

MONDAY, JUNE 27, 1994

SPORTS

C

Area all-stars guide East victory



The East, led by three pitchers from Observerland, defeated the West 4-1 in the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game at Tiger Stadium.

By BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Norm Hoenes felt like Sparky Anderson for a day.

The Westland John Glenn coach was the manager of the victorious East team in the 13th annual Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game at Tiger Stadium.

Observerland pitchers Bryan Besco (John Glenn), Dave Susalla (Redford Catholic Central) and Mike Marsella (Plymouth Salem) each threw two scoreless innings as the East beat the West, 4-1.

Brian Kalczynski of Farmington, the shortstop on the Class A champion Birmingham Brother Rice team, also played for the East squad but was hitless in two trips to the plate.

Hoenes, who led Glenn to a 27-4 record this year, plans to be back next year for his 29th season with the Rockets.

"Everybody gave us two nice innings and it just worked out that way," said Hoenes, who skipped the East squad from the Tiger dugout. "We decided to give Bryan (Besco) the start, give him a couple of at-bats and let him leave early because he had to be

back in Battle Creek for a tourney. "All of our pitchers had decent control and we made all the plays on defense. Everyone looked so smooth."

Besco was the winning pitcher. That makes him 11-1 this season in high school games.

The lefty, headed to University of Michigan along with his twin brother Derek, gave up a pair of hits, including a first-inning double to Kevin Kernen of Holly.

Kernen, however, was thrown out at third trying to take the extra base. "It's a great opportunity to start . . . I love that," said Besco, who hadn't thrown since Glenn was ousted in the regional on June 11. "I felt good even though my back was a little sore."

"I was nervous because I knew I was playing against the best players in the state. The five, six, seven, eight and nine batters are just as good as

the first four." Besco, who participated in a tryout camp last year with his brother at Tiger Stadium, knew what to expect. It also helped that Hoenes was nearby.

"It makes it a lot more comfortable having someone to talk to," Bryan said. "And the mound is great to pitch on. You can't go wrong."

Marsella pitched the fifth and sixth innings after Susalla held the West scoreless in the third and fourth. "I felt good," said Marsella, a smooth-shooting right-hander who is still up in the air about his college choice. "I used a fastball, a curve and a split-finger."

"The mound is a little lower than Salem's, but a hole doesn't develop when you step down. I guess it's better dirt they use."

See ALL-STARs, 2C

Alviar is All-American

Redford Catholic Central senior lacrosse goalkeeper Alex Alviar of Farmington has been named a high school All-American, according to CC coach Jim Ryan.

Alviar is one of five CC seniors who were named first team all-state. The others are midfielders Rob Gos and Jeff Lachapelle, defender Jon Wolfe and attacker Matt Griffin.

Senior midfielder Jon Heady was named second team all-state and junior midfielder Gary Galvin was honorable mention.

Alviar guided the Shamrocks to the state championship in 1993 before losing to Detroit Country Day. CC finished the 1994 season with a 14-4 record, losing in the state semifinal to Warren DeLaSalle.

Ryan estimated Alviar's three-year record as a starter was 40-9, including victories against eventual state-champion teams during the regular season.

"His record speaks for itself," Ryan said. Alviar will attend Michigan State University but isn't sure yet about playing lacrosse, according to Ryan.

"I've discussed playing lacrosse with him but I wouldn't be disappointed at all (if he doesn't play)," Ryan said. "He's played lacrosse since grade school (at Our Lady of Sorrows) and aside from academics, his life has revolved around lacrosse. He has interest in art and design. It's a very mature decision."

Michigan Amateur golf

Greg Stefan of Farmington Hills was still alive Saturday in the 83rd Michigan Amateur Golf Championship at Egypt Valley Country Club in Ada.

Stefan won his first-round match 8-and-7 over Mike Schwendemann of Hartland on Thursday morning and his second later the same day 2-and-1 over David Price of Muskegon.

Stefan was to have played Tom Werkmeister of Wyoming in a Sweet 16 match Friday, but that round was postponed to Saturday because of rain. Jason Buhay, the former Farmington High School all-star, won his first test in match play 1-up over Scott Erickson of Marquette but lost his second to Dan Roberts of Ypsilanti 6-and-4.

Hole-in-one for Bennett

Jim Bennett of Farmington Hills scored his first hole-in-one ever recently at Crystal Mountain Resort in Thompsonville.

A golfer for seven years, Bennett nipped the 135-yard No. 3 hole on the Mountain Ridge course, using an eight iron. Golfing partners Ron Hagen, Ken Hooten and Ray Hughes witnessed the shot.

