

Camps of Champions

U-M camps give kids chance to grow

By Chris McCosky
staff writer

If the neighborhood seems devoid of youngsters at various times throughout this long, hot summer, don't sweat it. The kids are probably in Ann Arbor becoming champions.

The University of Michigan summer "Camps of Champions" have been stealing youngsters away from neighborhoods across the state and throughout the Midwest with increasing regularity. And you won't hear anybody complaining about it — not the parents, not the university, and certainly not the kids.

From June 12 through Aug. 12, U-M offers 17 separate, one-week sports camps for boys and girls ages 10 through 18. Camps are offered in baseball, men's and women's basketball, cheerleading, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, soccer, softball, athletic trainers (sports medicine), swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, wrestling, and football.

THESE CAMPS are run by college coaches, most from the University of Michigan. For example, U-M baseball coach Bud Middaugh runs the baseball camp. U-M assistant football coach Gary Moeller runs the football camp. Head basketball coach Bill Frieder runs the basketball camp for boys and women's head coach Gloria Solok runs the girls' hoop camp. You get the idea.

It would be difficult to find better instruction.

Nearly 20,000 youngsters have participated in the camps in their three-year history. This year, the camps expect to draw some 6,700 kids.

"You know what makes the Camps of Champions special?" said Don Triveline, U-M's director of marketing and promotions who is the founder and overseer of the camps. "Not only do the campers get outstanding training in their sport, but they get to experience first-hand what it's like to attend a university. They live on campus, eat dorm food... it answers a lot of questions they might have about going to college."

CAMPERS CAN STAY on campus or commute from home. When they stay in Ann Arbor, the campers are housed in the South Quad dormitories and receive three meals a day, one meal on Sunday and Friday.

The average day for a camper is tightly structured. Here's a brief look at a camper's day:

- 7:15 a.m. — Wake up.
- 7:30-8:30 a.m. — Breakfast.
- 9-11 a.m. — First instructional period.
- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Lunch.
- 1-3 p.m. — Second instructional period.
- 3-5 p.m. — Structured free time (swim, sight see, shop, work on sports skills).
- 5-6:15 p.m. — Dinner.
- 7-9 p.m. — Third instructional period.
- 9-11 p.m. — Open recreation, structured free time.
- 11 p.m. — Lights out.

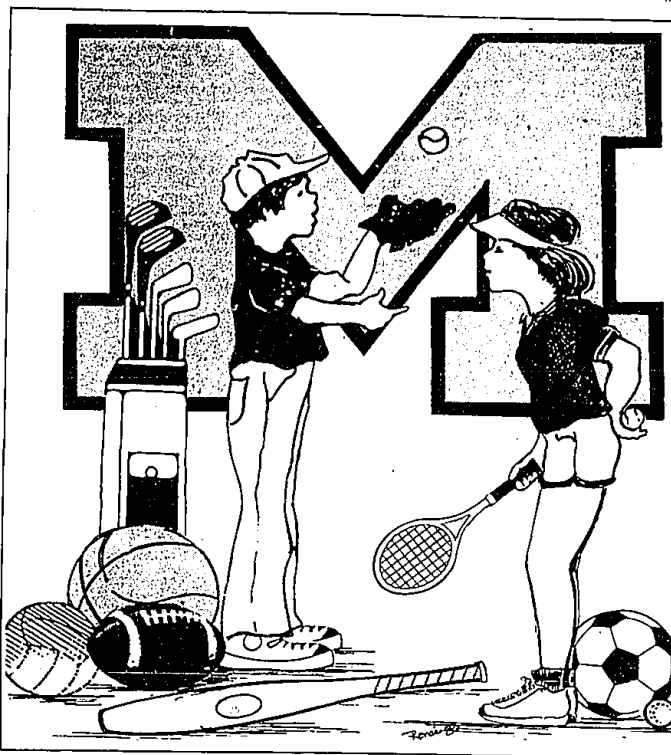
"Mom and dad always worry about supervision," said Triveline. "But, we make sure the kids are taken care of. We make sure that all but eight hours of their time is taken up, and that eight hours is for sleep. We care for their kids. We do our best to give their kids a good athletic, educational and social experience."

