

## Sports

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## Buha wins state golf title

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

It's a good thing Jason Buha likes golf, because he'll be playing a lot the first two weeks of August.

Actually, the Farmington High School junior won't just be playing golf; he'll be competing at it.

Buha earned a trip to the national tournament Aug. 10-13 after winning the state championship in the Insurance Youth Golf Classic last Monday at Ann Arbor's Radrick Farms Golf Course.

The national event also will be played at Radrick Farms, but the Farmington Hills resident will have to travel quite a ways to get there.

Buha will be in Dallas for the Ben Hogan Boys Championship in the American Junior Golf Association Aug. 3-9 and will get back to Michigan just in time for the IYGC tournament.

The 16-year-old Buha regularly plays five times a week, usually with

his father (David) and brother (Barry) at Meadowbrook Country Club.

"It's a real important part of life in our house," Buha said.

Buha shot a 36-hole, three-over-par total of 147 to win by three strokes over Brandon Silverthorn of Alma in the one-day state tournament. Buha shot 75 for the first 18 but was at even-par for the second half.

"In the first round, I was pretty shaky starting off," he said. "I scrambled around for a pretty good score in the second round. I started playing better, hitting the ball better and obviously scoring better."

Buha, who carded three of his five birdies during the second round,

didn't have the advantage of playing with the other leaders or seeing a scoreboard to know how others were doing. But it was probably just as well.

"I DON'T think it mattered," he said. "After 18 holes, I was in second place, so I went out there for the second round to play the course and shoot as well as I could."

"If it did (matter), it was probably an advantage. I wasn't worrying about what anyone else did. I just played my game and played as well as I could. That's all that mattered anyway."

The par-3 15th hole was a potential trouble spot for Buha in both

rounds, but he managed to avoid any setbacks.

"I hit into a bunker both times but got up and down for par," he said. "It was a good save and it kept me going. It helped to make par and get that hole to maintain my momentum."

"In my first round, it was a turning point, because I had played poorly on the front side. Saving par there helped a lot on the last few holes."

It also helped Buha win the tournament.

"I'M REAL happy to win any tournament, especially the Big 1," he said. "Obviously, you're playing against some of the better players in the state. You give it your best shot and if that's good enough to win that's great."

Buha said his victory will give him confidence for the nationals, but he doesn't think the tournament also being at Radrick Farms will necessarily give him an edge.

"Until this tournament, I had never played there," he said. "In my practice round, I shot a 1-under-par. Going on that, I don't know if people who haven't seen the course will be having any trouble."



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Jason Buha of Farmington Hills won the Youth Insurance Golf Classic state championship at Radrick Farms in Ann Arbor.

## Tour suits Kori

Kori Davidson of Farmington Hills won the USTA women's national hard-court championship Thursday in Cleveland when she defeated Nicole Wangsgard of Utah 7-5, 6-3.

Davidson, who went on the amateur satellite tour following her high school graduation in June, has won five of six tournaments and is the leader for a USTA wildcard invitation to the U.S. Open in September.

Davidson has been traveling the circuit for seven weeks and also has won two doubles championships and one mixed doubles title.

"We saw her in Cleveland to say hi," her mother, Nancy Davidson, said. "We hadn't seen her for five weeks."

"Nobody has been on the tour (for consecutive tournaments) as long as she has. It's been rough, but she's done it. She's gone from clay to indoor, back to clay, to outdoor."

Davidson, who defeated college players from Kentucky, Miami, Michigan and Duke in the latest tournament, was on her way to Vermont for her final USTA event Friday.

She will miss the last two tournaments, because she must leave for Arizona State University where she will be a scholarship tennis player.

## Dumars has message for youths, teammate

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

Joe Dumars couldn't pass up the chance to need his Detroit Pistons teammate, Isiah Thomas.

Being the first to visit the basketball camp at Centennial Educational Park last week, Dumars gave the youths in attendance a message to give Thomas when he arrived for Saturday's final session.

At the conclusion of his hour-long talk Thursday evening before some 500 hundred campers and parents, Dumars reminded the boys and girls of what it was they were to tell Thomas.

"What are you going to say? What is it now?" Dumars asked, turning an ear to the children gathered in front of him on the Plymouth Salem gym floor.

"Isiah, Joe said you don't have a very good jump shot," they responded in unison.

And with that, the all-star guard waved goodbye and headed for the proverbial stage door.

But most of what the young campers — and adults — heard from Dumars was no act. He talked about his upbringing in rural Louisiana, how it influenced his personality, the attitude necessary for success and, yes, what he thinks of the Chicago Bulls.

Here are some of the topics he touched on and what he had to say about them:

**NO HANDOUTS:** "I didn't grow up with handouts, so I don't expect any." Some athletes think "because I'm a superstar, somebody owes me this. Not so."

## basketball

*'If the coach tells me to do something . . . I'm going to get it done . . . I might go home and kick the chair, but I'm not going to have a bad attitude.'*

— Joe Dumars  
Detroit Pistons star

"You have to work hard for it. If you get it, you're hard work pays off. If you don't get it, you have to work harder."

"Don't think I got here because I woke up one day, was 6-foot-3 and could shoot a basketball. It doesn't work that way."

**TEAM WORK:** The Pistons have been successful because of it, he said. "Everybody has to have the same agenda, the same game plan. With some teams, I can tell when they step on the floor they have too many agendas . . . they're not thinking about winning."

**RIGHT ATTITUDE:** "If the coach tells me to do something, whether I like it or not, I'm never going to let

him know that. I'm going to get it done."

