

# Summer league helps players

BY STEVE KOWALSKI

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## BASEBALL

record for Oklahoma State last year, and Louisiana State stand-out Brett Laxton.

Some of his teammates included U-M players Brian Simmons, Scott Weaver and John Arvai.

Niemiec was coming off a big year at U-M, where he led the Wolverines in hitting with a .331 average and had a .970 fielding percentage.

"I was hitting at people a lot, either grounders or line drives and not finding holes," he said. "I guess I used all my luck up at school. I wasn't about to change everything that got me there. I was real enthused how I caught and threw, how I handled myself behind the plate."

Niemiec said he stayed with the Murphys, a family with two children, including a rabid baseball fan, 3-year-old Allison.

This was Niemiec's second year with the Murphys. He spent half of last season in Cape Cod.

"Allison was 2 last summer and was into baseball then and she was even more into it this year, going to the ballpark every game," said Niemiec, who made money as a landscaper each morning. "Cape Cod is beautiful and the baseball is a plus."

Pierce, a 1991 Westland John Glenn graduate who spent the

last two years at Henry Ford Community College, batted less than .200 in a month with the Chatham A's.

Pierce played second base, shortstop and third base. He started the summer playing in a less-prestigious wooden bat league in New York before getting the call to head to Cape Cod.

"The Cape was the best baseball experience of my life," Pierce said. "Being a junior college player, I hadn't seen that caliber of pitching, but I wasn't overpowered. It's a pitcher's league out there. There's a few flame throwers, but most throw in the upper 80s and can put the ball where they want it."

Leaving New York was like getting promoted from the minor leagues to the majors. Pierce did not have a job while in New York and lived in less than favorable conditions in a "run-down" apartment.

Dave Martin, an assistant coach at Bowling Green and formerly at Henry Ford, coached the Cape and was responsible for getting Pierce there. During his month at the Cape, Pierce stayed with a family in a house and worked mornings at baseball camp before heading to the ballpark.

"I wanted to get out of there (New York)," Pierce said. "They told me they'd get me a job and they didn't. I had to get money from my mom and dad and that set them back."

# Mustangs take 4th at nationals

The Mid-America Mustangs returned from a successful road trip and their highest finish ever in a national softball tournament.

The 16-and-under girls slow-pitch team finished fourth out of 45 teams in the ASA tournament, Aug. 11-14 in Jacksonville, Fla. That followed a tie for ninth place in the USSSA world tournament Aug. 4-7 in Lexington, S.C.

The Mustangs started the ASA event with a 10-6 loss to the Blazers from North Little Rock, Ark. They rebounded by winning five consecutive games — all the next day.

"The first game started at 9 a.m., and we left the field at 11:30 that night," Mid-America spokesman Ray Knickerbocker said. "We've played five (one day) before but never won all five."

The Mustangs defeated the Litchfield (Ky.) All-Stars 15-4, the Oklahoma Mafits 10-2, the North Meridian (Miss.) Optimists 4-3 in nine innings, the Orlando (Fla.) Magic 12-5 and the Weekend Warriors of York, Pa., 11-8.

If there was one crucial hit during the five-game run, it was a bases-loaded single by Belleville's Julie Jones that gave Mid-America its win over the Optimists.

With six teams surviving to Sunday, the Mustangs defeated the third-place Jasper (Ala.) Tomboys 5-3 before losing to the eventual runner-up Douglas (Ga.) Bobcats 6-1.

Mid-America finished ahead of another Douglasville team, the Georgia Girls, who had previously

## SOFTBALL

won national NSA and USSSA tournaments.

"We made it to the Final Four; that was our goal, and we did it the hard way," Knickerbocker said.

"That was a big feather in our cap. We hadn't played ASA all season. We were coming in as an unknown and established a good reputation for ourselves down there."

In the USSSA tournament at Lexington, the Mustangs won their first three games but lost their next two and were eliminated the second day.

Mid-America edged the Fayette

County Mafits from Fayetteville, Ga., in their only game Aug. 4, 6-3 in 12 innings.

