

FARMINGTON —
FARMINGTON HILLS
SPORTS
SCENE

Hockey benefit golf

Farmington Schools' Hockey Boosters Club is hosting a golf outing Sun., Aug. 19 at the St. John's Golf and Conference Center on Five Mile Road in Plymouth.

Proceeds will be used to help offset the cost of participating in the pay to play hockey program. Farmington's unified team consists of players from the three high schools.

Cost for the outing is \$110/person, or \$400 per foursome and includes breakfast, golf, door prizes and dinner. A silent auction is also planned.

The Hockey Boosters are also accepting gift donations and hole sponsorships. Gifts may be monetary or in the form of a tournament prize. Sponsorships are \$50 per hole.

Call Robert Picard at (248) 640-0542 or Sue Patterson at (248) 553-8119 with questions.

Gymnasts take first

Level 7 gymnasts from the Sports Club of West Bloomfield took first place honors in the recent USAIGC Nationals in Florida.

The team consisted of Lindsey Chirio, Shayna Danto, Ashley Hagaman, Michelle Heller, Lauren Leland, April Meyers, Veronica Perera, and Lauren Tucker.

Chirio and Tucker, who each scored a 38.125, and Ashley Hagaman, who registered a 37.775, also advanced to the finals competition by finishing first in their age brackets.

The team took another first-place in physical abilities of strength and flexibility testings. It consisted of Chirio, Kacey Cummings, Allie Danto, Shayna Danto, Hagaman, Heller, Tucker and Kaitlyn Krause.

Chirio, Cummings, Shayna Danto and Tucker each made the national team.

National records were also set by Chirio, Shayna Danto and Heller.

The Level 7s are coached by Jeunae Norwood and Dean Smarjose.

The physical abilities team is coached by Carrie Smolanski.

Flag football tourney

Total Soccer of Wixom will hold a five-on-five flag football cash tournament 18 and 19 Sunday, July 15.

The first-place team will receive 50 percent of the registration fees. The cost is \$225 per team with a maximum of eight players.

The tournament must have a minimum of six teams and no more than 14. Flags are provided. For more information, call (248) 669-9817.

Mallory Golf Outing

The 11th Annual Mercey High School Mercey Mallory Golf Outing and Dinner will be Monday, Aug. 20, at Walnut Creek Country Club.

For information regarding fees and sponsorship opportunities, call Mercey High School at (248) 476-8820, ext. 255, or e-mail jhearc@mhshil.org.

Founders Fest sports

The annual Farmington Founders Festival softball tournament will be played July 21-22 at Founders Sports Park north of Eight Mile.

Entry fee for the men's double-elimination event is \$160, which includes the cost of softballs and umpires.

The winning team will receive a trophy and shirts. The MVP and team runnerup also get trophies. Teams must register by Friday, July 13, at the Costick Activities Center.

The Founders Festival tennis tournament is scheduled for July 20-22 at Farmington High School.

The age groups are 14-and-under junior boys and girls singles, 16-and-under boys and girls singles, adult singles, men's and women's doubles. Entry fees are \$10 for juniors, \$15 for teens, \$12 adults and \$20 doubles. Deadline is Friday, July 13.

The annual Founders Festival four-mile run starts at 9 a.m., Sat., July 21, at Shilohwasee Park.

Entry fee is \$15 before July 16 (no refunds) and \$20 on race day. The fee includes a T-shirt, which is not guaranteed to race-day registrants.

The overall male and female winners will receive trophies. Medals will be awarded to the top three in each age group.

Runners can register in advance at the recreation office, 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Checks should be payable to Farmington Hills Recreation Division.

The proceeds go to the Michigan Running Foundation Scholarship Fund.

For more information call the Farmington Hills Recreation Division at 473-1800.

St. Fabian's cops CYO crown

Falcons take
2nd softball
title in last 4

BY DAN O'MEARA
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With Dana Frantz doing the pitching, Farmington Hills St. Fabian steamrolled the competition during an outstanding softball season that culminated in it winning the Catholic Youth Organization title.