"I'm not going to frown, I'm not going to say anything, I'm going to get it done. I might go home and kick the chair, but I'm not going to have a bad attitude."

**EARLY LESSON:** Dumars said he was the best athlete in his school as a sixth grader, but he didn't win the best-athlete award because he knew it and acted like he knew it. His coach told him "You're better than anyone here, but until you learn sportsmanship it's not going to happen."

"I was determined to come back and win athlete of the year. I came back with the best attitude and won the award, even though I didn't play any better than I did the year before. But if he had given me that award and if he hadn't told me that, I wouldn't have changed my attitude."

**KEEP TALKING:** Though a liquor store was a stone's throw from his house, Dumars said neither he nor any of his six fellow siblings were led astray by the lure of the streets.

Years later he asked his mother how she did such a good job of raising her children. "We always heard what you said, we didn't always agree but we heard you," she told him. "We always had a dialogue going back and forth."

**BULLS FLASHBACK:** "People ask me all the time 'Do you hate Chicago, do you hate Michael Jordan?'"

"No, it takes effort to hate or say something ugly. Did I dislike losing to Chicago? Yeah. Are we going to



SHERID BUDZY/staff photographer

Joe Dumars of the Detroit Pistons spoke to basketball campers about having the right attitude as a foundation for success.

try to annihilate them next year? Oh, yeah! But having a good attitude doesn't mean you're going to be No. 1 all the time."

**ALWAYS ON MY MIND:** Dumars conceded pro players aren't always thinking about basketball every moment of every game.

"Here's Isiah and me at the free throw line. We'll be talking and I'll look around and say 'I bet all these people think we're talking about this basketball game.' But I'm asking

him 'What are you doing after the game? What to meet at Bennington? OK, see ya there about 11:30.'

**WHO'S THE BEST:** Michael Jordan, no question about it, is the best player in the NBA, according to Dumars.

"I've seen a lot of basketball players, but I've never seen anyone who can do what he does when he steps on the floor. When he gets in that triple-step position and drops his tongue out of his mouth."

## Runners sweat it out in 8th Redford Classic

By M.B. Dillon  
staff writer

The more than 1,000 runners and walkers who entered Livonia's 8th Annual Redford Roadrunner Classic found out what it feels like to run in an oversized oven.

By the 6:30 p.m. start of the eight-kilometer run, the mercury had risen to 98 degrees, and the accompanying high humidity made it virtually impossible to sweat and cool off.

But the sponsoring Redford Roadrunners made it up to the runners, walkers and wheelers: the post-race party featured non-stop music, cool showers, lots of food and drink, prize give-aways, customized medals and gift certificates for winners, and dancing under the stars 'til midnight.

The heat didn't seem to faze overall winners Don Johns, 26, of Monroe and Terry Mahr, 42, of Oregon, Ohio.

**JOHNS —** WHO recently ran a 2:14 marathon and is knocking on the door of the U.S. Olympic team — went out at just over five-minute pace with the lead pack of nine. By the three-mile point, there were three: Johns, Guy Murray of Ferndale and Wally Rodriguez of Perrysburg, Ohio.

"Guy got a little bit away from me and made a little bit of a move," said Johns, second in the NCAA 10,000

meters while at Eastern Michigan University in 1988. "When he stopped his move, I tried to make a move on him. We hung together for another mile or so. With about three-quarters of a mile to go, I made another move. I could hear there was someone behind me, but for the last 100 yards, I couldn't hear anyone anymore," said Johns, who finished in 24:56.

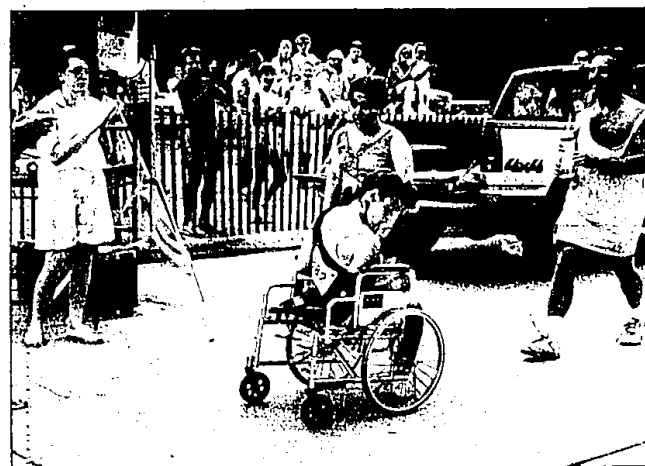
Mahr, a native of London, England, showed that being 40-something can be something to write home about. She captured both the masters and open division in 29:12. It marked Mahr's third Redford win in the masters division.

"I'M PRETTY happy that I could break 30 minutes," said the self-coached runner. "Until about the mile-and-a-half point, I was with Debbie Nowak and Laurel Park. I felt quite strong, so I put on a surge, and no one came with me. Of course then I was committed and I had to gut it out."

The overall wheeler champ was Chuck Patten, 41, of Grand Rapids, who bested the field and his paraplegic open division by nearly three minutes with a personal best of 21:28.

What was it like out there? "Terrible," said Patten. "It was hot, and the first mile and a half we had a head wind. But you can't have it all, can you?"

"Guy got a little bit away from me and made a little bit of a move," said Johns, second in the NCAA 10,000



ART EMANUEL/staff photographer

Donna Cruz of Farmington Hills crosses the finish line in the wheelchair race during the Eighth Annual Redford Roadrunners Classic.

Please turn to Page 8