As beneficial as the Camps of Champions have been for area youngsters, they have been even more so for the University of Michigan. Besides creating numerous summer jobs, promoting the Ann Arbor economy, increasing housing profits, and promoting the university to 20,000 potential students, the Camps of Champions have managed to increase profits by more than 50 percent in each of their three years. This year, Triveline expects the summer camps to bring in about \$100,000 profit.

"It's definitely a two-way deal," Triveline said. "The campers get one week of being a college student, one week of top-notch college instruction. They meet new friends, they live, eat, and train with others which is a valuable experience for a kid."

"And we get a chance to promote the university, promote the Ann Arbor community and to create employment," he said.

It has been said that champions are made not born. There are 11 open sports camps at the U-M Camps of Champions (see chart), so mom and dad, there is still time to make a champion out of your kid. Call Triveline at (313) 763-6767 for registration details.



A listing of camps still available

BASKETBALL

For girls 10-18. Dates: July 10-15, July 22-27, July 31-Aug. 5, and Aug. 7-12. Cost: \$195 for live-ins and \$95 for commuters.

GYMNASTICS

For girls 9-17. Dates: Aug. 7-12. Cost: \$140 for live-ins and \$95 for commuters.

TENNIS

For boys and girls ages 8-18. Dates: July 31-Aug. 5, Aug. 7-12. Cost: \$170 for live-ins and \$115 in commuters.

CHEERLEADING

For teams only. Dates: July 22-25, July 28-31, Aug. 6-9 and Aug. 10-13. Cost: \$98.99 per person.

ICE HOCKEY

For youths ages 8-17. Dates: July 31-Aug. 5 (live-ins only), Aug. 7-12 (live-ins only), Aug. 14-19 (commuters only), Aug. 21-25 (commuters only). Cost: \$195 for live-ins and \$115 for commuters.

WRESTLING

For boys aged 8-18. Dates: July 10-15, July 22-27, July 29-Aug. 2. Cost: \$185 for live-ins and \$130 for commuters.

FIELD HOCKEY

For youths 8 years and older. Dates: 14-19. Cost: \$95 for commuters only.

SOCCER

For youths ages 8-17. Dates: July 24-29, July 31-Aug. 5. Cost: \$150 for live-ins and \$97 for commuters.

VOLLEYBALL

A sports camp international for girls ages 12-18. Dates: July 24-27. Cost: \$185 for live-ins and \$130 for commuters.

GOLF

For boys and girls 12-17. Dates: July 10-15. Cost: \$275 for live-ins and \$225 for commuters.

ATHLETIC TRAINERS

For ninth graders and above. Dates: July 10-15. Cost: \$140 for live-ins and \$95 for commuters.

This is a list of available camps as of June 28. Some of the above dates may have since been filled. Call 763-6767 for an up to date listing.



Thousands of area youngsters flocked to Ann Arbor last weekend to participate in the University of Michigan Camps of Champions. The campers are pictured above during a special camp orientation.

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Surprise! Andree, Gonzalez get pro shot

By Tom Henderson
staff writer

Tim Andree and Rob Gonzalez have a lot in common. Both are products of the Detroit Catholic League basketball program. Both enjoyed fabulous prep careers that had college scouts drooling and sports writers searching for adjectives. Both were cast as "next" labels to major colleges, where amateur stardom would be but a stepping stone to pro stardom in the National Basketball Association.

There's more in common: While neither exactly flopped, Gonzalez and Andree hardly lived up to their prep billing. Gonzalez barely played in his freshman and sophomore years at Michigan State, where his label changed from "next" to "too slow." He finally transferred to Colorado, sat out a year, then played steadily but unspectacularly his last two seasons. Andree moved into Notre Dame's starting lineup as a freshman, but by the time he was a senior he was second string. Critics said he, too, was too slow; he averaged but 2 1/2 points a game as a senior and in 27 games totaled exactly one — count 'em, one — assist.