The Falcons reached the Archdiocese of Detroit's CYO final for the third time in four years and won their second city-wide championship.

St. Fabian's other title was won in 1998 with current North Farmington High School pitching star Beth Danielewicz on the mound for the Falcons, who were runner-up in 1999.

"I told the kids, as long they worked hard and took one game at a time, we were going to come out on top," St. Fabian coach Jeff Lawley said. "I would have been disappointed had we not won in the finals."

"I thought, with the personnel we had, especially the pitching, if we didn't win it, something was wrong. That's just how I felt."

"We had a goal to win it all, and I thought that was realistic. As the season went on, we were like a machine; we got stronger and stronger and more confident."

The Falcons were tough to beat with Frantz, who will attend Mercy High School in the fall, leading the way.

St. Fabian was 17-1 overall and won the CYO Metro Division that included Wayne St. Mary, Redford St. Robert, Bellarmine, Dearborn Heights St. Mel, Canton St. John Neumann and Northville Our Lady of Victory with a 9-1 record.

The team's only loss was to Neumann in the second game of the season.

4-2. St. Fabian later merited the Canton school in a rematch, 10-1 in five innings.

"I don't think our team was ready," Lawley said of the first Neumann game, adding he hadn't prepared his players for Neumann's bunting tactics.

"They were a good team; they were



Citywide champions: The members of St. Fabian's CYO championship softball team are (front row, left to right) Sarah DeBeliso, Monica Hayworth, Sarah Levett, Dana Frantz, Emily Nacy, Lindsay Lawley and Brittani Czarnecki; (middle row, left to right) assistant coach Dick DeBeliso, Alicia Rinke, Stephanie Lash, Kristen Lowe, Katie Farnick, Allison Hurt, Caitlin Hurley, Bridget Mulroy, Ellen Doty and Kati Blanchard; (back row, left to right) head coach Jeff Lawley and assistant coaches Steve Hayworth, John Czarnecki and Garth Frantz. Not pictured is Kathy Hass.

well coached. They knew how to punt, and we didn't know how to defend it very well."

"I felt bad. I thought 'How can you lose with a pitcher like Dana Frantz?'" But we never looked back. We kept improving the rest of the season."

Lawley added Frantz' father, Garth Frantz, a former baseball player at the University of Detroit-Mercy and an assistant coach, which was a tremendous help.

But the Falcons wouldn't have been nearly so successful without the exceptional pitching of Dana Frantz, according to Lawley.

"She's 5-foot-10, throws in the mid to upper 50s and has good control," he said. "There aren't too many kids who can hit her. No one can sustain a rally

Please See ST. FABIAN, D4

Legion Post 346 earns runnerup trophy

BASEBALL

It wasn't the one they wanted, but Coach Wally Christensen's American Legion Post 346 baseball team came home from Jackson with a trophy.

Post 346 lost to Allen Park, 6-5, Monday in the championship game of the Howard Horning Invitational in Jackson.

"We brought home the runnerup trophy," Christensen said. "It was a great tournament, a lot of fun and we had a lot of camaraderie."

Preston Picard hit a grand slam in the fourth inning to draw Post 346 to within a run at 6-5 but the team couldn't scratch out the tying run over the final three frames.

Allen Park, which ended with the same 4-1 mark for the tournament as Post 346, took a 1-0 lead in the second on an RBI single but doubles by Kyle Burcar and Brad Brown tied the score in the bottom of the inning.

Allen Park took a 3-1 lead in the third on a pair of walks and a single against losing starter Tony Luttman and added three more on just one hit in the fourth for a 6-1 lead.

A walk, an error, a single, a sacrifice bunt and another error accounted for the three Allen Park runs. Matt Zatkina

came on in relief and shut Allen Park down the rest of the way.

Zatkina and Brown walked in the fourth and Justin Gerwatowski singled to load the bases and set up Picard for his home run.

