

Sellout expected for cage tilt

State all-stars to meet Yugoslavs

By BRAD EMONS

against the tough Russian junior team drew a near-capacity crowd at Schoolcraft.

"The tickets are already one-third sold out," said Sid Fox, commissioner of the MBA.

"It looks pretty good this time, we didn't sell nearly this many at this time last year," he said.

Tickets are \$5 apiece. What is left from presale will be sold at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance at all J.L. Hudson outlets.

Coaching the Michigan team is former Piston players Don Adams and Willie Norwood.

"We are really coaches," said Norwood, who coached previously in four Detroit Roundball Classic games.

"WE'RE GOING TO try to be quicker," said Norwood. "We're going to trap and make them use up the 30-second clock and hopefully we'll have more endurance."

The two coaches are emphasizing "team ball." "Everybody here is an all-star and everybody wants to be a star in something like this," he said.

"We're trying to teach comradeship," said Adams. "We want to make sure we communicate out there. That's a regular problem even in the pros."

The Michigan stars, much smaller than their Yugoslav counterparts, will definitely use the fast break.

"We're going to mix it up. We want to run them in."

we can," Norwood said. "When we can't run, we'll attempt to get the easy shots. We have six or seven options of our offense."

Another big concern is the inside strength and mobility of the Yugoslavs.

Players such as 7-0 center Damir Juric and 6-9 Perica Mijovic will thrive on the international rule of play.

"The officials let it go in international ball," said Norwood. "We can't let them get away with their physicalness or we'll be in foul trouble real quick."

"I've played in Europe and their style is rough and physical," he said. "I know they'll be tough."

"And we're going to have to do a sound fundamental job of boxing out. We'll send all five of our men to the boards."

One player who could have helped the Michigan team on the boards was Orchard Lake St. Mary's 6-8, Evaristo Perez, a native of the Dominican Republic.

Perez, originally scheduled to play, has withdrawn. He has a

commitment for a recruiting visit to the University of Massachusetts.

"We're going to miss him because he's strong on the boards and has international experience," said Norwood.

Swing players for the Michigan squad include 6-4 James Koger of Saginaw, 6-3 Rod McQuaid of Midland and 6-1 Marlow McClain of Detroit Murray-Wright.

Sharp-shooter Melvin McLaughlin of Grand Rapids Creston joins Hewlett at the point-guard spot.

"It's going to be our job to put pressure on them," said Adams. "We want to win. That Russian loss last year is on the back of everybody's mind."

The 8 p.m. main event is preceded by a preliminary battle between the Wayne County and Oakland County all-stars at 6 p.m.

Livonia Bentley's Eric Thorderson, a 6-6 guard, heads the Wayne County squad.

West Bloomfield's Tom D'Agostino, Southfield's Erik Griffin, Southfield-Lathrup's Jack Dakesian and Rochester's Jim

Jagels head the Oakland County group.

Both games will be repeated on Sunday at Oakland University. The preliminary game will start at 2 p.m. and the second game will begin at 4 p.m.

Perez has been replaced on the Michigan roster by Detroit Mackenzie's Steve Caldwell, a 6-4 swingman.

Norwood said Andree will start at center.

"We're in big trouble without him," he said.

Another probable starter is 6-6 forward Derek Perry from River Rouge who should complement the 6-10 Andree.

Although Hewlett may not start, Norwood said the 6-1 Salem guard is a valuable asset to the team.

"He'll play a lot. He (Hewlett) is the type of player we need because he is so strong," he said.

The Yugoslav squad made the second stop on their U.S. tour last night at the University of Toledo's Centennial Hall.

Both Norwood and

Adams were expected to scout that game.

THE MICHIGAN team has a dichotomy of athletes from across the state.

Joining Andree and Perry up front are 6-9 Anthony White of Detroit Murray-Wright, 6-5 leaper Erick Santifer of Ann Arbor Huron and 6-5 Herb Bostic of Royal Oak Shrine.

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Farmington sets softball tourney

The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department will host its second-annual spring training softball tournament April 27-29 at Knights of Columbus and Drake parks.

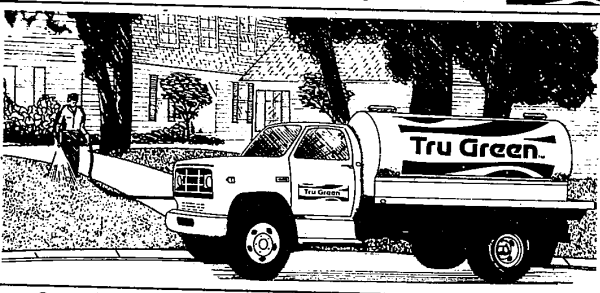
The tournament is open to the first 16 men's slow-pitch softball teams to enter. The team entry fee of \$85 includes everything except softballs.

Games will be played beginning April 27 at Knights of Columbus field and Drake Park, and terminate April 29 at Knights of Columbus.

Registrations will be taken at the Parks and Recreation Department, 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Additional information may be obtained by calling 474-6115, ext. 12.

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