PRO CAREERS? What once seemed a certainty, at least to them, if not their legions of prep fans, had become a seeming impossibility. Gonzalez averaged 10 points a game at Colorado, but he was just 6-foot-7 with only average jumping ability. As for Andree? Well, if he couldn't start at Notre Dame, if he could average but 2 1/2 points a game, if he could manage one measly assist in 27 games...

So it should come as no surprise that

what happened Tuesday came as very much of a surprise to both Andree and Gonzalez, who got to share yet another thing in common: They both were selected in the NBA draft. Andree early in the fifth round by the Chicago Bulls, and Gonzalez early in the seventh round by the Detroit Pistons.

You can call them slow. You can call them bad jumpers. Call them what you will. The only calls Gonzalez and Andree cared about last week were the calls they got from the teams asking them if they'd be interested in a career as professional basketball players.

ANDREE WAS STUNNED at going in round five. (Though round five is considerably better than, say, round 10 and indicates the Bulls think he has potential, it is rare for picks lower than round three to make an NBA team. The round three to make an NBA team. The draft becomes a lottery, parceling out chances to the participating teams; the player selected just ahead of Andree was one Manute Bol of The Sudan, who, though not well versed in high-fives, is 7 feet 6 inches tall according to rumor.) "I thought I'd probably get drafted, just on my size," said Andree, who is 6 feet 10, "but I was surprised I went that high."

Andree, a deft scorer in high school with a wondrous outside touch, defended his lack of scoring stats during his college career and insisted he is a better player than people think. "There were no personal problems between him (Digger Fries, Notre Dame coach) and me. We just had very different ideas. I'm a team player, and I obey the coach. I accepted a role I didn't appreciate."

"FOR THREE YEARS I was a

starter with a non-offensive role. I rebounded, set screens. I wasn't supposed to shoot... The center at Notre Dame generally is not a big scorer just because of the offense we run. Look at Bill Laimbeer (the Pistons' center). When he graduated from Notre Dame, nobody thought he'd make it in the NBA, let alone become an All-Star. That's inspiration for me. I'm not saying that's going to happen to me, but it keeps me working hard."

"Hey, I've been through a lot of frustration. When I came out of Brother Rice, I was the greatest thing since sliced bread. It took me a while to get used to the idea that I wasn't a star, that I might not go in the first round. But my family, friends and coaches at Notre Dame stayed behind me, and I worked hard, and it's all paying off."

The NBA draft isn't the only good thing happening in basketball for Andree, who returned last week from a tour of Spain, where 12 Americans played five games against local teams. Andree averaged 18 points a game and was offered a contract by the Barcelona team for next season.

"We're negotiating," added Andree. "It's for between \$45,000 and \$55,000 a year. So if the NBA doesn't work out, I'll still have a very good playing job. It's been a good week."

CECILIA, the Mecca of local basketball, "I've been running and jogging and lifting weights," said Gonzalez, who is well aware that the rap against him is that he is slow. "I've been working on my ball handling, going one-on-one full court with guards. And I've been working on my speed. I've lost a lot of weight. I'm down to 230 from 220."

Will Robinson is the Pistons' scout who recommended the team draft Gonzalez. "We took him because I knew him, and because we'd rather take someone from this area rather than someone from far away," Robinson said.

"GONZALEZ has an outside chance to make our team, as good as any player we would have drafted from afar. It's a good break for him. Even if he doesn't make our team, it will provide him with the opportunity to play in Europe. Then, after a couple of years, he may have improved enough to come back. Laimbeer did it that way."

The Pistons operate a team in the California Pro Summer League, but Robinson said Gonzalez will not be asked to play on it. That team is for such prospects as Cliff Levingston and Ricky Pierce, last year's top rookie selections, and Antoine Carr and Erich Sanfiter, this year's top two picks.

Gonzalez will get his first chance to show his stuff at the team's rookie and free-agent camp in August. If he looks good then, he could be invited back to the regular pre-season camp, which begins Saturday, Oct. 1.

What likely will happen in October is that Gonzalez will share one more thing in common with Andree. With the Pistons' help, he, too, should be off to Europe.



FILE PHOTO

Tim Andree, former Brother Rice and Notre Dame basketball player, was drafted in the sixth round of the NBA draft last week by the Chicago Bulls.