

Farmington girls spark American all-star victory

Seventy-players converged Saturday on Massey Field for the Advanced and Novice Division Incredible Girls Fast-pitch Softball League all-star games.

The game was played in memory of the late James Mackie.

Mackie's wife Lois, longtime supporter of the Incredible

FAST-PITCH

League, now runs Commercial Carpet in Novi. Their daughter Kate, a former All-Lakes Division catcher from North Farmington, now plays for Wittenberg (Ohio) University.

She is an assistant coach with

the Diamonds in the Advanced Division.

The American All-Stars, coached by Roger Heikkinen of the Farmington Fantastics, downed the National All-Stars, 7-5.

Alana Heikkinen (Fantastics) gave up one run over the first two innings to gain credit as the win-

ning pitcher. Sara Carson (Canton Cobras), Jenny Sikora (Cobras), Michelle Menghini (Northville Niners) and Andrea Mida (Garden City Singers) also took turns on the mound.

Jenny List (Farmington Hills Majestics) went 2-for-2 for the American All-Stars to earn tournament MVP honors.

Stephanie Lyman (Majestics) added an RBI single, while Amber LaGrow (Cobras), Sarah Roth (Vers), Sarah Johnson (Vers), Mida and Menghini each collected hits.

The National League, coached by Dana Hardwidge of the Livonia Niners, were led offensively by Alicia December (Knights), who went 2-for-2 with two RBIs, and Heidi Reese (West Bloomfield Bombers), who also went 2-for-2.

Loaing pitcher Kathy Collins, the victim of four errors in a six-run American third-inning, also had a hit along with Rachel Barach (Bombers).

Mickey Spitz (North Farmington Diamonds), December and 12-year-old Jessica Brubaker (Diamonds) also took stints on the mound.

Other American All-Stars included Nicole Miller and Jenny Wilson, Singers; Kristin Siskosky, Maureen Carocan, Beth Hayward and Katie Lukasik, Fantastics; Amy LaGrow, Angela Litwin and Melanie Mikoez, Cobras; Sara Johnson, Mandy Sabo

and Jenny Sheehan, Vers; and Shanae McGrath, Majestics.

The National League stars included Jami Grigal, Randi Wolfe and Lori Jendrusik, Livonia Lancers; Jennie Thibault, Erin Stegich, Mikki Mental and Becky Vosler, Hornets; Lauren Darnell, Kristin Timmer, Diamonds; Terri Walters, Knights; Jessie Jenkins, Sara Stiles, Lisa Shaw, Tina Nalf and Meghan McGinty, Knights.

Gail, Bronco; Jill Kopper, Nicole Riedl, Nora Kohlraas and Kristy Gullfoyle, Clarenceville Comets; Kelly Young, Christine and Andrea Kmet, Livonia Mariners.

Novice action

In the Novice Division, the Mariners swept a double-header from the Comets last week, 11-3 and 11-5.

The Mariners are 4-10 overall and the Comets are 5-9.

Andrea Kmet was the winning pitcher in the opener, scattering four hits over four innings.

Chrissy Harkless had an RBI triple, while Katy Duncan, Terri Morrill, Jennifer McGregor and Jamie Linden added RBI singles.

Nicole Riedl was the losing pitcher.

In the second game, Kristin Kmet went the first three innings and Duncan worked the final two, combining on a six-hitter for the Mariners.

McGregor and Kelly Young had RBI singles, while Kmet doubles, Michelle Ufford, who walked 14, took the loss. Jill Kopper went 3-for-3, including a triple, and Becky Pommerville added two hits.

In earlier action, the Mariners also beat the winless Lancers in a twinbill, 9-8 and 12-8.

Tera Morrill gained the victory in the opener, scattering eight hits and nine walks. Abby Wojtowicz contributed an RBI single.

Giller Novice MVP

In the Novice game, the American League, coached by Larry Bober of the Garden City Commanders, beat the Nationals, coached by Curt White of the Detroit County Day Broncos, 11-7.

Tourney MVP Chrissy Giller (Livonia Lancers) pitched the first three innings, allowing three runs on three hits. She also collected two hits, including a double, and two RBIs.

Other American stars include Kim Giller and Becky Pawlik, Lancers; Marcy Magnuson, Jill Zaijha, Kim Blaser, Kristin Galtley, Kelly DeLeonardis and Karen Becker, Northville Neon; Kathy Moklenko, Becky Milze, Gretchen Hudson, Melissa Brown, Tiffany Edgar, Andrea Meaner, Julie Price and Nancy Metzger, Commanders.

The National stars consisted of Jill Zimmer, Wendy Boase, Alzema Galaira, Kristen Bentiville, Janet Kandrevas and Christine

Gridders from page 1C

"You can see I got a couple bangs," Thomas said, pointing to a Band-Aid on his chin. "I got double-teamed a few times. I'm only 205 going against guys 250 and 270, guys who are going to Michigan."

The most memorable play for Thomas was a solo tackle on a kickoff.

Townsend (6-4, 255) had two goals for the week of practice and the game itself. One was to prove he could compete against better-known linemen.

For most of the game, Townsend battled 262-pound tackle Ron Acheson (Lowell/Michigan)

and 300-pound center Jason Stealy (Marshall/Indiana) and held his own. American stars included Marshall/Indiana) and held his own.

"I learned that earlier in the week, and today just proved it," he said. "I practiced against guys going to Division II. I went against higher-division guys today and proved I could pretty much hang."

"At Stevenson, the only guys my size were on our team."

Townsend's second goal was to have an outstanding play.

"I almost had one on a screen," he said. "It seemed no one else read it, but just as I got to him they blew the whistle and called

holding."

Townsend didn't have any official tackles, but he managed to stop a play nonetheless.

"One time I plugged up a double team," he said. "I went to my knees like they teach you, and the running back tripped over everybody."

Townsend expected to play offensive tackle but was pleased, even relieved, when he was given a defensive role.

"You don't have an assignment but a responsibility (on defense)," he said. "It's not dead-end, but you have a job. The defensive guys have a lot more fun, too."

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