Mercy/Mallon golf outing

Farmington Hills Mercy High School will have its Fourth Annual Meg Mallon Golf Outing on Monday, July 25, at Edgewood Country Club in Commerce Township.

The \$225 cost includes continental breakfast, 18 holes of golf (scramble) with morning or afternoon tee times, buffet lunch, full reception and tribute dinner. The cost is \$76 for dinner only.

Tea sponsorships are available for \$1,500 (four tickets) and \$750 (two tickets). All proceeds will directly benefit the educational programs at Mercy. For information and reservations call 810-476-8922.

Sox have perfect season

The South Farmington Sox finished the baseball season with a 14-0 record in the Bronco Division (ages 11-12), averaging 16 runs per game while allowing only five.

The strong pitching of Grant Weber, Joe Kremer, Zach Green and Nick Crespo was instrumental in the team's success.

Other team members are Kyle Bureac, Dan Carlson, Ted Grabarczyk, Ray Gillis, Carl Hinhern, Mike Huffman, Sam Kremer, Tony Stansaj and Troy Sropo.

The Sox are managed by Ron Weber and Mike Kremer. The assistant coaches are Ruben Crespo, Bob Green and Doug Szopo.

Finesse 4th at Smyrna

The 16-and-under Finesse girls softball team was fourth June 18-19 in a USSSA national tournament in Smyrna, Tenn.

Finesse, the only northern team in the field, opened with a 14-1 rout of the Memphis Bluegrass Babes but lost to the Louisville Grayhaws 13-9.

Finesse remained in contention with a 12-3 win over the Louisville Travelers as Cassie Entaminger (Ladywood), Diana Dickow (Harrison) and Sarah Best (Salem) had two hits and scored two runs each. The Atlanta Rat Daddy's eliminated Finesse 10-7.

Other area members of the Finesse team are Jenny Bauer and Colleen Wutke, Garden City; Randi Wolfe, Katy Duncan and Jackie Bayless John Glenn; Dina Aon, Farmington; Keili Knight, Salem; and Kelly McDonald, Thurston.

Head Coach of Farmington Hills Mercy High School was named to the all-tournament team June 19 while playing for the 16-and-under Mid-America Mustangs in an NIT near Charlotte, N.C. The Mustangs were second.

To submit items for the Observer Sports Scene, write to Dan O'Neara, 38251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, 48150, or send via fax to (313) 591-7279.

Post 346 trounces Phillies

Dale Domas of Farmington was the big hitter Wednesday as Farmington Post 346 merced the host Shelby Phillies 12-0 in American Legion baseball.

Domas was 4-for-4 with a pair of triples as the team improved its season record to 6-1. Domas also scored a run — he was left stranded the other three times — and had an RBI.

Jake Lawson was the winning pitcher, allowing only one hit — a squib single that got through the left side. He struck out seven and walked three, and the Phillies hit only one ball out of the infield.

Bryon Groom's two hits included a three-run double. Matt Woolf and Jeff Rospierski had two hits and two RBI apiece, and Joe Pesci and Ed Kennedy had run-scoring doubles.

John Wroe added an RBI with a sacrifice fly. Groom also scored three runs. Lawson and Rospierski took each.

COBRAS NOTCH WIN
The North Farmington-West Bloomfield Cobras are still undefeated against 13-year-old competition following a 19-4 thumping of Northville in the Michigan Baseball Federation.

NPWB pitcher Dave Lusky, who started and worked three innings; Marc Boggo; and Sean Quay combined to limit Northville to five hits.

Mike Sopo sparked the offense with a two-run double, and Adam Paslo had four hits, including a towering triple.

Boggo and Jason Melvin had three singles each. Mike Gleeson, Lusky, Jim Miller and Quay added two hits apiece.

The Cobras anticipate an invitation to participate in the tournament to determine the state champion. The winner will go to the Continental Federation Baseball World Series.

