

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Junior golf results

Farmington Hills golfers Jennifer Borowice and Cassie Jemison failed to make the cut in the 31st Annual Independent Insurance Agent Junior Classic in Houston, Texas.

Borowice, who played at Farmington Hills Mercy High School, just missed by one stroke.

The field was trimmed to the top 21 girls and 63 boys after the second day. Borowice was tied for 22nd at 164 (84-80). Jemison, who will be a senior at Farmington Harrison, shot 186 (89-93).

Candice Kung of Fountain Valley, Calif., won her second consecutive Junior Classic with a four-day total of 284 (69-70-72-72). She was 14 strokes ahead of runner-up Erica Blasberg of Corona, Calif.

Matthew Rosenfeld of Plano, Texas, won the boys tournament by five strokes over Chris Noel of Tulsa, Okla. Rosenfeld shot 284.

Cobras have tryouts

Tryouts for the North Farmington-West Bloomfield Cobras travel baseball teams will be Saturday, Aug. 28, and Sunday, Aug. 29. Players should plan to attend both days.

Tryouts for the 13-, 12 and 10-year-old teams will take place at Pioneer Park (Farmington Road between 13 and 14 Mile roads).

The 13-year-olds will have tryouts 9:30-11:30 a.m. (Mel Borock, manager). 12-year-olds from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Alan Borsen, manager) and 10-year-olds 2:30-4:30 p.m. (Marc Berlin, manager).

Tryouts for the 15-, 14 and 16-year-old teams will take place at Founders Park, fields Nos. 7 and 8 (Eight Mile Road, two miles east of I-275).

The 15-year-olds will have tryouts 9-11 a.m. (Dan Petry, manager), 14-year-olds from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Chuck Pinkston, manager) and 16-year-olds 2-4 p.m. (Tony Agosta, manager).

Ages are determined as of July 31, 2000. Players are asked to arrive a half hour early to sign in. Players need to bring bats, mitts, helmets and cleats.

For more information call NFWB Travel Commissioner Mel Borock after 6 p.m. at (248) 788-0691.

Run Like The Wind

The Run Like The Wind 10k race is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 4, at Nankin Mills Picnic Area, Hines Park. The race start time is 9:30 a.m.

The pre-race entry fee is \$15 (before Aug. 25); the race-day fee is \$18. Trophies will be awarded to age-group winners. Medals go to second and third places.

The course is an accurate 10k (6.2 miles) with splits given at every mile. Results will be posted on runmichigan.com and in the Michigan Runner Magazine.

Proceeds from the race will go to The Michigan Running Foundation scholarship fund. For information call Chuck Block (248-478-3598) or e-mail runningfoundation@ameritech.net.

SoccerZone signup

SoccerZone is accepting walk-in and mail-in registrations for its first sessions of indoor soccer and inline hockey starting Wednesday, Aug. 25.

Soccer registration continues through Oct. 13. The session begins Oct. 21 and runs through Dec. 17. The team fee is \$750; the fee for individuals in need of a team is \$70.

Hockey registration continues through Sept. 26. The session begins Oct. 10 and runs through Dec. 11. The team fee is \$795 for youths and \$825 for adults.

For individuals the fee is \$75 for players who have played at SoccerZone previously and \$90 for those who have not.

For more information call SoccerZone at (248) 374-0500. SoccerZone is located at 41550 Grand River, Novi.

Hockey registration

The Men's Hockey League of Oak Park is looking for players to compete in an over-30, no-check league beginning with games on Sunday, Sept. 26.

Games will be played at Honey-baked Oak Park Arena. Anyone interested in playing is asked to contact the league staff before the rating session at (313) 871-7800 days and (248) 644-4469 evenings.

Golfers tee it up for '99 season

The 1999 high school boys golf season starts Monday with Farmington's three teams competing in the annual city tournament.

BY DAN O'MEARA
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After a summer of individual competition and a week of team practice, Farmington's high school golfers swing into action Monday in the annual city tournament.

North Farmington is the defending champion and could be in line for a repeat performance since it returns three of the top five golfers in last year's event.

The Raiders posted a 393 team score at Huron Meadows Golf Course in Brighton, which also will be the site for the Farmington Invitational Wednesday and a regional tournament, which the Farmington schools will host in October.

Farmington Harrison, which finished second in the city meet with 409 strokes, had the top finish among the Farmington teams in the invitational and the Western Lakes Activities Association meet at Hudson Mills Golf Course in Dexter.

