

sports shorts

BASEBALL MVP

Brian McDaniel, a 1986 graduate of North Farmington High School, has been named the most valuable player on the Johnson County (Kan.) Community College baseball team.

The first baseman led the team in every offensive category, batting .396 with an on-base percentage of .496. More than half of his hits went for extra bases, and his slugging percentage was .771.

Three of the West Bloomfield resident's seven home runs were grand slams. He also scored 36 runs in 36 games for the suburban Kansas City school, which was ranked No. 7 nationally and finished with a 30-12 record.

SOCCEER TRYOUTS

Farmington Soccer Club has two tryout sessions remaining for its select teams, which are limited to boys born between 1977 and 1979.

All sessions will take place at Farmington High School.

The Tuesday, June 7, session will consist of more skill demonstration and a scrimmage between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. The final tryout is scheduled for 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 9.

Players should come dressed with shin guards and equipped with a size-4 soccer ball. A \$5 tryout fee, which includes a T-shirt, will be charged.

For information, call Dale Doherty at 474-8815 or Terry Geris at 661-2582.

GRID COACHES

Farmington Public Schools is accepting applications for non-teaching, coaching positions in football for the 1988-89 school year.

Applicants should send a resume to Ronald G. Holland, athletic director, 32500 Shilawasse, Farmington 48034, or call 471-6337 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays.

HEALTH TESTS

For male and female students planning to participate in athletics during the 1988-89 school year, Farmington Public Schools will provide health exams on Tuesday, June 7, at North Farmington High School.

Middle school students should report between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m., high school students 6:30-8 p.m. The cost is \$5 (cash only).

POSTER PRIZE

Five-year-old Rachel Soper of Farmington Hills took third place in the 8-and-under division

in the American Saddlebred Horse Association of Michigan poster coloring contest.

Nearly 1,000 posters were distributed to youths 17 and under during the Michigan Horse Council's Horse Expo in Lansing last March. Soper received an American Saddlebred Jersey. The first-place prize was a \$25 U.S. savings bond.

BASEBALL TRYOUT

The Doyle Baseball School will meet July 11-12 at Walley Lake Western High School. The school offers instruction for youths age 8-18. Sessions run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Call 1-800-443-5535 for information.

JUNIOR GOLF

Golf Digest and the Michigan Section PGA will co-sponsor a junior golf fair Friday, July 8, at Bicentennial Park in Livonia.

The fair, which starts at 8 a.m., will include materials will be provided. Golf Digest Schools instructors Jack Lumpkin and Jim Flick will direct the program with the assistance of Detroit-area professionals.

Golf clubs, practice balls and instructional materials will be provided. Golf Digest Schools instructors Jack Lumpkin and Jim Flick will direct the program with the assistance of Detroit-area professionals.

BASKETBALL CAMP

The Boys and Girls Basic Basketball Camp will take place July 11-15 at Detroit Country Day School in Birmingham.

The camp will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. The highlight will be an appearance by Los Angeles Lakers star Earvin "Magic" Johnson.

The fee is \$150. For information call Carol Balgorski, program director at Country Day, at 646-7717. Benny White is the camp director.

GOLF BENEFIT

Area golfers can help the March of Dimes fight birth defects by participating in the Celerity Golf Classic at Meadowbrook Country Club on Monday, June 13.

The tournament will feature local sports and media personalities, including Detroit Lions Jeff Chandler and Chuck Long. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. followed by a clinic at 10 a.m. and a shotgun start at noon.

Individual, tee sponsorship and patron packages are offered, beginning at \$250. For information, call 423-3200.

Archer instant softball star

By C.J. Rissak
Staff writer

Irony and sports have long been linked. Goals becoming heroes in a single game is a common enough example.

Kim Archer has rarely been the goat in her storied athletic career. But she's no stranger to the ironic side of sports.

Five years ago, Archer graduated from Livonia Bentley as the best female athlete in the school's history. She turned both the Bentley basketball and softball teams into powerhouses, but perhaps her versatility was best illustrated during the one season she played volleyball and earned All-Observersland second-team honors.

Archer accepted a scholarship to play basketball at Michigan State. Her talents were obvious, but again it was her versatility that was most prominent — she switched between four positions during her years with the Spartans, from small forward to point guard to shooting guard to power forward.

DESPITE LEADING a young MSU team to a surprisingly successful season (16-12 overall, 12-6 in the Big Ten) in 1987-88 — Archer topped the Spartans in scoring (12.4 points), rebounding (6.4), assists (3.6) and steals (3.0) — she was virtually ignored in All-Big Ten voting. She was honorable mention all-league.

A week after the basketball season ended, Archer was on her way to Florida with the MSU softball team. She hadn't played fast-pitch softball since high school, but decided to give it a try anyway.

So what happens? Archer leads



'I had originally planned on playing softball after my sophomore year. Then I hurt my knee, and my basketball coach strongly suggested I don't play softball.'

— Kim Archer
ex-Bentley athlete

the Spartans in just about every offensive category — hitting (.329), hits (53), runs batted in (22), runs scored (25) and home runs (two), and ties for the team lead in doubles (nine) — and this time she is recognized, earning first-team All-Big Ten honors.

