



Thursday, August 2, 1984 O&E

(7) C



## 'Star' game survives despite icy fan support

By Chris McCoaky  
staff writer

Quite a paradox this annual Michigan High School Football Coaches Association All-Star game has become.

There have been three of these games now, matching the very best of the previous year's high school senior players from the east part of the state against those from the west. Each game has been closely contested, the squads evenly matched each time. The games have been exciting with equal parts explosive offense and stingy defense. The games, in short, have been everything the coaches had thought such a gathering of talent would and should be.

With one major exception.

While the football games themselves have been hot, fan support of the annual classic has been cool, to say the least. Lack of fan support has seriously threatened the future of the game.

LAST YEAR, the game attracted just 5,708 fans to Spartan Stadium on the campus of Michigan State University in East Lansing. That figure was depressingly less than the 7,200 that showed up in 1982, and the 7,600 that came in 1981. All three attendance figures were far below what the coaches association had expected and needed to break even financially.

Luckily, corporate and non-profit sponsors rushed in to rescue the game last year when it appeared the coaches association would be dealt a devastating financial blow.

"With donations we managed to just about break even last year," said Don Lesser, the secretary and treasurer for the coaches association. "It costs between \$52,000 and \$53,000 to put this game on. A lot of people find that hard to believe, but it's true. You've got publicity, room and board for the players and coaches for a week, there's the band and the cheerleaders, the insurance for both the players and the stadium, the plaques — all those things cost money."

If you figure an average of 7,000 fans at \$3 a ticket, you've got a grand total of \$21,000 of revenue generated. It doesn't take a math whiz to calculate the potential loss. In 1983, with some donations, the game left the coaches association some \$2,000 in the hole.

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JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Heart of the Hills swimmer Kelly Smyles is on course to a first-place finish in the 100-meter freestyle.

## Surf's up!

### Bloomfield wins eighth straight title

By Marty Budner  
staff writer

Is eight enough for Bloomfield Surf? The 15 other members of the Northwest Suburban Swim League (NSSL) certainly hope so. But, the fact remains when you're talking age-group swimming in this area, the Surf's always up.

Coach Mike Lane's talented troops, which scored a whopping 912 points last year, were "held" to 810 this year in winning its eighth consecutive NSSL title.

Beverly Hills Woodside Athletic Club and Rochester's Heart of the Hills took second and third places for the second straight year with 677 and 641 points, respectively.

Cranbrook Swim Club (435), Forest Hills Swim Club (281), Orchard Valley Swim Club (285), Troy Beach-Wood Recreation Association (241) and Pleasant Ridge Community

Pool (510) rounded out the top eight team placings.

The remaining team showings were: Woodbrooke Hills Swim Club (470), Beachview Swim Club (308), Village Athletic Club (379), Beverly Hills Athletic Club (339), Farmington Glen Swim Club (189), Kendallwood Swim Club (129), C-S Swim Club (99) and Pinckney Swim Club (28).

(The top three individual winners are listed by event on page 3C.)

"We DIDN'T win by as much as last year, but I think scoring 900 points was a fluke," said Lane, who also coaches the boys and girls powerful high school swim program at Andover High School.

"The top three teams have all been the same for quite a while," he said. "We did a super job and I was really proud of my team."

There were five individual records set and three relay marks established in the two-day event held at the Beach Woods Pool in Southfield. The competition attracted more than 1,000 swimmers over the weekend.

Bloomfield Surf's Amy Proctor broke her own record in the girls 10-14 50-meter backstroke with a time of 23.78. Trishandra Lee Cooper set a new time of 38.22 in the 11-13 50-meter freestyle.

Katie Kasper, 14, of Cranbrook Swim Club, swam a new record in the girls 15-18 100-meter freestyle with a time of 2:14.50. Cheryl Cranbrook, 21, of Woodbrooke Hills Swim Club, set a new time of 2:14.50 in the 15-18 100-meter freestyle.

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