

## Camp in progress

# Orchard Lake impresses Pistons

By BRAD EMONS

The campus of Orchard Lake St. Mary's sits in a quiet suburban area where trees grow abundantly and bodies of water sparkle in the sun.

The campus has not yet been invaded by the noise of the inner city, and thus, it has been a retreat of sorts.

Basketball has recently been considered primarily a city game. But once in awhile professional cage teams must get away from it all to find the right talent. The Detroit Pistons, beginning last Wednesday, welcomed 27 rookies and free agents for a three-day tryout camp.

St. Mary's seemed to be the perfect place to showcase such players as Terry Tyler, John Long, Lindsay Hairston, Kevin Kaseta and Bob Chapman, just to name a few local notables.

"It was our desire to have the camp in a local area where the fans could come out and see us," said Piston General Manager Bob Kauffman.

The three-day camp drew an estimated 4,000 fans for the night scrimmages.

"We had a great turnout and I think there is a base of fan support in this area," said the former NBA all-star.

The Pistons' management opened the morning sessions, devoted to drills and tests, to area junior high, high school and college coaches.

THE EVENING sessions were open to public free of charge. During breaks in the scrimmages, Piston fans were eligible for door prizes in a lottery drawing.

"The facility here is excellent and everybody connected with St. Mary's have been very helpful," said Kauffman.

"Bob Shoemaker has been a gracious host," said Kauffman, referring to the Eagles' athletic director and head basketball coach.

Kauffman said the Pistons will return to their regular season camp in Ann Arbor this year. He said Crisler Arena, where the University of Michigan plays its games, is a bigger facility and fills their needs.

"The basketball floor at St. Mary's is very nice even though it's a little shorter than an NBA regulation size court," Kauffman said.

"We may want to use this facility in the near future to practice besides hosting the free agent camp when we decide to have one."

Last year, the Pistons did not hold a free agent-rookie camp. Out of the 27 players trying out, eight will be invited back for the Ann Arbor camp in September, Kauffman noted.

During the three-day stay, players are housed and fed by the school. The participants eat four meals a day and live in the prep school's dormitory, where each player lives in a single room.

"The Pistons pay a fee for lodging, food and the use of Dombrowski Fieldhouse," said Shoemaker.

"THROUGH DICK Vitale's association with myself and Tim Donke, we were able to hold the camp here," Shoemaker said.

"Dick Vitale's staff came to us," he said. "Tim and I have been associated with Dick at our camps."

Players who make it to the camp are a select few invited by the Detroit staff.

"The players pay their way to get here," said Kauffman, "and we get hundreds of calls and letters from people wanting to try out."

The staff then narrows down a list of persons to invite.

The rigorous day of practices began at 9 a.m. with a three-hour break in

the afternoon. The scrimmages started at 6 p.m. with some players going through two games. The 27 players were divided into four teams for the scrimmages.

Among the hopefuls donning Piston practice jerseys last week at Dombrowski Fieldhouse were former college stars Andre McCarty, UCLA; Audie Matthews, Illinois; Ulice Payne, Marquette; Glenn Williams, St. Johns; Dennis Boyd, Detroit; Essie Hollis, St. Bonaventure; Bubbles Hawkins, Illinois State; Skip Brown, Wake Forest; Jerry Schellberg, Wake Forest; Owen Wells, Detroit; and Steve Hayes, Idaho State.

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The Detroit Pistons free agents and rookies go through morning drills at Dombrowski Fieldhouse on the Orchard Lake St. Mary campus. (Photo by Charlie Kidd)

## In The Pocket

By W.W. EDGAR

It's official now. The women bowlers from the Detroit area made a shambles of the women's state tournament that ended last week in Kalamazoo.

When the final tabulations were announced over the weekend, the Detroit contingent had won five of the main prizes and will gain the major chunk of the prize money.

The Firebird Lounge team, listed as coming from Pontiac but comprised almost entirely of Detroit women who bowl in the area major leagues, won the team event—both actual and handicapped—with scores of 3147 and 3303.

The other champions included Livonia Brown and Mary Kilgore in the doubles with a 1242, Mary Wilson in the handicap all events with 2119 and Terry Grant in the actual all events with a count of 1872.

THE MEN ARE SENDING the pins flying at Westland Bowl, and it is the best summer scoring they have ever had.

A week ago, Roger St. Louis posted

a perfect game and followed with a 234 for 692. Right behind him came Bob Albright with a 233 and a 232 in 667.

Then this week, John Wodarski rolled the summer season high of 740 gained on games of 256, 256 and 228. His nearest rival was Rick Capaldi with a 681 that included games of 218, 246 and 210.

On the women's side, Marion Saunders had a 198 and a 214 in 584. This gave her a five-pin margin over Jean Essa, who had games of 199 and 196 in 579.

THE WOMEN also had a great time at Woodland Lanes where Marge Slida showed the way with a 522. Bowling with a 148 average, she turned in games of 164, 171 and 187.

Sandi Yuhn, a 140-average bowler, was the only other one to go over 500. She started with a 172, followed with a 180 and closed with 151 for 504.

Others who did well with their averages were Connie Lacco, a 130-average pin splitter who rolled games of 156, 164 and 152 for 472, and Kathy

Kranning, a 107-bowler who hit counts of 119, 135 and 159 for 413.

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