

**FARMINGTON —
FARMINGTON HILLS
SPORTS
SCENE**
Tour America signup

The Amateur Tour of America, Michigan Section, is open for registration for its 10th season. The Amateur Tour offers fun, friendly golf competition in a professional tour-style environment.

All golfers, from scratch to 40-plus handicaps, are welcome to participate. Tour members compete in one of four flights, against players of similar ability, with as much as \$1,500 available in prize money at every regular tour event. The top individual prize is \$300.

New members are requested to submit scorecards from five, 18-hole rounds prior to the flight qualifying event April 28-29. New members with a current USGA handicap may forego the event.

Seven tour events will be held at championship courses throughout southeastern Michigan, from Ann Arbor to Romeo. The season runs May 12 to Aug. 5 with post-season play in September.

Membership fees are \$280 for men, \$260 for women and seniors, and \$150 for juniors. Members also must pay an entry fee (greens fees plus \$5) for each tournament event entered.

Those interested should call (800) 473-TOUR for further information and a registration form.

City softball signup

The City of Farmington Hills is accepting new adult team registrations for men's and coed softball.

Registration is based on a first-come, first-serve basis. Leagues will play one night per week.

For fees and nights of play, call the recreation department at (248) 473-9570. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rugby players sought

The Oakland Highlanders, a new rugby club in the Midwest and Michigan Rugby Football Union, is recruiting new members of all skill levels for the spring season.

The team consists of men 18-and-over. Experienced rugby players, as well as amateur athletes looking to explore a new sport, are welcome. The team competes against other clubs in the Midwest Territorial Union from Battle Creek, South Bend, Flint, Traverse City, Midland, Fort Wayne, Findlay, Toledo and Grand Rapids.

Players need not reside in Oakland County to join. For further information, call Matt Martello at (248) 307-0938.

YMCA swim sign-up

The Farmington Family YMCA is registering swimmers for its "Spring Tune-Up," a competitive swim program that runs Monday, April 2, through Friday, May 25.

The team is open to anyone between the ages of 5 and 18. Participants do not need to be YMCA members. Depending on ability, participants will swim either at the YMCA or local high schools.

For more information, call Cathy Warnick at (248) 553-0276 between 8:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Whitetails banquet

Livonia Whitetails Unlimited will hold its annual banquet on Saturday, March 31, at VFW Hall No. 3941 at 29177 West Seven Mile Rd. in Livonia. The social hour begins at 6:30 p.m., and the wild-game buffet starts at 7 p.m.

There will be door prizes, auctions and raffles. The tickets cost \$50 for an individual, and \$30 for spouses and children age 15 and under. All tickets, except spouse tickets, include WTU membership. The order deadline is Sunday, March 25. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

For tickets or information, please call Durwin Moisio at (248) 437-2670, or Gary Jones at (734) 466-8394.

Farmington ready to take next step



Unified squad starts 2nd season with win

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER
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Last year was a learning experience for the players on the Farmington Unified boys lacrosse team, which did reasonably well in its inaugural campaign.

In Year No. 2, they're hoping to build on last season and show marked improvement, especially with 24 players returning.

"We expect to have a very successful season, better than we had last year," coach John Fillion said, adding his team had a decent season. "But we actually want to take the championship this year, and I think we have the talent to do it."

"These guys are not afraid to work. We have strong players who demand a lot of themselves. They know they have to work hard to have a successful season, and they're willing to do it."

BOYS LACROSSE

Farmington, which opened the season Wednesday with a 17-1 win over Waterford, will compete in Division C of the Michigan Scholastic Lacrosse Association.

The divisional opponents are Rockford, Utica Eisenhower, Ypsilanti Lincoln, Tecumseh, Rochester, Romeo, Flint Powers, Huron Valley, Romulus and Auburn Hills Academics.

On offense, Farmington is led by senior attacker Brian Kozanecki, who netted 50-plus goals last year and was easily the team's leading scorer.

Kozanecki, who scored eight goals in the season opener and didn't play the fourth quarter, also serves as team captain with fellow seniors Ian Cole and Krishna Reid and junior Chris Kuclo.

Farmington is counting on Cole, junior Jason Close and sophomore Jeff Tosoian to carry some of the scoring load and take pressure off Kozanecki. Tosoian scored three goals and Close two Wednesday.

"We're demanding a lot of them, too, because we know people are going to key on Brian," Fillion said. "These guys have to pull their weight to make the season very successful."

"We have a very strong attack," he added. "These guys have been playing ball together for three years now. They should be able to surpass last year easily."

Most of Farmington's experience in terms of returning players, is in the midfield with 15 veteran team members.

Kuclo, sophomore Michael Hass and junior Matt

Please see LACROSSE, B4

Leading scorer: Senior Brian Kozanecki was Farmington Unified's leading scorer last year and could surpass his 50-plus-goal performance in the 2001 lacrosse season.

Ocelots stumble, tumble again in overtime loss

Now Schoolcraft College's men's basketball team knows what separates winners from losers at the NJCAA Division I Tournament.

With 13 seconds left in overtime, SC's Derrick Bird nailed two free throws to put the Ocelots ahead of Okaloosa-Walton (Fla.) CC, 98-93. Unfortunately for SC, the lead didn't last.

COLLEGE GAME

Demetrius King sank a three-pointer from the wing with 5.6 seconds left to tie it for Okaloosa. That was only part of the bad news for SC, Mike Peck's inbound pass was pilfered by Kedrick Brown at midcourt.

Brown took two dribbles and launched a 28-footer that went through as the buzzer sounded, giving Okaloosa a 99-96 victory in a consolation-round game played Thursday in Hutchinson, Kan.

The Ocelots finish their first-ever trip to the NJCAA Tournament with a 1-2 mark, both losses coming in overtime; they end their season with a 32-4

overall record, Okaloosa, 29-5 after the game advanced to Saturday's game for fifth place.

"We played some tough teams here," said SC coach Carlos Briggs. "It feels like we were snake-bitten. Their shots seemed to fall at the right times. On that three by King, we had a hand in

Please see OCELOTS, B4

Sorrows boys have much hoop success

Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows' fifth- and sixth-grade boys basketball team completed a highly successful season in which the Saints won three tournaments and compiled a 17-2 overall record.

Unlike neighboring Farmington Hills St. Fabian's seventh/eighth team, which won the Catholic Youth Organization citywide tournament, there is no such tournament for the younger boys.

Sorrows defeated Bloomfield Hills St. Hugo of the Hills to win its own Thanksgiving tournament and Livonia St. Michael for first place in the Catholic Central Christmas Classic.

BASKETBALL

The Saints finished the season March 11 by winning the Fred Zakolski Memorial Tournament at St. Anselm in Dearborn Heights with a 36-34 victory over Dearborn Heights St. Sebastian.

During the regular season, Sorrows went 8-2 and won the championship of the CYO West Suburban Division.

"It was really a team effort," Sorrows head coach Tom Nemes said. "There was a different hero every game."

"All the kids had fun and played really well together."

Please see SAINTS, B4



Successful Saints: The members of the Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows fifth- and sixth-grade basketball team are (front row, left to right) Scott Bachor, Vinny Iannarone, Andy Lentz, Jack Mazur, Nick Carroll, Kevin Rafferty, Matt Aubrey, (back row, left to right) coach Tom Nemes, Dane Selke, Craig Bergeron, Raffi Michael, Nick Martz, Pat Nemes, Joe Mitchell, Andy Jary, Nick Hammer and coach Bob Fowler.

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