"That was pretty strange," Archer said. "I came here for basketball, played it for four seasons and was never better than honorable mention All-Big Ten. Then I play softball for one season and I make first team All-Big Ten."

MSU SALUTED Archer's unique talents again last week by naming her Sportswoman of the Year, an award presented for excellence in both athletics and academics. Archer will graduate this weekend with a degree in criminal justice.

While there's no doubting Archer's abilities, her determination was equally impressive. She injured her

knee midway through her sophomore basketball season and missed the rest of that campaign. The injury also delayed her collegiate softball career.

"I had originally planned on playing softball after my sophomore year (of basketball)," she said. "Then I hurt my knee, and my basketball coach (Karen Langeland) strongly suggested I don't play softball."

Since basketball was paying for her education, Archer had to comply — until her final season. With her basketball eligibility used up, Archer decided to tryout for MSU's softball team.

TRYING TO PLAY college softball for the first time after such a long layoff, with very little time to practice, would seem suicidal to most. To Archer it was a challenge.

"The hitting was the hardest thing," she said. "In high school I never faced the kind of pitching I did

softball

in the Big Ten. I was really surprised (with my success). I hit off the pitching machine a couple of times, but that's not the same as facing a pitcher."

Archer was not flustered with confidence. "I never thought I'd really play that much," she said. But when the team made its trip south, shortstop Sally Green stayed in East Lansing, a victim of poor academics. Archer was thrust into her position, playing 12 games at short.

The rest, as the saying goes, is history. Archer was not only entrenched as a starter, she became the team leader. Green returned at shortstop, and Archer moved over to third base, where her fielding was solid (15 errors, .930 average).

IT WAS THE icing to an already superb career. Archer finished in the top eight in just about every MSU career basketball statistic and is the Spartans all-time leader in assists with 224. She is second on the assist list (381).

If she has any regrets, it's that none of the MSU teams she was part of won a title. "With the four of us coming in as freshmen in basketball, we had hopes and talked about winning a Big Ten title," said Archer, who was part of a prized recruiting class that included Kris Emerson, Sue Tucker and Sue Pearsall.

"That was kind of a disappointment, but I learned a lot. I had a lot of fun and, most importantly, I got an education."

Hawks dump Dexter in district opener

Continued from Page 1

"We had over a .500 season and we only had two players coming back, really, that were seniors," Herrington said. "I'd say it was a successful year."

"WE HAD A PRETTY good year overall," Coleman said. "We just fell a little short."

In the first game, Hicks must have felt like king of the mountains, pitching off of an unusually high mound on the field at Durand High School.

"That's the highest mound I've seen on a high school field," Herrington said.

Whatever psychological or physical edge the mound might have given Hicks, it helped. The senior right-hander pitched a masterful three-hit shutout, leading Harrison to a 1-0 victory over Dexter in the first game.

Hicks faced only 23 batters, two over the minimum in a seven-inning game. He struck out nine and walked

none while posting his second shutout of the season.

"I kept my pitches down low and outside," said Hicks, who retired nine straight batters during one stretch. "I tried not to give them any pitches they could hit."

HICKS DID A brilliant job of mixing pitches. Four of his strikeouts came on called third-strike breaking pitches, and Dexter batters hit only five balls out of the infield.

Dexter's Dan Brown also pitched a great game, giving up only three hits

while striking out four. However, he was the victim of an unearned run in the third inning that gave the Hawks their only score of the day.

With one out, left fielder Tim Horton singled sharply to right. Third baseman Murray followed with a bunt that was fielded by Brown, but his throw to second was late and both runners were safe.

Then leadoff hitter Devine hit a double-play grounder to shortstop Jeff Hatt, who tossed to second baseman Dan Kaiser for the out. However, Kaiser's relay throw to

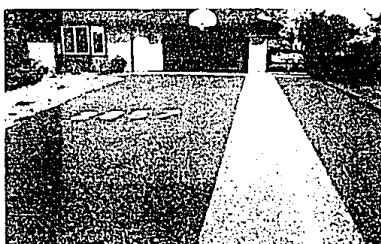
first was wild, and Horton came around to score.

Hicks preserved the lead with strong pitching and had good defensive help behind him. His only trouble came in the sixth inning.

Dexter's Dave Bush led off the inning with a single to center and was sacrificed to second base. Hicks then fell behind the No. 9 hitter Kaiser 2-0 when Herrington visited the mound to calm him down.

Following the conference, Hicks threw two straight strikes and eventually got the strikeout.

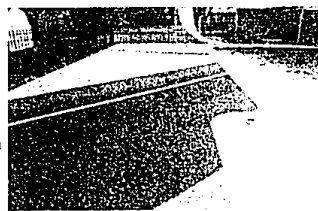
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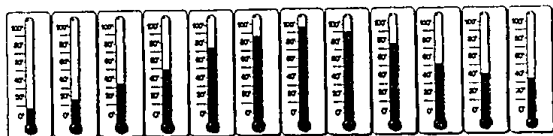
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