

SPORTS ROUNDUP

U.S. SPIKERS AT PALACE
The U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team will play China's top-ranked Tianjin squad 7 p.m. Saturday, April 20, at the Palace of Auburn Hills.
Currently ranked fifth in the world, the U.S. women are coached by Toshio Yoshida.
Michigan natives on the U.S. squad include Erin Hartley, Midland and Michigan State, and Cathy Rommick, Sterling Heights.
Tickets are \$12.50 and \$19, now on sale at PalaceNet.com, the Palace Box Office and all TicketMaster centers. Tickets may also be charged by phone to American Express, Discover, Visa and MasterCard by calling (248) 646-6666.
Groups of 15 or more will receive a discount of \$4 off on \$19 tickets, or \$2.50 off on \$12.50 tickets. Groups can contact the Palace Group Sales at (248) 371-2055.

YOUTH BASEBALL TRYOUTS
• The Wayne Bulldogs, a 17- and 18-year-old baseball team, has two roster positions open. The team will play tournaments in West Virginia, Indiana, and western Michigan. For information, contact Eric Light at either elight17@aol.com or (734) 266-6290.
• The 13- and under Livonia Travel Bulldogs, members of the Little Caesars Amateur Baseball Federation, will have final tryouts for the 2002 season.
The Bulldogs will play a 40-45 game schedule, including league play and tournaments.
For more information, call Dave Schroeder at (734) 462-9467 or Gary Niemczek at (734) 464-8709.

LIVONIA BASEBALL SIGNUP
Openings for City of Livonia youth T-ball and coach-pitch baseball programs will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis from April 22 through May 3 at the Parks and Recreation office, located at 33000 Civic Center Drive.
The second-chance registration is for those who missed the March 1 deadline. There will be no waiting list.
You must reside in either the Livonia or Clarenceville school

districts to register. For more information, call (734) 466-2410.
LIVONIA SOFTBALL SIGNUP
Openings for the City of Livonia pitball, powderpuff and Class F girls softball program will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis April 29 through May 10 at the Parks and Recreation office, located at 33000 Civic Center Drive.
The second-chance deadline is for those who missed the March 28 deadline. There is no waiting list.
You must reside in either the Livonia or Clarenceville school districts to register. For more information, call (734) 466-2410.
ICE SKATING SHOW IN MAY
The Farmington Hills Figure Skating Club will have its Sixth Annual Ice Skating Show at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 17, and 4 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena at 35500 West Eight Mile Road.
One hundred young members of the figure skating club and the Learn to Skate Program ranging in age from 5 to 15 will perform synchronized and figure skating routines to the "Color Me Skating" theme.
For more information about the show, call the Farmington Hills Ice Arena at (248) 478-8800.

EMU YOUTH FOOTBALL CLINIC
The Eastern Michigan University football coaches will host a youth football clinic 1:30-4 p.m. Sunday, May 5, at Ryness Stadium in Ypsilanti for kids ages 8 to 14.
Each participant will receive a T-shirt, two tickets to the home opener against Toledo on Sept. 7 and a tour of the team locker room and weight room.
The cost is \$10 before April 15 and \$15 after that date. All groups or teams of 10 or more will be charged \$10 a person.
The coaches, including head coach Jeff Woodruff, will teach basic skills and techniques to become an improved player. For more information call (734) 487-5642.

FHIA REGISTERING PLAYERS
Farmington Hills Hockey Association is accepting registrations for new players for the 2002-2003 fall/winter season.

Registration forms are available at the information desk at Farmington Hills Ice Arena on Eight Mile Road. For more information call (248) 478-8193.
YMCA STINGRAYS SIGNUP
The Farmington Family YMCA Stingray swim team is registering swimmers for its "Spring Tune-Up," a competitive swim program that runs from Monday, April 8, through Friday, May 31.
Team participation is open to anyone between the ages of 6 and 18. Participants do not need to be YMCA members during the Spring Session only. Depending on ability, participants will swim either at the YMCA or local high school pools.
For more information, call Cathy Warnick at (248) 563-0276 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE
The Great Lakes Women's Soccer League is seeking players for the outdoor season, Sunday evenings, June through August, for 18-and-up competitive, 30-and-up competitive and recreational.
Teams or individuals, experienced or novice, are invited.
For more information, call (248) 624-7515 or fax (734) 207-1656, or visit www.GLWSL.com.