The Hawks were fourth (420) and sixth (411), respectively; North was seventh in both. Farmington shot 419 in the city meet, placed eighth in the invite and was 11th in the league.

With a solid nucleus of returning players at each school, all three Farmington teams expect to be competitive this year and, if things go right, to possibly have an outstanding season.

Farmington Harrison

The Hawks boast two of the top players in Observerland in senior Brian Grohman and sophomore Matt Lee, who won the Junior Optimist state tournament this summer.

Grohman, who shot 77 in the conference meet and made the All-WLAA first team, averaged 40.6 strokes per nine-hole round. He carded an even 36 at Edgewood Country Club and an 80 in the 18-hole Oakland County tournament.

Lee averaged 39.8 for the equivalent of 24 nine-hole matches. He shot 76 in the city meet (second place), 81 in the invitational and 78 in the league meet, earning all-division honors. Lee also posted a team-low of 32 in the regional.

"The way Brian and Matt go will probably determine our fortunes," longtime Harrison coach Bill Spencer said. "I think they'll set the tone. If they handle their part of it, I've told the rest of the team

Please see GOLF PREVIEW, D2



All-Icogee golfer; Farmington Harrison senior Brian Grohman earned All-Western Lakes Activities Association honors and returns to lead the Hawks along with Matt Lee.

Shamrocks plan return to state meet

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
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BOYS GOLF

Detroit Catholic Central golf coach Bill Hayes is expecting a return trip to the Class A state meet with five starters back, including the top two.

Evan Currie, a first-team All-Obs-er-vo choice last year, returns as one of only two seniors on the roster. Joe Luna, who challenged Currie in most meets for the team's top score, is back for his junior year.

Each averaged 40.1 per nine holes and placed in the top 16 individually at the state meet in East Lansing where the Shamrocks finished 13th as a team.

The Shamrocks played second fiddle to Birmingham Brother Rice at both the Catholic League and regional meets and Hayes, in his second year, thinks they have a chance of unseating the Warriors.

Ryan Yost, a member of CC's Class A state championship hockey team, is the other senior returning starter.

"We started off real slow and gradually improved," Hayes said of his team that finished around .500 in dual meets. "We're going to be pretty tough this year and probably even better next year. I would say we're top 10 material, hopefully. We have four or five players that can shoot real well. Currie is just consistent. Luna may be a little more aggressive. Currie is more exact. Both

are going to be going head to head all year only one or two strokes less."

The Shamrocks, who play home meets at Cattelle's Golf Course in South Lyon, had more than 60 players come out for the team, including a large contingent among the freshman class. Hayes plans to keep nine on the varsity and 16 on the junior varsity.

The losses to graduation were Armond Samouelian, an all-league selection who had the Shamrocks' best

Please see CC, D3

Grid kickoff this week



Grid season starts; Farmington High's Matt Webb makes a point during practice at Hills. The first night football games in Farmington history will be played Friday. All the Observer-land teams will be featured in a special section Thursday.

Rice boasts veteran QB following '98 initiation

BY MARTY BUDNER
STAFF WRITER

FOOTBALL

Matt Baker will never forget his first varsity start on the Birmingham Brother Rice football team.

As an inexperienced sophomore, Baker was forced to play quarterback against arch-rival and nationally-ranked Redford Catholic Central in last season's third game. It was an unnerving experience, to say the least.

Baker started in place of senior Pat Craddock, who suffered an injury the previous week in a victory over Toledo St. John's that disabled him for three consecutive games. Enter Baker.

Rice and Baker proved to be no match for CC that afternoon at Birmingham Groves. Baker had neither the help nor the time to compete favorably against CC, which went on to register a 35-14 victory.

Baker, however, did lead Rice to victories in the next two games before Craddock returned.

Veteran Rice coach Al Fracassa hopes Baker again can produce those same kind of winning results as the

junior signal-caller takes over the position full-time this fall.

"This is Matt's team now," announced Fracassa. "His confidence is built up and I think he's ready to take over this team."

Baker attended Fracassa's and the University of Michigan's quarterback camps this summer. He is older, stronger and wiser and intends to lead Brother Rice to its 14th consecutive winning season.

"Matt was forced into that big game against Catholic Central. He was the only one we had and it was his first varsity start," said Fracassa, whose team finished with a formidable 7-2 overall record last year. "What a game to get blessed into the varsity."

"I think Matt did a good job for us last year. But he got frustrated early. When you have to play such an outstanding team like Catholic Central in

Please see WARRIORS, D3