It's end of line for area centers

TEN-PIN ALLEY

AL HARRISON

The month of May signals the end of the bowling season, but this year it also brings about the finale of two local bowling centers.

Plymouth Bowl in Plymouth Township will close it's doors for the last time May 14; the final day of operation for Avon Recreation in Rochester Hills will be May 21.

Avon was built in 1977, so it was a fairly new facility. Originally built by a group led by Harry Roth, the 48-lane center was purchased in 1980 by the Langan family and operated by Tom Langan. Many of the Avon league bowlers will be able to move to North Hills Lanes in Rochester Hills, which the Langans purchased recently from Bill Srock.

As it always is when a bowling center closes, there are some bowlers left "homeless." Jennifer Pleba, a 12-year-old from Rochester Hills and a student at Van Hoosen Middle School, was "not too sad to see it close" because she lives closer to North Hill Lanes, so it won't matter.

Her teammates, Jenny Kuwalski and Allison Pierce, both 12, took first place in their "Kids Stuff" league and are happy that the whole league is going over to North Hill next season.

The girls love to bowl, especially since they beat the boys for the championship. Lots of good bowling took place at Avon through the years; the honor scores were abundant, and the house always tried to put out a good shot for the customers while staying within ABC limits.

The Mid-States Masters bowled there frequently — three times over the past season. And there were several other local events. The best series was rolled by Steve Schellenbarger with an 865 in the '70s. According to Tom Langan, "It will be kind of tough going from a 48-lane house to only 32, but we'll try to get as many leagues in as we can."

Avon will become a Barnes and Noble book store.

For the 32-lane Plymouth Bowl, it is also the end of the line. It had a much longer run: 32 years. Owned by Frank and Sam Moceri and Finley MacQueen, they will try to place many of the Plymouth leagues at their Plaza Lanes, also in Plymouth.

Most bowlers considered Plymouth Bowl a rather tough house to score well. There was only one 300 game there last season — by 71-year old Harold McMahan. They had some very fine senior league bowlers who considered Plymouth Bowl their second home.

Then there's the Burroughs League, which was there when the center first opened and will be there when it closes.

It was only last year that Satellite Bowl was wiped out in favor of a Home Depot Store and West Bloomfield Lanes was turned into a Barnes and Noble bookstore.

That makes the score Barnes and Noble 2, Bowling Centers 0.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

Country Lanes (Farmington Hills): Greenfield Mixed — Ryan Wilson, 279-249/717; Chuck O'Rourke, 255/645; Roman Supron, 267/636; Ken Fistler, 254/662; Carol Jacobs, 220/547; Sue Addy, 220/538.

Spares and Strikes — Myma Hale, 215/508; Lila Smith, 213/567; Michele Gill, 210.

Wednesday Nite Ladies — Susan Burk, 212/554; Colleen Saad, 212/567.

St. Paul's Men's — Chris Becker, 246/633; Roger Ferguson, 245/635; Brent Groom, 235/667; Ken Emmick, 229/618; Domenick Deffrank, 220/606.

Country Hi School — Matt Lapham, 225/595; Dianne Walters, 213.

Preps Scott Moscow, 178; Mike Hamlin, 167; Kendra Andrews, 169; Amanda Dusac, 166; Catie Wagner, 153.

Inter-Lodge — League Champs "Toppers Boppers" Dan Topper, Art Mevis, Sidney Lanier and Seth Topper.

Westland Bowl (Westland): Sunday Kings & Queens — Jake Adomitis, 716.

Raiders drill Rocks in DH split

When Plymouth Salem pitcher Justin Marcis looks back on his near-perfect high school career, he will always remember North Farmington.

The Raiders roughed up the Salem star pitcher Monday, handing Marcis his first loss in his four years at Salem, 16-6.

The game was the continuance of a suspended game picked up in the second inning with the score tied 1-1. The Rocks took a 4-1 lead and later a 5-2 lead before North scored five times to take the lead in the sixth.

