

Avondale, Cranbrook join new sports league

By MARTY BUDNER

Auburn Heights Avondale and Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook high schools will constitute one-half of a membership in a new athletic league.

The four-team, as yet unnamed class B league will begin its athletic season at the start of the 1980-81 academic year. The league's remaining charter members will include Ortonville Brandon and Oxford.

"All the school boards still have to get approval from their school boards, but right now it looks like we're going to have a league of four teams," said Avondale Athletic Director Chuck Nurek, whose school presently competes in the Oakland Athletic League (OAL).

"We're in the process of forming by-

laws and drafting a constitution. We already have a football schedule set up, and we're in the process of setting up other non-athletic events.

"We feel that with declining enrollment in our area, there may be some schools which might want to come and compete in our league," he said. "We'd like to have six teams and eventually a maximum of eight."

Cranbrook's verbal commitment earlier this year was the spark which ignited the new league.

Representatives from Avondale, Brandon and Oxford had several meetings in the past few weeks. But, for scheduling purposes and league credibility, they needed a fourth school.

Cranbrook, which competes in the Metro Conference, fit perfectly. Cranbrook Athletic Director Dan Hazen said

his school is looking forward to playing in the new league.

"WE'LL PROBABLY pull out of the (Metro) conference within the next year," said Hazen. "We decided to try this new league because it has more to offer for our kids."

"Down the road it will be nice to play teams at our own level (Most of the Metro Conference teams are class C). And all of the schools in this new conference have very nice facilities."

"(The new league) will be different for us in a way because we're used to playing private and Catholic schools most of the time. I hope we can continue some of the traditions we have with other schools if we get out of the Metro Conference."

Avondale, Brandon, Oxford and Cranbrook have enrollments of around 1,100 students. All four compete in major high school sports like football, basketball and baseball, as well as wrestling and girls' softball, track and volleyball.

They are all located in northern Oakland County which will cut travel time and mileage. Cranbrook is 15 minutes from Avondale, 20 minutes from Oxford and 35 minutes from Brandon.

"I'm pleased with a lot of things about the league," said Nurek. "One of the nicest things is that everybody is the same size."

"But we're also diverse. Brandon is rural, Avondale is suburban and Cranbrook is like a little college town. It will be nice to let the students see such different areas."

"Both Brandon and Oxford are getting new high school facilities," said Nurek. "And as far as I'm concerned, Avondale has the nicest facilities in Oakland County."

AVONDALE'S search for a new league began when OAL officials announced in January of 1979 that the league will disband after the 1979-80 school year.

Most members of the 12-team, two-division OAL immediately found new athletic affiliations. However, Oxford and Avondale, which compete in the South Division of the OAL, could not contract into a new league.

Nurek feared that Avondale would be forced to compete as an independent (without formal league affiliation) next fall.

"There was a period there when we were really at a loss as to what we were going to do," said Nurek. "The worst that could have happened was that we were going to have to go independent."

"There is no way I would want to go independent... the athletes seem to lose interest. They like the idea of goals and shooting for a league title."

This new league will provide those kind of goals," he said.

County plans golf tourney

Oakland County's annual Two-Man Best Ball Golf Tournament will take place on a Saturday, May 10, at Springfield Oaks Golf Course in Davisburg.

The first 66 two-man teams to register for tee times will compete for trophies and prizes. Both players of each team will play the holes individually and use the best score of the two for the team score.

Tee times can be reserved from 7 a.m. to noon, but final times will be assigned by the tournament chairman. The fee is \$26 per team. Participants must register by May 6 by calling 625-2540. Springfield Oaks is located at Andersonville and Hall roads in Davisburg.

North netters blank foe

Mike Schupp won the No. 1 singles match to lead North Farmington past Livonia Franklin, 7-0, last week in Northwest Suburban League tennis. North is 2-1 overall and 1-0 in the conference.

Schupp whipped Andy Thomas, 6-2, 6-3. At No. 2 singles, North's Evan Hughes downed Heider Makki, 6-2, 6-1. North's No. 1 doubles team of Don Cotti and Kurt Lackey defeated Jeff Knauer and Terry Slabin, 6-0, 6-4.

In another recent tennis meet, Farmington High defeated Millard Lake land, 4-3, in the Inter Lakes League.

The win boosted Farmington to 2-1 overall and 2-0 in the ILL.