Post 346 advanced to the championship game Monday morning with an 8-inning, 6-5 victory over Hillsdale.

Brad Barenie doubled in the bottom of the eighth, was sacrificed to third by Gerwatowski and scored on a game-ending single by Luttman.

Bob Houchins gamely battled and staved Hillsdale off to earn the victory. He gave up two runs in the first, one unearned, another unearned run in the third, a run in the fourth and an unearned score in the sixth.

Burcar singled home a run in the first and scored a second run on Luttman's single. In the second, Zatkina was safe on an error, Brown and Brian Bosler both walked, then

two more came in when Barenie was hitting into a fielder's choice. That created a 3-3 tie.

Chris Chesney led off the third with a single, Houchins singled and Zatkina got an RBI single for a 4-3 Post 346 lead. After Hillsdale came back and just took the lead, Post 346 re-tied the score when Luttman singled, Chesney was hit by a pitch and Andy Brown singled to score Luttman.

Post 346 merited its first two opponents in the tournament on Saturday. It defeated Shelby, 10-2, on a five-hitter by John Waisanen. His teammates backed him with a 16-hit attack.

Gerwatowski went 3-for-4, scored twice and drove in two runs; Barenie went 2-for-4 and drove in three runs; Picard went 3-for-4 with two RBIs; Chesney scored twice in a 3-for-4 game; and Brown went 3-for-4 with two runs and an RBI.

In its afternoon game, Post 346 merited St. Mary's of Ohio, 11-2.

Houchins was the winning pitcher, allowing two runs on three hits and one of the runs he gave up was unearned.

Barenie drove in three runs to give him 20 for the season and went 2-for-3, Picard was 2-for-3, and Bosler drove in two runs in a 2-for-3 contest. Post 346 pounded out 11 hits.

It played Sunday morning and nipped Berkley, 6-5.

Luttman started and was replaced by Zatkina after giving up five runs on just one hit in the second inning. Zatkina pitched one-hit ball and struck out five the rest of the way to gain the victory.

Barenie opened the first with a walk for Post 346, stole second, took third on fly ball by Gerwatowski and scored on single by Picard, who later scored on a single by Burcar, who went 2-for-2 and was walked intentionally twice.

Burcar cut the margin to 5-3 in third with an RBI single after Chesney singled.

In the bottom of the seventh Picard walked and Chesney tripled for his third hit of the game. Zatkina was safe on a fielder's choice, Burcar walked intentionally for the second time, and Houchins smacked a two-run single to tie the score, 6-6.

Brown was then hit by a pitch to load the bases and Bosler was credited with the game-winning RBI when an error by the second baseman let in the winning run.

Post 346 returns to league play, where it is 6-0, Sunday with a double-header at noon at Milford.

Local team 2nd
at state Macker

Straight Shootaz, a basketball team comprised of high school sophomores from Farmington Hills, took second place, June 27 at the Gus Macker 3-on-3 state tournament in Gaylord.

Brad Stulberg and Greg Shumer are students at North Farmington High School, while Stephen Joe and Brandon Giles attend Harrison High School.

Coached by Lonnie Joe, Straight Shootaz finished 6-2, losing twice to the top-ranked team and eventual champion from Harbor Springs.

After a loss in its first game, Straight Shootaz worked its way out of the losers bracket and into the final by winning three straight games by close margins (four points or less).

In the championship round, Straight Shootaz went up against undefeated Harbor Springs again in the double-elimination tournament.

Straight Shootaz beat Harbor Springs in the first game, 16-9, to stay alive but fell short in the winner-take-all second game, 15-13.

Stulberg, Shumer, Joe and Giles, all of whom played basketball for their respective high schools last winter, still qualified to compete in the Gus Macker nationals in Florida this October.



Hoop team: The members of the Straight Shootaz basketball team are (left to right) Bradley Stulberg, Gregory Shumer, Stephen Joe and Brandon Giles — all of Farmington Hills. Straight Shootaz took second place in its age group in the Gus Macker state tournament.