The Mustangs whipped the Tennessee state champion, Mid-Tennessee Radiology from McMinnville (Tenn.), 13-4 and avenged a loss in an earlier tournament to the Louisville (Ky.) Hit-N-Misses with an 11-1 victory.

Then came back-to-back defeats later that day, Aug. 5. The Mustangs lost a 4-0 lead and the game 6-4 to the Neal Chargers from Danville, Ala., and were eliminated 9-6 by Whalen Farms from Brownsburg, Ind.

The Mustangs had a number of outstanding performers during the two tournaments, according to Knickerbocker.



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### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE C-13-94, an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 30, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, Article II, Uniform Traffic Code, The City Code of The City Of Farmington Hills To Prohibit Any Person Authorizing Or Permitting A Motor Vehicle Owned Or Under Their Control To Be Driven Unlawfully.

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS ORDAINS:

Section 1.

Article II, Uniform Traffic Code, of Chapter 30, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, of the City Code of the City of Farmington Hills is hereby amended to add a new section to read as follows:

Section 10-434. Operation of Vehicle and Violation of Act, Owner's Permission.

No person shall knowingly authorize or permit a motor vehicle owned by him or under his control to be driven by any person in violation of any of the provisions of law. The person who violates this section is responsible for a civil infraction.

Section 2. Repealer.

Section 3. Severability.

Section 4. Savings.

Section 5. Effective Date, September 5, 1994

Section 7. Enactment, August 18, 1994

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk  
City of Farmington Hills

Published August 18, 1994

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### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING MEETING AUGUST 15, 1994

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lichman at 7:30 p.m. Members Present: Butts, Grant, Lichman, Oliver, Sever, Smith and Vagstad. Members Absent: None. Others Present: City Manager Conklin, City Clerk Dornan, Assistant City Managers Brock and Call, Directors Bassett, Contagias and Potter, and Attorney Dornan.

**COUNCIL:**

- Tabled reconsideration of Timbercrest of Farmington Hills Planned Unit Development and referred issue to a future special session.

**APPROVED:**

- Amendment roll for road rehabilitation and drainage improvements for Lakes Drive.
- Introduction of Ordinance to amend regulations for temporary community event signs.
- Enactment of Ordinance amending Uniform Traffic Code prohibiting any person authorizing or permitting a motor vehicle owned or under their control to be driven unlawfully.
- Use and Policy Guidelines for the operation of the Farmington Hills Activities Center.
- Transfer of ownership of a 1994 Class C licensed business from Rosemary's Macaroni Grill, Inc., 22728 Northwestern Hwy, to Brinker Michigan, Inc.
- Resolutions supporting the Charter Change Candidates.
- Extension of final preliminary plan for Marion Estates subdivision.
- Special Assessment District for sanitary sewer installation for the north side of The Mill Road, between Briarhill Drive and Ingham Road and set public hearing date of September 15, 1994, for determination hearing.
- Letter/purchase agreement with Oakland County for new recycling equipment.
- Resolutions to discuss land acquisition.
- Termination of rezoning procedure previously initiated by the City for property located at 30643 Twelve Mile Road.
- Working for proposed charter amendment re: millage for land acquisition and maintenance to be included on November 1994 election ballot.

**AWARDED BIDS FOR:**

- Harbor Drive Road Rehabilitation and Drainage Improvement Project to Thompson & McCully Company in the amount of \$104,678.15.
- Landscaping and drainage improvements to South Hill Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$64,750.00.
- Remediation of Rear Yard Drains to Countryline Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$28,300.10.

**SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE ISSUED FOR:**

- Kendallwood block party on September 11, 1994.
- Rolling Oaks West block party on August 21, 1994.
- Copperwood East block party on August 27, 1994.
- Mid & River's Edge (21500 Orchard Lake Road) outdoor Jazz Party on September 4, 1994.

LAWRENCE LICHTMAN, Mayor  
KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

Published August 18, 1994

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**SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 1994 NOON-5 P.M.**

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