MEN'S BASEBALL LEAGUE
Players between the ages of 18 and 28 are needed for the new Men's Amateur Baseball League in southeast Michigan. Anyone interested in playing should contact Doug Zuba at 734-383-3402.

MS LONGEST DAY OF GOLF
The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is sponsoring the MS Longest Day of Golf throughout the month of May to raise awareness and funds to benefit the Michigan Chapter of the NMSS.
Participants are asked to organize a foursome, call the National MS Society at 1-800-FIGHT-MS or visit it online at www.nmssl.org; pick a course and a day in May; register, raise pledges and get ready to play golf all day.
The event will raise money for research, programs and services

for people living with MS, a chronic, often disabling disease of the central nervous system. For more information call Amber Ackley at (248) 350-0020, ext. 216.

HOLOWICKI HOOP CAMP
Bernie Holowicki's All-Star Basketball Camp, for boys and girls ages 8-15, will begin June 9 at Madonna University.
There will be three sessions of boys camps, the first at 9 a.m.-3 p.m. June 9-13; the second at 9 a.m.-3 p.m. June 14-18; and the third at 9 a.m.-3 p.m. June 19-23. The cost for each is \$150.
The girls basketball camp will be July 10-14 at Madonna. Cost is \$140.
The camps will feature contests and prizes, quality shirts for each participant, drills, camp awards, guest speakers, motivational and instructional videos, special games with the camp staff, a personal written evaluation, a camp championship tournament, and much more.
For further information or to register, call Bill Deyordian at (313) 937-0966 or Madonna University coach Bernie Holowicki at (734) 261-3346 (home) or (734) 432-5591 (Madonna).

PREF COACH NEEDED
Mercy High School is looking for an individual to serve as pom pom coach. For more information call the Mercy athletic office at (248) 476-2835.

S'CRAFT VOLLEYBALL CAMPS
Schoolcraft College will offer a series of summer volleyball camps, directed by Ocelot women's coach Tom Teeters, for players ages 8 through adult.
There will be two sessions for all skills, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 8-11 and July 15-18; spikers training, July 15-18; serving and defense training, July 8-11; setters training, July 15-18; and elite all skills, July 8-11.
The camps will be held at Schoolcraft's Physical Education Building, 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads.
The cost for beginners and intermediate players for each session is \$90 (\$85 for each additional family member or

groups of 10 or more).
A \$30 non-refundable deposit is required upon registration with full payment due on or before the first day of each session.
The cost for elite camps is \$125 (\$115 if registered by June 14, or for each additional family member or groups of 10 or more).
There is a \$10 discount for any additional session for beginners, intermediate or elite camp sessions.
For more information, call (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5564 or 5607.

S'CRAFT SOCCER SCHOOLS
Schoolcraft College will be offering a series of summer soccer schools for boys and girls ages 5-16, 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday, July 15-20, 22-27; July 29-Aug. 3; Aug. 5-10.
The staff is headed by Dominic Scicluna, head men's soccer coach at Schoolcraft, along with Mario and Tina Scicluna.
The cost for beginner and intermediate players is \$110 per session (\$100 for each additional family member or groups of 10 or more).
The fee for advanced players is \$135 per session (\$125 if registered by June 15 or for groups of 10 or more).
A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required per entrant with registration. Full payment is due on or before the first day of each session.
For more information, call (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5249 or 5255.