The Raiders put the game away by scoring nine runs in their seventh.

Salem, ranked No. 8 in Class A, slipped to 14-4 overall and 5-1 in the Lakes Division.

Marcis (4-1) struck out two and walked a pair in four innings of work. Mark Lee recorded the victory, striking out six and walking three.

Aaron Stephen and Brian Moran had two hits apiece for North. *Salem's Bill Styles went 3-for-3 with two RBI.*

The Rocks got revenge by taking the second game, 15-3. Salem pounded out 19 hits to back pitcher Keith Boughner, who made his first career start.

Kaz Kurisu, Brad Lear and Styles had three hits each for Salem. Styles and Lear had three RBI apiece. Kirk Graggs finished 4-for-5.

Darrin Glasser, who left the game with a sore arm, took the loss. Jeff Light ripped two doubles for North.

■ FRANKLIN 8-9, HARRISON 2-4: The Hawks were knocked out of first place in the Western Division Monday by visiting Livonia Franklin.

The Hawks now trail Plymouth Canton which is 5-2 in the division. Harrison and the Patriots are 4-3.

Franklin's Brian Crumley (5-2) shut down the Hawks, recording a career-high 14 strikeouts. He walked only one.

"This was his finest hour," Franklin coach Jim Karoub said. "He's been sharp all year, but he was extra sharp today."

Franklin took a 2-0 lead in the first inning on a two-run single by Crumley. Harrison narrowed the margin to one in the fourth when Aaron Lawson drove in Jake Lawson with a single.

The Patriots made it 3-1 in the fifth when Tim Miller had a RBI single. Kevin Horton doubled in a run for the Hawks in the seventh, but Crumley was able to escape further danger.

Jake Lawson took the defeat, striking out 10 and walking nine in his seven-inning stint.

Eric Bowman had three hits for Franklin (14-4).

Harrison outhit the Patriots 11-8 in the nightcap but still lost. Franklin rallied with a five-run sixth inning to pull out the victory.

With the game tied 4-4, Bowman cleared the bases with a three-run double. Miller later knocked in a pair with a double. Bowman finished with two hits and four RBI.

The loss spoiled the performance of C.J. Ghannam, who went 4-for-4, including a solo home run. Mark Cantor added two hits and one RBI.

Mike Aubuchon hurled the first six innings to earn the win. He struck out six and walked two. Crumley relieved in the seventh and struck out two.

Cantor survived the first four innings before being relieved by Dave Hansel, who took the loss.

On Saturday, the Hawks won the Ed Litegot Tournament in Southfield behind the heroics of Ghannam, who was named the most valuable player.

In the first game, Harrison crushed Southfield 17-1, and then took the championship with a 12-2 rout of Southfield-Lathrup.

Against the Blue Jays, Ghannam went 5-for-6 with two RBI and three stolen bases. Cantor added four hits and three runs scored. Steve Beattie had two of Harrison's 14 hits.

The beneficiary of the 18-hit attack was Matt Sullivan (2-0), who struck out two and walked two in his 5⅓ innings of work.

Against the Chargers, Ghannam had three hits and knocked in two runs. He also took the win by tossing the first three innings, allowing only one run on two hits.

■ FARMINGTON 1, CHURCHILL 0: Host Farmington broke open a scoreless game Tuesday with a two-out rally in the sixth inning.

With two outs, Phil Carson walked on a full-count pitch. He advanced to third on a single by Dale Domas and scored on a single by Chuck Archambeau.

The Falcons improved to 6-12 overall. Churchill is 2-9.

The win went to Paul Mitchell (2-0), who threw the first six innings. He struck out one and walked seven. Tony Harvey retired the side in the seventh to earn the save.

The loss went to Bob Stopko, who allowed five hits to five different Falcons.

On Monday, Farmington lost 3-2 to visiting Walled Lake Central as the Falcons committed six errors.

