

Baseball star aids victory

By MARTY BUDNER

Like American's pioneers, Tom Dieters went out West and found gold and glory.

Rochester's native son was a member of the winning Midwest baseball team which participated at the recent National Sports Festival held in Colorado. Instead of the customary metal trophies, Dieters was awarded something more precious—a gold medal.

It was a moment he'll always cherish, he says. "After we won the final game against the South, we all lined up on the field lines and they gave us our medals," said Dieters. "Besides just being there, winning the gold medal was probably the best part of the whole thing."

Dieters was one of 2,165 athletes from across the country who participated in the nationally acclaimed, four-day Sports Festival. Competition was conducted in what many believe was a tremendously successful "mini-Olympics" between four different sections of the country—the South, East, West and Midwest. Joseph Cooper, vice-president of the American Amateur Baseball Congress (AABC), headed the committee which selected the Midwestern baseball representatives. The gold medal winning team was composed entirely of players from Michigan and Ohio.

Other Oakland County players besides Dieters

who participated were Jeff Maher (Bloomfield Hills), Tim Scheerer (Birmingham) and Buster Sunde (Madison Heights). The squad was managed by Flint's Walter Head.

THE MIDWEST lost its very first game to the South 16-7, but rebounded in the round-robin type tournament to beat the East (6-5) and the West (4-2). The pair of wins earned the Midwest a rematch with the South for the gold medal.

The South, which hadn't lost a game up until the finals, was favored to win. However, with the score tied a one-all, Dieters was the hero as he knocked in the game-winning and tie-breaking run with a sixth-inning sacrifice fly. In the brief tourney Dieters played second base and batted 333. The 17-year-old Rochester High School senior had four hits in 12 at-bats, including three runs batted in.

"They (South) had the bases loaded in the last inning, and someone lined a ball that hit a runner going from first to second for the last out, otherwise they would

have won it," said Dieters, who played shortstop all last year for the conference-winning Rochester Falcons.

"We (the Midwest) never practiced together before the festival, and the first time we met was at the airport," he said. "During the first two days that we were in Colorado we got together to see what we could do."

"Everyone was saying before the tournament that the West would probably win, and that the East could contend. We were really happy to beat them for the gold medal—it was like an extra incentive for us."

His first time ever in the Rocky Mountain State this furthest Western trip prior to that was to Peoria, Ill., Dieters and his teammates stayed at the University of South Colorado in a city called Pueblo.

ALTHOUGH THE athletes competed in 26 sports at two different venues (Pueblo and Colorado Springs), the only other event Dieters saw was field hockey. That's partly because field hockey, swimming and cycling were the only other sports contested

where the baseball players stayed.

Despite the limited access to other areas, Dieters wouldn't hesitate to participate again.

"It was a great idea to have a National Festival like that, and it was good competition between everyone," said Dieters, who received free room and board and transportation for being part of the Midwest team. "It's great seeing what athletes from around the country can do."

"And the opening ceremonies were really nice. It was like the Olympics you see on TV. Everyone marched in, and there was a man who carried a torch to light the flame. Each part of the country had a different sweat suit on which made it very colorful."

"It was beautiful where we stayed," he said. "If you looked east you saw flat lands, and if you looked west you saw mountains. And, the best part was meeting all the different athletes."

Dieters can now rightfully claim to be one of the athletes who participated in American's very first National Sports Festival. That's just as nice as winning a gold medal.



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Golf tourney set

The Second Annual Farmington Area Golf Championship will be held Sept. 9-10 for women and Sept. 16-17 for men at San Marino Golf Course.

The tournament will be 36 holes for both men and women, with the first 18 holes determining the players' handicap and flights.

The registration fee for the event is \$17 and

can be made in person at the Parks and Recreation office or by mail. Deadline for registration is Sept. 1 for women and Sept. 1 for men.

Participants must be Farmington area residents or employees and must be 13 years of age as of Aug. 1, 1978.

For further information, contact the Parks and Recreation office at 474-6115.

Sign-up for soccer

The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department has announced that registration for the fall soccer program will be held Saturday, Aug. 19 in Farmington Hills City Hall. Any children who live or attend school in the Farmington area and will be in grades kinder-

garten through fifth in the fall are eligible to participate. Registration fee is \$7 and should be made payable to Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation.

The Farmington Hills City Hall is located at 31555 Eleven Mile Rd. Registration will be from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 19.

One more thing

When anticipating closing costs for the purchase of a house, don't overlook a possible adjustment for property taxes. The current house owners may have paid the taxes in advance for a six-month or 12-month period. If so, the buyer may be expected to reimburse the seller for taxes that apply after the change in ownership.

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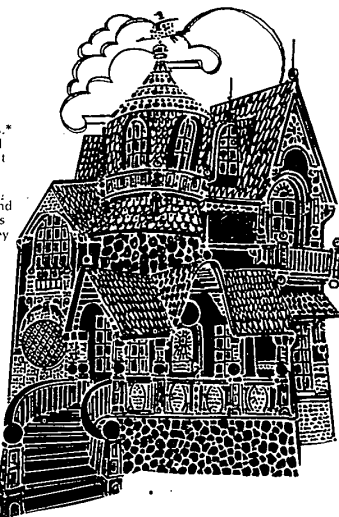
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Each transaction is different and subject to credit approval, however, we are flexible in our lending policy. In general, you can expect that the total of your first and second mortgage will amount to 80% of our valuation of your home. For Example:

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