



Sidelines

Tate finishes 3rd

Farmington Harrison senior Fermon Tate finished third in the boys 400-meter dash with a time of 49.65 seconds in the Midwest Meet of Champions June 14 at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio. Dan Bailey of Ohio won the race in 48.42. The Michigan girls captured the team title with 164 points followed by Indiana with 146 and Ohio with 144. Ohio captured the boys team title with 179.5 points followed by Indiana with 146 and Michigan with 131.5. Plymouth Salem's Justin Hajduk took sixth in the 1600 run in 4:25.85. Indiana's Sean Bowman finished first in 4:17.27.

AAU hoop hopeful

The 10-and-under Michigan Monarchs girls basketball team will compete in the Amateur Athletic Union national tournament June 26 to July 4 in Orlando, Fla. The Monarchs won the state championship May 3-5 at Oakland University. Their overall record is 35-2. They are one of two teams that will represent Michigan in the 10-and-under division. The team of fifth graders was undefeated in the double-elimination, state tournament and usually pulled away from the competition in the second half. Throughout the season we worked hard on both offense and defense," coach Raymond Booker said. "Our tough defense in tournaments created opportunities for the team to score, and that has proven to be the winning edge for our team." Seven of the 12 girls are from Farmington Hills - Melissa Nordhoff, Blanca Varoski, Chelsea Gaddis, Samantha Lindsay, Lyndsey Booker, Chelsea Moore and Jenna Bachrouche. The others are Elizabeth Siepler, Troy Randolph Thomas, Sterling Heights; Anelisha Bussey, Southfield; Linden McCachern, Berkley; and Danyelle Terry, Westland.

Caddies sought

The Ford Senior Players Championship golf tournament is looking for caddies to work its upcoming event, scheduled for July 7-13 at the IPC of Dearborn. Caddies must be at least 16 years of age, have knowledge of the game and its etiquette and prior experience if possible. Compensation includes at least \$30 and lunch, both provided by the tournament. For additional information, contact Jessica Bancroft at (313) 441-0300 or e-mail her at jlbancroft@pcgolourq.com.

Heart of Hills run

The annual Heart of the Hills 5k/10k road race is scheduled for July 26 and will be held at Bloomfield Hills Andover High School. The start time is 8 a.m. All runners are requested to register at the Total Runner stores or log onto bloomfieldoptimists.org and click on events. The race is sponsored by the Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club. For more information, call Total Runner at (248) 354-1177.

Bucks battle underdog status in Cup appearance

BY C.J. RISKAS
STAFF WRITER

For a soccer team like the Mid-Michigan Bucks, it couldn't get much better than this. First, the Bucks get into the biggest

open soccer tournament in the country - the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, the oldest cup competition in U.S. soccer, dating back to 1914.

To do so as a Premier Development League (or Division IV) team, they can't lose any of their first four matches; only

six of 51 PDL teams qualify. The Bucks do it, going 3-0-1 in that qualifying stretch. Next, the Bucks send in their bid to host a match in a tournament that has nothing to do with the standings in the PDL or Mid-Michigan's Great Lakes Division.

Their eventual reply is better than anyone could anticipate: The Bucks haven't just qualified for the nation's biggest open tournament, they draw a first-round bye and they host the Long Island

PLEASE SEE SOCCER, B2

Runchey is area's top golf coach

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Jack Runchey's resume includes eight years as head football coach at Rochester Adams, seven as the school's athletic director and another 19 as an English teacher.

And for each of the past two springs, he has led the Adams girls golf team to inspired performances and identical records of 8-2 in Oakland Activities Association Division 1 dual meets.

But this season's coaching performance was additionally inspiring, enough to earn him honors as 2002 Observer & Eccentric All-Area Girls Golf Coach of the Year.

Runchey, 54, missed the start of the year because he needed an emergency appendectomy. But with his direction, along with that of junior varsity coach Theresa Rizzo and top seniors, the Highlanders did not use the coach's absence as an excuse. The team, during the span their coach was hospitalized, defeated Clarkston in a dual meet and placed fifth at the highly competitive Oakland County tournament.