Farmington, 1-6 in the Lakes Division, tied the game at 1-1 in the first inning when Jake Siskosky doubled home Domas.

Trailing 3-1 in the seventh, Archambeau led off with a single, and pinch runner Scott Brown later scored on a Wes Cornwell ground out.

With a runner on third, the game ended when Domas flew out deep to center field.

Nick Latra (1-5) suffered the defeat despite surrendering only four hits, striking out seven and walking two.

John Mathison struck out seven and walked four to pick up the win for the Vikings.

■ BROTHER RICE 2-3, REDFORD CC 1-0: Birmingham Brother Rice limited host Redford Catholic Central to six hits Saturday while sweeping a double-header.

The double loss left CC with a 13-5 overall record, 6-5 in the Catholic League Central Division. The Shamrocks have to win their final five division games, including a doubleheader Saturday against Warren DeLeSalle to have a shot at the Catholic League playoffs.

First-place Brother Rice won the first game behind the two-hit pitching of Marty Weymouth, who walked two and struck out four.

The Shamrocks loaded the bases in the seventh, but Weymouth ended the threat by snagging a liner off the bat of Garet Burch with two outs.

Kevin Thomas suffered the loss in a complete-game effort. Thomas scattered four hits, walked seven and struck out four.

The Warriors committed three errors behind Weymouth, including two in the third inning that led to the only CC run. Matt Kaye reached base on an error and went to third following a pair of sacrifice bunts. Kaye scored when Burch's grounder was booted.

Brother Rice scored single runs in both the fourth and fifth innings.

John Taggart walked in the fourth, stole two bases and scored on a passed ball. Taggart doubled in the fifth to to send home Joe Kalczynski, who singled and stole second.

The Warriors finished with five stolen bases.

Rice pitcher Angelo Palazeti allowed four CC hits and hit a two-run homer to lead the Warriors in the second game.

Justin Stankiewicz suffered the loss. He allowed five hits, walked two and struck out eight.

Cobras enjoy winning start

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield 13-year-old Cobras opened their Michigan Baseball Federation League season by winning four of their first five games.

The Cobras defeated the Rochester Yankees 4-3, the Rochester Rams 9-3, the Ozzie Jackson Baseball Club of Waterford 9-6 and the Rochester Marlins 21-3. The only loss was to Novi, 9-3.

The highlight to date has been Chris Brede's three-run double with two outs in the last inning that won the Yankees game.

Rob Sparks and Brent Schoenbach lead the Cobras in hitting, with Kent Taylor, Dave Young and Aaron Ward also contributing to the attack.

Schoenbach, Sparks, Young and Mike Fraser have posted the pitching wins. Mike Livernois, Jeremy Brown and Brian Grohman have been consistent defensive players. The team includes Brian Lafer, Josh Wool and Jon Panush.

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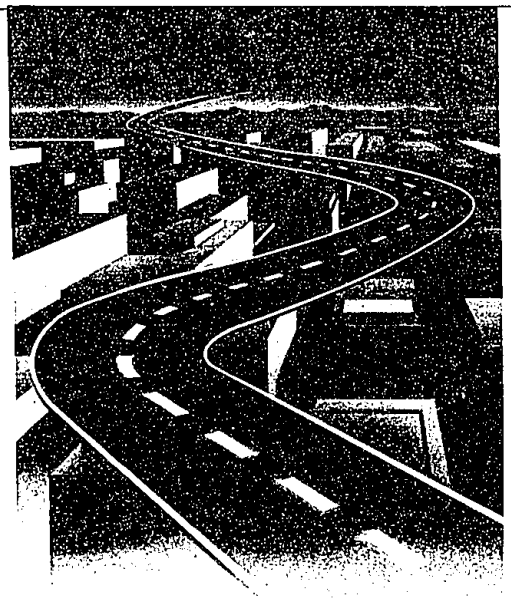

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