

Rice cage coach is let go

By Marty Bodner
staff writer

Nick Conti understood all the pressures that accompany the position of head basketball coach at Birmingham Brother Rice High School. One thing he never worried about, he said, was job security.

But Conti was told by Brother Rice principal Brother George Grimley last Tuesday morning he would be laid off effective the end of the current school year. Both his status as a physical education teacher and basketball coach are affected by the layoff. Conti was hired in August of 1981 by then Brother Rice principal Brother Joseph A. Grimaldi.

"I had what I considered a very fine position — and a secure position — in Bloomfield Hills (as coach of Lahar High School) seven years ago," said Conti.

"I then applied for the head basketball coaching position at Brother Rice. I was assured when I was hired (job) security should not be something I should be concerned with," he said. "Being laid off was the last thing I was concerned about."

Grimley said Conti is one of four faculty members at Brother Rice who will be laid off. The layoffs are a direct result, he said, of the school's budget problems due to declining enrollment.

"THE REASON is simple. We have a reduction in student population, which, according to our contract, allows us to reduce our staff simultaneously," said Grimley, who

will complete his first year as Brother Rice principal this June. "I have to do that by the seniority list. In the phys ed department, he had the least amount of seniority," said Grimley. "I think it should be made clear that (Conti) was not the only one laid off. There were others laid off in the theology, English and history departments."

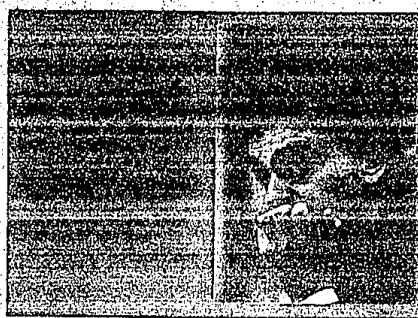
Conti, a Wayne State University graduate, said he was stunned to hear the news.

"To say it was a surprise would be the understatement of all time," he said. "The faculty knew there were going to be budget cuts. We knew the number projections for next year were going to be down."

"The budget cuts are all fine and dandy, but the bottom line is that week ago I was the basketball coach at Brother Rice and now I am not," he said.

Conti compiled an overall 93-46 (67 percent winning average) in six seasons as Rice's head coach.

THE WARRIORS won three Central Division championships, three District championships and a Catholic League title under Conti. Rice had a 22-5 record enroute to a regional championship and a berth



In the Class A state semifinals in the 1983-84 season, Rice lost in the state playoffs that year to Detroit Southwestern.

Paul Jokisch, John Shaky and J.J. Armstrong were perhaps three of Conti's most talented players at Rice. All three went on to play collegiate ball — Jokisch at the University of Michigan (where he eventually drifted over to the football program), Shaky at the University of Minnesota and Armstrong at the University of Iowa.

Conti previously coached at Bloomfield Hills Lahar where he had an overall 188-55 record (750

average). Conti guided the Knights to six Metro Suburban Activities Association championships, four district and one regional title.

Conti said he is unsure of his plans. "The last 13 years of my coaching career I've been spoiled," he said. "The people I had the opportunity to be associated with for seven years at Lahar and at Rice the last six years. I'm not at all sure where I could duplicate that."

"At this point I'm just disheartened," he said. "I don't know what I'm going to do."

Grimley said he has not yet decided on a new basketball coach at Brother Rice.

people in sports

Big Ten's top diver eyes NCAA titles

By C.J. Hloak
staff writer

So far, Mike Wantuck's diving season is following a familiar trail. The Bloomfield Hills Andover graduate can only hope the final destination is a bit more pleasant.

Earlier this month, Wantuck successfully defended his Big Ten title for Ohio State on both the one-meter and three-meter boards and was named the conference's diver of the year — for the second straight time. Wantuck scored 537.51 points on the one-meter and 598.67 on the three-meter in winning his dual championship.

The victories assured Wantuck of a berth in the NCAA meet next week. The place: University of Texas in Austin, where Wantuck started his collegiate career.

"It's sort of an alpha-omega," he said. "I started there and I'm ending there."

The de ja vu course his season has followed doesn't bother Wantuck — to a point. Where he'd like to take a detour is at the end of this collegiate season. A year ago, Wantuck dove to a third at the NCAA meet on the one-meter, which he thought was his weaker event. But on the three-meter, he hit the board on a dive and it cost him. He finished seventh, just 20 points out of first.