S'CRAFT GIRLS HOOP CAMPS
Schoolcraft College women's coach Karen Lafata and assistant Maria Christian will stage two sessions of summer girls basketball camps, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday, June 17-20 (grades 1-6); and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 29-Aug. 1 (grades 7-12).
The cost for grades 1-6 (half day) is \$75. The fee for grades 7-12 (full day) is \$115.
Schoolcraft is located at 18600 Haggerty, located between Six and Seven Mile roads just west of I-275 in Livonia.
For more information, call

(734) 462-4400, Ext. 5249.
BREAST CANCER FUNDRAISER
The Farmington Tennis Club will host a charity fundraiser 6-11 p.m. Saturday, April 27, for the benefit of the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade.
Two employees of the Farmington Tennis Club, Sally Delaney and Linda Suspek, are participating in the three-day Avon Breast Cancer Walk from Ann Arbor to Detroit May 31 to June 2.
More than 2,000 people will walk 60 miles to raise funds for breast cancer awareness and early detection. All of the proceeds raised at the April 27 event will go to the Breast Cancer Crusade.
Proceeds fund medical research and clinical care, a national financial assistance program for medically underserved women, advocacy training and community-based breast health programs.
The April 27 fundraiser will include tennis, food, silent auction, raffle and door prizes. Advance reservations are required.
Ticket prices are \$30 per person, \$50 per couple or \$20 per person without tennis. Checks made payable to Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day should be mailed with name, address and phone number to Breast Cancer Benefit, P.O. Box 510831, Livonia, MI 48151.
The tennis club is located at 22777 Farmington Rd., between Nine Mile and Grand River. For more information call DeLaney at (248) 478-3246.

CCC SPONSORS HOOP CAMP
The Oakland Community College women's basketball team will have a basketball camp for kids in the third through eighth grades 5-8 p.m. Monday, June 17, through Thursday, June 20, at the Highland Lakes Campus.
The cost of the camp is \$40 per person. Each camper will receive a T-shirt for attending the camp, which will be run by OCC women's head coach Mary Allen and assistant coach Christine Nordstrom.
For more information or to receive an entry form call (248) 942-3179 or (248) 942-3170.

The Observer & Eccentric GOLF DIRECTORY

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CITY OF LIVONIA GOLF DIVISION

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NO EQUIPMENT NECESSARY
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INTERMEDIATE GOLF LEAGUES
GOLF IN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT'S BEGINNER FRIENDLY, DESIGNED TO EDUCATE ON AND OFF THE COURSE
8 WEEKS OF GOLF W/CART
9 HOLES PER WEEK
COST IS \$129.00
SESSION 1: BEGINS MAY 6TH
SESSION 2: BEGINS JULY 8TH

AVAILABLE MONDAY - THURSDAY EVENINGS

FOX CREEK G.C. (248) 471-3400	WHISPERING WILLOWS (248) 476-4493	IDYL WYLD G.C. (734) 464-6325
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Buy One Round of Golf & Get Second Round FREE!
SAVE UP TO \$45
Valid for 9 or 18 holes. Walking and/or riding. Valid for open play anytime. Not valid with any other discount or special. Expires 5-15-02. MS

Chargers searching for boys hoop coach

By BRAD EMONS
Sports Writer
brad@home.com

The search is on for a new boys basketball coach at Livonia Churchill following the resignation last week of Rick Austin.
Austin, 36-8 in six seasons with the Chargers, will remain as the school's varsity boys coach.
Austin cited "family commitment" considerations for his resignation.
"I could foresee not being able to spend more time with my wife, my kids, and the kids on the basketball team, and it wouldn't be fair to either," Austin said. "That was my main motivation."
Churchill is coming off a 5-16 season in 2001-02. Austin's best year was 10-10 in 1999-2000.
"It wasn't losing that drove me out," Austin said. "I enjoyed the preparation that went into it, the game day, the practices, and watching kids develop. I had a ball doing it. I had supportive parents and the kids I had were great. I loved every minute of it."
"I also felt fortunate that I was in a situation that we were competitive most nights. Basically that's what coaching is all about. And watching skill and character development made it great fun for me."
Austin's successor is anybody's guess.
Junior varsity coach Rod Windle already coaches the Churchill varsity girls basketball team. Two potential candidates are assistants Matt Grodzicki, who coached the freshman squad, and Keith McDonald.
"We'll look immediately for a replacement," Churchill athletic director Mark Hage said. "Rick had a team meeting (Monday) with the kids and he told them

Please see AUSTIN, D7