"I give full credit to seniors Amanda Dury and Ashley Thomas," said Runchey, "who really motivated and really held the team together that week."

The Highlanders continued to excel after Runchey returned to the team, and finished ninth at the state Division 1 final.

"We're the only town in Michigan that had two schools place at the states two years in a row," said Runchey, referring to Adams and Rochester, the latter finishing fourth at the state tourney.

Reasons for such successes are the wealth of excellent golf courses, junior programs and talented, motivated young golfers in the two communities, Runchey said.

But it was the team's five-under par performance at the Athens Invitational

PLEASE SEE RUNCHEY, B2



JIM JACOBELLO / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mery's Sam Talbot earned a place on the 15-player Observer & Eccentric all-area golf first team with teammate Christina Cibrario and Farmington Unified's Andrea Mazanka.

Farmington trio among area's best

Standout golfers earn recognition

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

A growing plethora of outstanding girls golfers in Oakland County made the task more difficult than ever for a panel of coaches to select the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' 2002 All-Area Girls Golf Team.

Whereas the 2002 team featured 12 golfers, this spring's expanded version includes 15 - with six returnees from a year ago. That is an indication of the continued dedication and consistency of the athletes.

The coaches focused on how well girls competed at key tournaments, including league, county and state tourneys.

Once again, the Rochester Falcons dominate the squad, with four first-teamers and another on the honorable mention list. The Falcons placed fourth at the Division 1 state final with a combined team score of 686.

Other area teams who did well at the state final included Rochester Adams (ninth at the D-1 state final), Farmington Hills Mercy (10th at the D-1 state final) and Cranbrook Kingswood, the third place team at the D-3 state final with 699 strokes. All three of those teams have two representatives on the All-Area first team.

Following is a brief profile of each first-team golfer. **MEGAN CARTER, Bloomfield Hills Lakeside:** The sophomore picked up where she left off as a freshman, leading the Knights with a 43.3 average per nine holes (her 2002 average).

Carter also medaled at the county, OAA Division 1 and Eccentric tournaments and sparked her team to a second-place finish at the Troy Athens Invitational.

Her season highlight, according to coach Jan Luedtke, was scoring a low round of 79 to collect a medal at the Bald Mountain regional.

"A second trip to states gave Megan some valuable

ALL-AREA

PLEASE SEE ALL-AREA, B4

Bulldogs outscore pair of opponents

When a team gives up 19 goals in two hockey games, the hope for success is normally slim. When a team scores 23 goals in two games, it's a good bet that team will win both.

In two nights of play in the Metro Summer Hockey League last week at Farmington Hills' Suburban Training Center, the Bulldogs did both of the above - and came away with a couple of two-goal victories.

On Wednesday against the Huskies, Brandon Scero (from Canton) collected four goals and four assists to lift the 'Dogs to a 15-13 triumph.

The previous night, Scero poured in four more goals to boost the

PLEASE SEE HOCKEY, B2



Jeff Petry, freshman at Orchard Lake St. Mary's, signs baseballs after the Eagles won the Division 2 state championship.



Birmingham Brother Rice's Matt Petry (left) walks to the dugout after throwing with his father, Warriors assistant coach Dan Petry (right), before the Division 1 state championship game.

Baseball family tree branches out

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

The relationship between baseball and the Dan Petry family of Farmington Hills is taking on a new dimension.

One of the former Detroit Tiger's sons

just pitched his last game for Birmingham Brother Rice - a disappointing loss June 14 in the Division 1 state final - but another son is just getting started with his prep career.

Interestingly, younger son Jeff isn't going to Brother Rice like his brother,

Matt, did. After visiting the stately, pristine campus of Orchard Lake St. Mary's, Jeff decided to become an Eagle instead.

Jeff joined the St. Mary's varsity team just in time for the postseason run that

PLEASE SEE PETRYS, B2



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