"I might have put a lot of pressure on myself last year," Wantuck reflected. "I didn't compete well. Sure, hitting the board hurt my chances, but I just didn't compete well."

HE'LL BE OUT to make amends next weekend. Wantuck is favored to win the NCAA title on the one-meter, and is among the top returnees on the three-meter.

"Last year, there were a lot of really good performances at the NCAA's," he said. "But a lot of those divers have graduated." Of those who haven't, Wantuck rattled off a half-dozen who possess the ability to win a title: Pat Evans of Cincinnati, who placed third last year on the three-meter; Jose-Luis Rochoa of Auburn, a Mexican with solid international experience.

rience; Scott Fiedick of Florida; and Zach Crowley, Eric Murff and Scott Delaney of Southern Methodist.

"All these guys are All-Americans, except Doherty, who's just a freshman," said Wantuck. "All of them have fantastic backgrounds. I certainly hope my experience at this meet will put me at an advantage."

Although Wantuck overwhelmed his Big Ten competitors, winning the one-meter title by 40 points and the three-meter crown by 50, he admittedly accepted his victories with "mixed emotions. I had certain goals in mind. I really wanted to dive well for myself."

"Let's just say I was pleased with my performance, but by no means satisfied."

WANTUCK'S COMPETITIVE schedule is partly the reason for his dissatisfaction. He's had to cut back on it because of school work. Wantuck is unlike most of his NCAA rivals he's enrolled in OSU's law school. He retained a year of eligibility after transferring from Texas.

The lack of competition hasn't hurt, Wantuck insisted. "School's kept me from a lot of meets I qualified for," he said. "But I've been working on refining my dives. It hasn't been a problem keeping in shape. I knew when I started law school there would be some give-and-take, and I wasn't sure what would suffer. It's been a little of both."

Until now, anyway. As Wantuck put it, "I've got my meets coming up. That's why I'm working hard now to get ahead in school. I'm looking forward to the competition."

After next week's NCAA meet, Wantuck will compete at the U.S. Indoor Championships April 14-18 in Baton Rouge, La. The top two divers on each board will qualify for the World FINA Cup April 23-26 in Amsterdam, Holland.

Wantuck plans to make both trips. But first, the NCAA's, and a chance to end his collegiate career, with championship.

Abuse clinic attracts a crowd

By Bill Parker
staff writer

What will it take for the youth in America to wake up to the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse?

Will it take an overdose or an automobile accident? The loss of a career or the death or crippling of a friend? What will it take before we all wake up to the dangers involved in the misuse of drugs and alcohol?

Hopefully, it won't take any of the above. But with graduation, the beginning of the unofficial "party season" right around the corner, many parents and school officials are worried about their kids.

That's why Joe Francis, abstinence director of the Troy School District, sponsored a seminar titled "Ath-

Inside sports

letes, Drugs and Alcohol." The two-hour program was held Monday night in the Performing Arts Center at Troy Athens High School.

An estimated 200 parents, coaches and athletes turned out for the program, which featured Al Dickens, health educator and coordinator of health education and director of Student Services Center for West Bloomfield Schools, and Ed Lynch, former all-state baseball and football player at Birmingham Brother Rice.

Dickens went on to explain that LSD, PCP and mescaline play with the chemical balance of your brain, and that these drugs have often sent users, even first-time users, into a drug-induced psychosis.

As far as athletes using steroids as a shortcut to bigger muscles, Dickens said that the only real shortcut is work and effort.

"You may see short-term effects through the use of steroids but the

long-term effects are dangerous."

LYNCH, A 1979 graduate of Rice, told the audience a tragic story of how he lost his potential professional career in baseball due to drug and alcohol abuse.

Lynch also pointed out a frightening fact about high school drinkers. "Most high school aged people don't drink socially," said Lynch. "They drink to get a buzz. Peer pressure often has a lot to do with people drinking in high school. You don't have to drink to be cool. I know it's going to be tough, but you have to hang together and look out for one another."

The program ended with a 25-minute film titled "Driving Under the Influence — It Could Never Happen to Me."

The film told a story of a high school boy who got drunk at a party and attempted to drive his best friend and their dates home. They got into an accident and his friend and girl friend were killed. The other girl was crippled for life.