Bill Knauer of Farmington won the top singles match with a 6-4, 6-2 showing over Jim Springer. At No. 2, Farmington's John Kerr overcame Dave Forsythe, 6-2, 6-0. In the meet's only three-set match, Lakeland's Tom Terenberger outlasted Jim Boston, 3-6, 7-6, 6-4.

Today, Farmington plays at Detroit Country Day School and Plymouth Canton plays at Farmington Harrison. On Tuesday, North Farmington plays at Garden City East.

Bloomfield Andover sweeps Groves

ANDOVER 5, GROVES 1
ANDOVER 5, GROVES 4

Paul Sabol's four-hitter in the first game, and Bob Wasko's suicide squeeze bunt in the bottom of the seventh inning of the second game vaulted the Barons to non-league doubleheader sweep Wednesday.

The Barons, who open their Greater Oakland Activities League schedule today against Clarkston, are 3-2 overall, not including Saturday's non-league twinnish against Pontiac Northern.

Sabol was the master in the opener,

striking out 10 batters and walking just one. Losing pitcher Paul Dreiman went all the way for Groves.

Eric Girdler led the Barons' six-hit attack with three hits. Teammate Rick Hawkins added two doubles. Tracy Totter hit a home run in the first inning for the Falcons' only run of the game.

Girdler was the winning pitcher in relief of starter Jim Rosenbaum in the second game, as the Barons battled back from a 3-and-2 second-inning deficit.

"It was a big win for us because we got beat badly by (Birmingham) Seaholm on Saturday, and we could

have quit, but we have a tough little team," said Andover coach Chuck Johnson.

Scott Lasser scored the winning run on Wasko's seventh-inning bunt.

Totten went all the way for Groves in the losing cause.

Andover tallied seven hits — two by No. 8-hitter Cary Crowe. Groves registered four hits, but benefited from six base-on-balls. Dreiman hit a fifth-inning solo home run for the Falcons.

BROTHER RICE 2, ADAMS 1
ADAMS 4, BROTHER RICE 2
The Warriors swept this Wednesday

non-league doubleheader with the Rochester squad, keeping their record four games below the .500 mark at 4-8.

Sophomore Paul Jokisch, known for his excellence on the basketball court, showed promise on the mound, as well, hurling a six-hitter in the first game. He struck out two, walked one and hit two batters.

Rice's Jeff Settecerri scored Pat McGemmer from second base for the game's first run in the first inning. Adams tied the score with one run in the second inning, but Rice tallied the deciding run in the bottom of the sixth

on two wild pitches.

The Warriors tallied five hits in the first game.

In the second contest, starter and loser Pat Flood was knocked out of the box thanks to a four-run third inning by Adams. John Frasco pitched scoreless relief the rest of the way.

Rice registered only four hits, but one was a solo home run by Steve Allen in the second inning.

McPhillips to stay at OCC

(Continued from Page 1D)

"This season, things did not go well for the OCC Raiders. They finished the 1979-80 campaign with a 13-14 record. McPhillips was upset with the lack of support, stating he could not give the assistance the players needed with the finances provided."

One example cited was the food allowance players on the road from other community colleges receive, while OCC players could only afford to eat at fast food restaurants.

This season, OCC began playing in its new athletic complex. But there were no bleachers for home contests until late in the season.

THE ADMINISTRATION, faced with McPhillips' resignation, made some concessions and will support the program more extensively. Part of what McPhillips' wants is a basketball clinic in September with guest coaches, like Jim Boyce of Eastern Michigan University, participating.

OCC officials are not adverse to the clinic; the question is how the money raised through the clinic will be used. McPhillips wants it to go to the athletic department, but the point is still being discussed.

McPhillips would also like to have a full-time assistant coach. Last year, Leonard Cole assisted McPhillips, but because he wasn't working at the Orchard Ridge campus he couldn't attend every game. That point, too, is still under consideration.

McPhillips' recruiting efforts so far have paid off in the signing of 6-foot-10 Phred Teryll, formerly of Royal Oak Kimball High School. Teryll, an All-State two years ago, attended Weber State University in Utah last year but was disenchanted and decided to enroll at OCC.

James Harris, the leading scorer at Ferndale High School last year, is rumored to be interested in attending OCC. Harris will visit the Orchard Ridge campus this spring.

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