Farmington to stage Youth Fitness meet

Young athletes from the 12 summer Young attletes from the 12 summer recreation centers in Farnington and Farmington Hills will compete in track and field events to determine the area champions. Those winners will then compete against the winners from 55 Detroit-area communities in the Metro Youth Fitness Meet on July 26 at Metro Beach near Mount Clemens.

In the local meet, boys and girls will compete in the 50-yard dash, the stand-ing broad jump, the running broad jump, the running hop, step and jump, standing hop, step and jump, shuttle re-

lay races, softball throw and a chinning competition for boys only. There will be four competitive classifications — Class A, 14-15 years of age Class B, 12-13 Class C, 10-11; and Class D, 8-9. The youngest class will not compete in the Metro Youth Fitness Mean.

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THE PROGRAM is popular with area youngsters because the events can be practiced on a playground with little or no equipment. Since its inception four years ago, the local fitness meet has become an important part of the summer for many youngsters.

"The enthusiasm and interest of the "The enthusiasm and interest of the kids in the Youth Olympics is very high this year," said Evans Bageris, playground supervisor in Farmington Hills. "The older kids apparently enjoyed participating in the event last year."

At the Metro Youth Fitness Meet, the Farmington team will be competing for the John J. Considine award, emblematic of good sportsmanship, conduct and appearance during the track and field events. Lapeer received the award in 1978.

"We will be taking a team of about 50 youngsters to the big meet at Metro park," Bageris said. "The kids know what to expect, and that should help us to achieve our goal of having a first-place finisher from the Farmington area. The competition is very tough, however, so we'll have our lingers crossed."

SPORTS

Tennis tournament is set

The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department will again be sponsoring the Founder's Day Tennis Tournament, with different sections to appeal to just about any tennis player. The tournament will be held July 28-10 and 18 parmington area high school to appeal to just about any tennis player. The tournament will be held July 28-10 and 18 parmington area high school tennis courts. The approximate times are 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, 9 and more in fige. The singles and girl's 14 and under singles and girl's 14 and under singles. The stree age categories are a doubles category, with two divisions in each. The novice division is for any player who has never participated in a tournament, played on a competitive

The long jump is just one of the events in Farmington's fourth annual Youth Fitness meet.

Bicycle motocross is gaining in popularity across the nation

Last year 30 kids participated in the inaugural event.

Tires spun and skidded, spraying dirbehind the riders as they sped through the course, up and down hills, over jumps and across muddoles. It was the first Bicycle Motoross, sponsored by the West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation department. The second Motororss, now an annal event, will take place at the Civic Center site or Walnut Lake Road, 194 miles west of Orchard Lake Road, 194 miles west of O

and participants must pre-register by Thursday at 5 p.m.
"So far as I know, there is no other organized one-time competitive event such as this in the West Bloomfield area," said Chuck Proult, the race director. "We planned to give West Bloomfield kids a chance to compete close to home, but we're inviting other vounceters in sing the fin 10°.

youngsters to join the fun, too."

Proulx feels that the Civic Center site is ideal for the event. The course of dirt, hills, mud and jumps is estimated

pass safety inspection before the race.

'THE COMPETITION WILL be divided into four age groups. 7- and 8year-olds, 9- and 10-year olds, 11- and
12-year-olds, and 13- and 14-year-olds.
Trophies will be awarded to all first second- and third-place finishectories is growing by 30 to 40 percent each year, with races cropping up all over Michigan now," said Gary Watson of Bike and Sport in Pontiae. "He compasses almost every 6- to 15-year-old who rides a bike at this point, although, of course, probably only about 10 percent of them are into competition."

According to Proutx, the motocross

program is a sport spreading all over the country. "Judging by the success of Oakland County Parks and Recreation's moto-cross program, in which 106-150 kids race each Saturday morning, the sport is growing in popularity in our country." Proulx said.

country. Prout said.

Randy Martin of the Bicycle Hut, in Farmington, will be doing the pre-trace bicycle inspection. Martin feels than notocross is an outgrowth of the motorcycle events which race on the same type of course. He estimates that the National Bicycle Association-sponsored motocross race in East Lansing draws about 300-400 competitors every other week.

week.
All participants in the West Bloom-field Motocross must check in and practice from 5:30 until 6 p.m. on July 20. The event is for 20-inch bikes. It is open to youths from all areas.

For further information call the Parks and Recreation office at 661-2240.

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The start of last year's Bicycle Motocross, the first time it was held in West Bloomfield.