The story didn't end there, however. It went on to show the damage done to the driver's family, the crippled girl and her family and the family of the girl who threw the party.

sports shorts

SPORTS STANDOUTS

Diver Katie MacIntosh, a Farmington grad, finished second on the one-meter board for Clarion College (Clarion, Pa.) at the PSAC swimming and diving championships recently. MacIntosh, a sophomore, scored 481.70 points on the one-meter, then finished fourth on the three-meter with 415.95 points. MacIntosh's diving helped Clarion win its 12th league title.

Gymnast Ingrid Racks, a North Farmington grad, placed in the top five in three events in Western Michigan's 178.75-185.40 win over Wisconsin-Oshkosh March 21. Racks, a junior, was third in the floor exercise (9.05), fourth on the balance beam (9.75) and fifth in the vault (8.80).

Wrestler Matt Riedle, a Redford Catholic Central grad from Farmington, enjoyed a solid season for Grand Valley State. The senior posted a 4-16-13 match record at 177 pounds, with two pins, helping the Lakers win the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference meet and his Ferris State for the overall title.

VOLLEYBALL TOURNNEY

Schoolcraft College is hosting a men's and women's volleyball invitational Saturday, April 18. The tournament will consist of both men's and women's classes in open and B Divisions.

Cost is \$40 per team. Play starts at 9 a.m. at Schoolcraft, located on Haggerty between Six and Seven Miles. For further information, contact Tom Teeters (281-4725, or at Schoolcraft 691-6400, Ext. 485).

SOFTBALL TRAVELERS

Any girls 14-18 years old interested in playing for the All-American Meeting, a sponsored, all-elite softball travel team, this summer should call Ray Knickerbocker at 435-5893 for further information.

SOFTBALL SIGNUP

The Farmington Hills Recreation Division has openings available for new teams for the 1987 adult softball season.

For Federal Consumer Information Catalog, Dept. 10, Pueblo, Colorado 81001

ball season in resident, open and industrial leagues.

Reservations can be made at the recreation office, 31555 11 Mile. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required.

Call 473-5570 for more information.

MENS GOLF LEAGUE

The Farmington-Farmington Hills Men's Senior Golf League will begin play Friday, May 1. Registration is required.

Contact the Senior Adult Division of the Farmington Hills Special Services Department for more information.

MORE GOLF

The city of Farmington Hills announces the opening of its nine-hole San Marino Golf Course, at 26244 Halsted between 11 and 18 Miles. The course offers a full-service pro shop, a snack bar, cart rental and lessons. Junior and senior rates are available. Tee time reservations can be made by calling 472-5510.

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CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT COMBINED WITH NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date: March 30, 1987
City of Farmington Hills
21555 W. Eleven Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48018
(313) 474-0115

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about April 20, 1987 the above-named Farmington Hills, Oakland County will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383) for the following project:

Farmington Acres Storm Drains which includes the installation of approximately 2500 linear feet of storm drains in the Eight Mile and Farmington Road area.

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly, the above-named Farmington Hills, Oakland County has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190).

The reasons for such decision not to prepare such Statement are as follows:

The proposed project will require only minor alterations to the landscape and will not destroy or interrupt natural features of the surrounding environment, such as but not limited to water courses or wildlife.

An Environmental Review Record describing the within project has been made by the above-named Farmington Hills, Oakland County which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why Federal funds are not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying upon request at the Planning Office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of Federal funds.

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County to the City Manager at 21555 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48018. Such written comments should be received at 21555 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48018 on or before April 17, 1987. All such comments so received will be considered and the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County will not request the release of Federal funds or take any administrative action on the within project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

Farmington Hills will undertake the project described above with Block Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Farmington Hills is certifying to HUD that Farmington Hills and William M. Costick in his official capacity as City Manager, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental review, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, Farmington Hills may use the Block Grant funds, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) That the certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer or other officer of Farmington Hills; (b) That the certification was not signed by the chief officer of applicant approved by HUD; or (c) That applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58), and may be addressed to HUD at Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Building, 477 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD. No objections received after May 6, 1987 will be considered by HUD.

WILLIAM M. COSTICK, City Manager
21555 W. Eleven Mile Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48018

Published March 30, 1987

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.



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