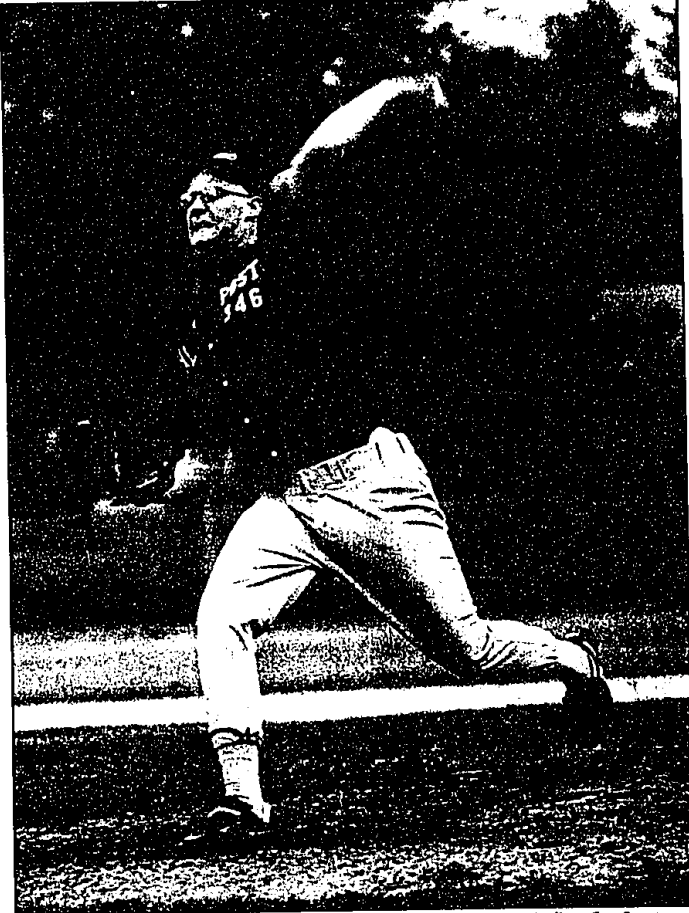
COBRAS EVEN RECORD
The North Farmington-West Bloomfield Cobras Mickey Mendle team put its record at 5-0 last week with a pair of victories.

The Cobras (3-3) defeated Dearborn 10-2 on Tuesday as Brian Holzshimer pitched a two-hit, complete game. He struck out 11 and walked two.

Adam Smerecki, Aaron Lawson and Pat Curran keyed a big fifth inning with RBI triples.

That game followed a 6-5 win over Ann Arbor on Monday as Matt Sullivan went the distance on the mound.

Eric Piers's two-run single in the top of the seventh inning drove in the winning runs, and Curran knocked in two runs with a triple.



Brief appearance: Mike Samolin pitched only one inning Thursday for Post 346, but there was nothing wrong with his pitching. The visiting Waterford team had to forfeit after one at-bat since it couldn't field a full team.

Michigan Mile scratched from DRC lineup

Ladbroke DRC is canceling the famed \$250,000 Michigan Mile Handicap horse race, which was scheduled for Saturday, July 16, due to significant attendance and handle losses as a result of the opening of the Windsor Casino in Ontario, Canada.

That announcement was made last week by William J. Bork, executive vice president, Ladbroke DRC in Livonia.

Since the casino opened May 17, attendance at Ladbroke DRC has declined more than 18 percent while handle, the total amount wagered, has dropped nearly 9 percent compared to last year's comparable dates.

The state's entire horse racing industry is in jeopardy as a result of the tracks' inability to compete, Bork said. Smaller track purses and closures of tracks mean less money for horse owners to run their farming operations and pay suppliers, and decreased funds for various 4-H, county fair and agricultural programs, he said.

It is estimated that more than 40,000 jobs and millions in state tax revenue to fund 4-H programs, county fairs and agriculture in Michigan will dis-

HORSE RACING

appear should horse racing no longer exist.

Michigan track owners, employees, vendors and horsemen organizations have banded together in an effort to save racing by introducing legislation allowing tracks to compete with casinos and other entertainment options.

The decision to cancel this year's Michigan Mile will help to protect the "overnight purse" structure for DRC's horse owners. Horse track purses are divided into two main categories: overnight and the set aside for stakes purses, which go toward special stakes races such as the Michigan Mile.

"The substantial attendance and handle losses we've experienced since the opening of the Windsor Casino is depleting money from our existing purse pool," Bork said. "We cannot support a race of the magnitude of the Michigan Mile without seriously harming our overnight purses and, therefore, the races for the rest of the year."

The Michigan Mile, a Grade II event for 3-year-

old horses and upward going one and one-eighth miles, began as a \$7,500 turf race in 1949 and has been run at DRC every year since that time. The race is the only one like it in the state and is simulcast around the country to more than 30 outlets.

The Michigan Mile's Grade II signifies the high caliber of horses that compete each year, second only to a Grade I race such as the Kentucky Derby. If Ladbroke were to reduce the amount for the Michigan Mile, the quality of the money for the race and its grade designation would drop, according to Bork.

"While the Michigan Mile has been an extremely prestigious event for us, the fact is we would weaken our everyday purses substantially for one major event," Bork said. "We felt by continuing to support our everyday races, we are supporting more horses and its grade designation would drop, according to Bork."

"The Michigan Division of the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) has indicated its support of the action based on Ladbroke's assessment of the situation.