Olympic team berth at stake in national junior tournament

Five area players will lace up the skates this month for Team Michigan in the 1987 USA Junior Olympic Hockey Tournament, sponsored by Dodge ind Little Cae-sars.

Games will be played at three different sites across the state with the finals scheduledfor 8 p.m. Saturday, April 11 at Yost Arena in Ann Arbor,

Ann Arbor.

The tournament is part of the U.S. Olympic Hockey team's development program. Eve other teams will compete for honors including Massachusetts, New England, Minnesota, Team East and Team West.

The five Junior & area players rejected to the 20-nember Michigan squad include Vestland's Mike gan squad include Vestland's Mike Modano, a forward with the Prince Albert, Saskatchewon Raiders of the Western Hockey League; Plym-

hockey

outh's Nell Carnes, a forward from Verdun of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League; Livonia's Mike Jorgenson, a forward with Compuware of the North American Julin Pye, a goalle from the Fraser Falcons of the NA-HL; and Redord's David Burke, a defenseman with Compuware. (Burke, 16, is the youngest of the team.)

PLAYERS COMPETING in the tournament range in age from 16 to 19 and are all American-born. Tournament play begins Wednes-

day, April 8 at Michigan State University's Munn Arena. New England will face Minnesota at 1:30 r.m., Team West vs. Messaciusetts at b pm. and Michigan vs. Team East at 5 pm. to the state of the state

setts.
At 8 p.m. Friday, Team Wesmeets Team East at St. Clali Shores. Also, at 5 and 8 p.m. Friday at Yost Arena in Ann Arbor, a dou at Yost Arena in Ann Arbor, a dou-ble-header pits New England vs. Massachusetts and Team Michigan vs. Minnesota. The consolation game is 5 p.m. followed by the finals at 8 p.m. Sat-urday, both at Yost.

Pitching is key to Salem hopes in Lakes Division

softball

Nothing is ever for sure. Guaranteed victories in sports are rare; a
break or two can turn a season.
The softball teams at Plymouth
Canton and Plymouth Salem have
yet to play their first regular-season
game, which means speculating on
each teams' chances for success is
conjecture. Each opens its season
with question marks.
But at Canton, the questions are
greater in number. Salem seems farmore solid, more stable. But the
Rocks don't have a proven pitcher,
someone good enough to put them
over the hump and take them to a
Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAA) tilt and far into the
state tournament.
Boll squads enjoyed successful
seasons in 1986. But while Salem returns the nucleus of players that

seasons in 1986. But while Salem re-turns the nucleus of players that were instrumental in its 21-6 season, Canton has just four players back with any extensive experience from a team that went 10-6.

That should be enough to formu-late a preseason prediction. Here, though, is a more in-depth look at each team.

CANTON

CANTON

"We're just going to have to get out there and see how we match up." said Max Sommerville, Canton's softball coach. It was far easier a year ago to figure the Chiefs' chances. "Last year, I was set real soil din just about every position before the season," said Sommerville. "This year nothing's certain." It won't take a massive rebuilding

Sommervers. Sommer

THE LEADING pitching candidate is Laurie Madsen, a junior who threw in a few games last season. Junior Sheri Arello is Madsen's

"It always seems I'm looking for someone to throw," lamented Wil-

Don't fret for the Rocks, though Don't fret for the Rocks, though. Willette has three promising pltchers from whom to choose, including juntor Kim Barrie, who was 3-0 a year ago as Meissner's back-up. Senters in the sentence of the sentence of the sentence in the position. And, as important as pitching is in softball, experience isn't everything. As Williette noted, "Maggie never pitched before last year and she came through."

THE PITCHERS will get a lot of

In the outfield, other potential starters are senior Cathy Jo McCoy and junior Jen Hawkins; at catcher, junior Debbe Smith; at Ifrst base, junior Carl Herron; and at second base, promising sophomore Alison Flaskamp. Sophomore Kim Schulte is a utility infielder.

Sommerville has just four seniors on the team. In fact, he is carrying just 12 on the varsity roster.

"We are really inexperienced," he said. "We should get better as the season goes along. It thin we should be able to play good defense, but I'm not sure we can score.

"It's kind of a rebuilding year, I guess."

For now, the future seems more promising than the present for Canton softball. came through."

THE PITCHERS will get a lot of support. The infield is anchored by a trio of seniors with at least three years of experience as starters: first-baseman Denice Tackett, a four-year varsity player with more than 100 career RBIs; shortstop Jessica Handley, another solld hitter; and third baseman Marcle Walker. At second base is sonhomore Ann. second base is sophomore Ann Mundinger, an all-WLAA pick as a

Seven starters are back on a team that went 21-6. That alone makes Salem a candidate for first in the WLAA stakes Division.

Coach Rob Willette isn't so sure, though. Not with pitcher Maggie

the week ahead

BASEALL

Monday, April 6

Lv. Shewcas Lv. Listens, 4 p.m.
Farmighton Lv. Listens, 4 p.m.
Py. Salem at Lv. Chucett, 4 p.m.
Py. Canton, 4 p.m.
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COFFEEHOUSE CAFE TUESDAY, APRIL 7 UCTV

8:35 pm Channel 52 Folk die Berkowski and Rossechate host Comedian-Folksinge from the Hot Fudge show Ron Coden at the Coffeehoue Cafe.

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L. Frinkin at N. Formigrion, 4 p.m.
L. Churchill at Ply, Salem, A p.m.
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BOYS TRACK Monday, April 6 Bish. Borgess at Liv. Streenson, 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 7 Wald, Glenn, Merry at Yppillenii, 2:30 p.m. Taylor Kennedy, Center at Garden City, 3:30

PRE-SEASON

Wednesday, April 8
St. Agatha at M.C. Holy Cross. 4 p.m.
Turnday, April 9
City moet at N. Farmington, 3:30 p.m.
Visid. Glenn at Garden City, 3:30 p.m.
Wisid. Glenn at Garden City, 3:30 p.m.
Brib. Borgess at Liv. Cherchill. 4 p.m.
Clarencevide at D. I. Avangsing, 3:30 p.m.
Catholic Central at A. A. Haron, 4 p.m.
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Visid. Charlow of Borgess at 10 gales at 10

DO-IT-YOURSELF

Hawks' hopes high

Continued from Page 1

three years of varsity experience. This year, they will be the Hawks' co-captains.

co-capitals.

Reyst is back to pitch, and Harrison coach Mike Teachman thinks she could be much better than last season. One reason is Reyst's determination to improve, which took her to several summer camps. Another is junior varsity coach Cindy Zelinsky, who was an all-league pitcher at Wayne State University in Nebraska, and who has worked hard with Reyst.

Culbertson also will pitch, when Ryst isn't, but mostly she'll play that the control infield will be in good hands, with Spisz moving from center field to shortstop.

Three other starters return for Harrison: sophomore catcher Lisa Donovan, inno! reft.felder Katte Doll, and senior right-fielder Edye Pleischer. Junior Stacy Koo! was a standout on the Harrison JV a year ago and looks solid this year at first base.

"We were right at the edge last year of being a really good team," said Teachman. "With this many veterans, I hope we can go over the edge."

veterans, I hope we can go or a dege."
Teachman added he is "satisfied with our defense, and our hitting looks like it's really going to come around." So are there any problems?
One big one: the schedule. Harrison opens with John Glenn, Salem and Franklin. If the Hawke survive their early-season exams, they could make a run for first.



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