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The Court Jester

by BILL CAMERON

It was encouraging to see the turnout of interested tennis players at the Stevenson High courts Thursday and at the Livonia Tennis Club meeting afterward. The club has the courts reserved each Thursday night from 6 to 10 p.m.

They have established a rule of doubles only and a 10 game set and out if anyone is waiting.

The members hall from Plymouth, Westland, Farmington and Southfield as well as Livonia and Garden City. Enrollment figures have reached 80, but they could use some more gals.

SPEAKING OF gals, this is the week that I start my indoor tennis school for adult beginners. I have four classes with 50 registrants (35 gals, five men) and a waiting list. My philosophy is that you can teach beginners the basic

fundamentals of tennis (footwork, forehand, backhand and serve) in a comfortable, indoor setting. It gets frustrating outdoors fighting the wind and occasional rain, plus mosquitoes, and chasing balls from one court to another.

Not many good tennis players enjoy playing in a court alongside of tennis. The noise, and distraction of balls always interrupting your game, become quite bothersome.

Getting back to lessons, they are only good if you practice what you learn. Repeating a move over and over will eventually become habit and therefore automatic. Tennis requires concentration. If you take your eye off the ball you'll end up flubbing the shot. Practice makes perfect.

PASSING SHOTS—When purchasing a racket, check for weight (light, medium, heavy) and grip size. Your hand should feel comfortable on the grip. If you have a small hand a 4 1/2" grip would probably be adequate. A muscular guy could handle a heavy racket but a petite gal should stay with a light weight until she gets strong enough to clobber the ball.

The Livonia Tennis Club will sponsor a series of four instructional classes; for beginning and intermediate players under the leadership of Don Brown, tennis pro at the Cranbrook Tennis Club. Brown was formerly the club pro at Pine Lake and the Birmingham Athletic Club and has been responsible for developing several of the area's top junior tennis players.

The lessons will be held at the Stevenson courts, Six Mile Road, west of Farmington beginning Friday, May 14 and continuing on Tuesday, May 18, Friday, May 21 and Tuesday, May 25. Beginner lessons will start at 6 p.m. and intermediate at 7 p.m. Cost is \$12 and registrations will be accepted at courtside beginning at 5:30 p.m. opening night.

For further information, call club president Ray Decker of Farmington at 477-8551 or John Hooke of Livonia at 421-7856.

Sorrows Turns Back Borgess

The game didn't count in the standings, but it carried significance since it matched two Observerland schools as Our Lady of Sorrows downed Bishop Borgess, 7-5, in baseball.

Jim Harte was the winning pitcher while Ned Hurst led the way with a hit that drove in two runs and Bob Holton pulled off a daring steal of home.

A five run second inning wrapped up things for Sorrows. Five walks and singles by Dave Urban and Holton produced the wild inning.

Mark Szpond had two for three and drove in one run for Borgess.

GC West Loses Relay; Meet To Cherry Hill

As they say in sports, one point or one run is like a million.

Garden City West's track team learned that when nipped by Cherry Hill, 59-58 1/2.

It was West's first loss of the season after seven victories and dropped the team out of a tie for the lead in the Tri-Rivers League.

West had a chance to pull into a three way deadlock in

the final standings Tuesday when it met Taylor Kennedy. A week ago, Kennedy beat Cherry Hill by two points.

THE WEST—Cherry Hill met west down to the final event of the day—the mile relay—which Cherry Hill won.

Russ Graham and Dale Halliwell were the stars for West. Each won two events—Graham the high and low

hurdles, Halliwell the two dashes.

Don Anderson continued his fine distance running by winning the two mile for West in the excellent time of 9:52.4.

The Garden City West results:

POLE VAULT—1. Bill Batherson, 2. Steve Lusk, 3. Jim Uthela. Height: 12 feet.

SHOT PUT—2. Jerry Holmes, 3. Gary Snyder.

LONG JUMP—1. Charles Bell. Distance: 19 feet 2 1/2 inches.

HIGH JUMP—2. Steve Middleton, 3. Kirk Lewis.

800 YARD—3. John MacGillis, 4. Russ Graham.

100 YARD—1. Dale Halliwell, 3. The Team, Time: 1:01.7.

LOW HURDLES—1. Graham, 2. Lewis, Time: 2:05.

TWO MILE—1. Don Anderson, 2. Dee Rocco, Time: 9:52.4.

220 YARD—1. Halliwell, 3. Wolf, Time: 2:13.

Set Baseball Pairings For District Tourney

Pairings for the state-district baseball tournament at Southfield High have been announced.

Athletic Director Ed Bryant of Southfield said Livonia Bentley, Livonia Franklin and

Garden City's East and West all had drawn by Canaan.

Southfield will play Plymouth, Farmington will meet North Farmington, Wayne will face John Glenn and Stevenson will take on Churchill.

The Southfield-Plymouth winner then opposes Bentley, the Farmington-North Farmington winner takes on Franklin, Garden City East will go against the Wayne-Glen winner and West will meet the survivor between Stevenson and Churchill.

The district tournament

must be completed by June 5 with the winner advancing to the regional, also to be held at Southfield, on June 12.

The four regional champs then move on to the state meet June 19 at Wyandotte.

CC Signs Borgess Coach

Bishop Borgess High must find a new track and cross country coach for next fall.

Brian Schwall, who has built champions in both sports at Borgess, resigned to become cross country and track coach at Catholic Central High.

Schwall has turned out Catholic League A-West track champs the last three years at Borgess. His cross country team won the division title and the regional crown last fall.

Most Improved

Michigan basketball captain Dan Fife of Clarkson was voted the George Canaan Award as the athlete to improve the most during his college career. The award honors Michigan's former record pole vaulter who was the first Wolverine athlete to be killed in Vietnam.

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