Baseball Clinic Day.

A hitting clinic and evaluation will be 8:30-10 a.m. For a price of \$25, the clinic will feature Bruce Fields, Detroit Tigers London AA coach, Tony Mitchell, Pittsburgh Pirates; Rick Karcher, Atlanta Braves; Ken Madaja, Seattle Mariners area scout; and Cuyler.

A pitching clinic and evaluation follows 10-11 a.m. (price: \$25) featuring Tigers Kevin Ritz, Scott Aldred and Gibson.

A hospitality and autograph session (price: \$5) with all the pros follows 11-11:45 p.m. The entire package is \$40 per person.

For more information, call Grand Slam Baseball Academy Director Siu Hoo at 348-8338.

Davidson excels as tennis player

championship by defeating top-rated Lisa Albano of Cal-Berkeley in the final (6-3, 4-6, 7-5).

"It came as quite a shock to some people," said Davidson of her strong showing in the tournament, "because I was really erratic in juniors. I'd beat someone and then go out and lose."

"I have no doubt I should have won it. I couldn't even find the court, but overall I think I did fairly well. If I wasn't so nervous, I think I could have won the tournament."

Davidson, who twice won the Class B state singles championship while at Harrison, said she must make an effort to stay calm and confident while playing a match.

"I definitely need to do something about it, because it gets to the point I think 'Oh, my God, I'm going to miss this shot.' I think it was just freshman jitters. I wanted to win so badly. I was thinking about it too much."

Davidson, who defeated Jennifer Decrosin of Western Illinois (6-1, 6-1) and Allegra Millbolland of UCLA (6-2, 6-0) in her first two matches, played in two collegiate tournaments last fall following a whirlwind summer of tennis.

SHE ENTERED eight tournaments on the USTA-sanctioned National Amateur Satellite Circuit and won seven, earning enough points to win the overall title and receive an automatic berth in the U.S. Open. She finished three points ahead of her amateur doubles partner, Amy Chiminello of Boston and Stanford University.

Davidson played only one match and lost to professional Caroline Kuhlman (2-6, 7-5, 4-6), but the experience of being a participant made it worthwhile, though she would have preferred a victory.

"I should have won that match," she said. "It makes me angry to this day. If we played it now, I think it would be much different, because I'm in much better shape and have more confidence in my game."

Davidson's performance in the Milwaukee tournament was all the more impressive since she had missed a month of practice while recovering from a foot stress fracture.

"I couldn't run and meanwhile I'm



Kori Davidson former Harrison star

at home eating Christmas cookies," she said. "I'm the type of player who does well without practice. I'm so glad about the new NCAA rules (no mandated practice from Thanksgiving through December). I think the month and a half off helps me."

Davidson has been so impressive as a freshman she could probably be the No. 1 singles player for the Sun Devils, but that honor will more than likely go to senior Krista Amend.

"WE'RE TWO EVEN players," Davidson said, adding she'd rather play No. 2 as a freshman. "The honest-to-God truth is winning a No. 1 match in the PAC-10 is hard. The PAC-10 has girls who will be turning pro in the next year."

"If I'm a senior, I wouldn't want a freshman coming in and playing over me. I think it would be rude. If you've been there three years and established yourself, I think you should be No. 1."

The long collegiate season begins Saturday, Jan. 25, and continues through the NCAA tournament in late May.

"I'm very excited; I can't wait," Davidson said, adding she wasn't too impressed by Albano, supposed the top player in the nation.

"I really want to reach the semis of the NCAA, but I'd settle for the quarters. If you get to the quarters, you're an All-American and I want to be an All-American my freshman year."

North forces stalemate in wrestling

Continued from Page 1

Mark McDonald (119) pinned Gino Gauci in 35 seconds and Dave Orow (125) defeated Byron Bercel 8-2.

Stevenson won the next two bouts, but the Raiders tied 18-18 when Marcus Brown (140) scored a 10-4 decision over Wayne Krause and went ahead 24-18 when Eric Grant (145) pinned Mike Hernandez in 2:32.

The Spartans tied the score at 24 apiece as Ben Lewis pinned Mark Miller in 1:44, but North regained a 30-24 advantage after Jared Lawrence (160) pinned Chris Densmore in 1:22.

Other Stevenson winners were Bill Lembasis (103), by forfeit; Scott Goldman (130), pin over Joe Malzoub

CC swimmers clobber Pilots in league debut

Redford Catholic Central opened its Catholic League season in style Friday, outswimming Warren DeLaSalle 67-19 at Farmington Hills Mercy.

Steve Reinke, Chris Teeters and James Leslie were each double-winners in individual events. Also, Reinke was part of two winning relays while Teeters and Leslie swam on one apiece.

Reinke's individual wins came in the 100-yard (51.99) and 200-yard (1:51.89) freestyles. Teeters finished first in the 200 individual medley (2:14.81) and 500 free (5:25.33), and Leslie won the 50 free (23.69) and 100 backstroke (56.00).

Leslie, Teeters, Chris Meck and Kevin Markell combined for a first in the 200 medley relay (1:49.94), and John Brogan, Devon Fekete, Paul Magunick and Reinke were winners in the 200 free relay (1:34.19). Bro-

gan, Reinke, Markell and Fekete teamed for a win in the 400 free relay (3:34.34).

Brogan also captured top honors in the 100 butterfly (57.71) and Pekete was first in the 100 breaststroke (1:07.11), as the Shamrocks won every swimming event to run their overall record to 2-1. DeLaSalle is 0-1 in the Catholic League.

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