



Players from the Northville Lightning soccer team had an opportunity to meet Shannon MacMillan, a member of the U.S. women's national team, at the Chevy Cup youth soccer tournament in Farmington Hills Oct. 12.

## Olympian promotes soccer at Chevy Cup

Shannon MacMillan of the U.S. women's national soccer team made a special appearance to promote the sport at the Fourth Annual Chevy Cup, a youth soccer tournament, Oct. 12 at Founders Sports Park in Farmington Hills.

MacMillan, who began playing youth soccer in California, is an Olympic gold and silver medalist with the U.S. team, a founding member of the Women's United Soccer

Association, a 1999 World Cup Champion and a current midfielder with the San Diego Spirit.

"Participation in the Chevy Cup tournament has doubled with more than 130 teams from all over Michigan," Michigan State Youth Soccer Association executive director Tom Farrow said.

"What makes the event so unique is it gives young players who would not otherwise have

the opportunity the experience and atmosphere of tournament-type play."

"The Chevy Cup in Michigan is not about winning or losing," said Brian Boyd, Chevrolet promotion manager. "It's about kids playing soccer and reaping the benefits that fun, team-oriented play, exercise and skills development can bring."

Chevrolet has been a sponsor of the Michigan Youth Soccer Association (MYSA) as part of a

U.S. Youth Soccer marketing partnership intended to enhance soccer opportunities for more than three million youth soccer players since 1997.

## Wisniewski back on ice for Whalers, aids in win

It was a moment James Wisniewski was anxiously waiting for, and when it arrived, he made the most of it.

Wisniewski, the Canton HS graduate and Plymouth Whalers veteran, returned to the ice Friday in a home game against the Windsor Spitfires after spending four months rehabilitating his knee, which he injured at the World Junior Tournament last spring. Just 8:04 into the game, Wisniewski — a defenseman — knocked in a shot to get the Whalers rolling toward a 4-1 victory.

Plymouth followed that with a 4-4 tie Saturday against the Saginaw Spirit in Saginaw.

Wisniewski's goal, with assists from Chad LaRose and Ryan Ramsay, was the only score of the first period. Windsor got the only goal of the second from Kyle Wellwood, leaving the game tied entering the third period.

John Mitchell's goal 1:05 into the third broke the tie (assisted by Jonas Fiedler), giving the Whalers a 2-1 lead. LaRose's power-play goal 5:23 into the third (from Fiedler and Stewart) increased their lead to 3-1, and with 2:46 remaining, John Vigilante's short-handed goal (from Brent Mahon) ice the victory.

The Whalers were 1-of-9 on the power play, while Windsor failed to convert on three chances.

On Saturday in Saginaw, the power play for both teams was clicking. Plymouth never trailed

in the game. Tim Sestito and Mitchell both scored in the first period, Mitchell — who had three points in the game — assisting on Sestito's at 6:23, then scoring on the power play at 10:04, with assists from Vigilante and Nate Kiser.

Saginaw stormed back to tie it at 2-all with second-period goals by Chris Thorburn and Josh Tatar, but the Whalers recaptured the lead at 11:27 with a goal by Vigilante (Mitchell assisting).

Both teams scored again on the power play before the second period was over, Thorburn tying it for Saginaw at 15:14 and the Whalers recapturing the lead with a score from LaRose at 17:31 (from Martin Cizek and Cole Jarrett).

But the Spirit had one more power-play goal left, and Geoff Platt scored it at 11:05 of the third period. The Whalers were 2-for-4 with the extra man; Saginaw was 3-for-6.

The win and tie left the Whalers in second place in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division with a 6-3-1-0 record (13 points), trailing Sarnia's 8-2-1-1 (18 points). Windsor is third at 6-7-0-0 (12 points) and Saginaw is fourth at 4-3-1-2 (11 points).

The Whalers have a busy weekend ahead, hosting the Belleville Bulls Friday and Sudbury Wolves Saturday. Both games start at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, they travel to Owen Sound to take on the Attack.

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