

SPORTS

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MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1996

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Cobras end winning year

The 10-year-old NFWB Cobras travel team won the Little Caesars Baseball Federation and Oxford Invitational, concluding a successful inaugural season.

The Cobras swept through the Willie Mays Division in Little Caesars competition with a 17-3 record behind the solid pitching of Mike Hand, Jonathan Noble and Matt Waskerwitz.

NFWB tied with crosstown rival Concealed Security but was awarded the league title based on strength of schedule.

The Cobras posted an impressive .362 team batting average while outscoring opponents 256-124.

Playing prominent roles in the field were Steven Antonietti, Kris Clark, Andrew Diamond, Josh Feinberg, Kyle Phillips, Thomas Phillips, Robert Reznick, A.J. Rice and David Swenson.

NFWB completed its season by winning the Oxford tournament July 28.

The Cobras posted consecutive victories over the Rochester Bulldogs (13-0) and the Leekland Athletics (19-0) before losing to the Lake Orion Dragons, 11-10.

NFWB regrouped to beat the Dragons in the championship game 15-7 and capture the first-place trophy.

The Cobras won a total of three tournaments, including ones in Warren and Mount Morris.

The team is managed by Harvey Reznick and coached by Roy Phillips, Tom Phillips and Bill Swenson.

OCC soccer tryouts

Tryouts for the Oakland Community College men's club soccer team are scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the school's Orchard Ridge campus in Farmington Hills.

Interested players must be full-time students at OCC. Phil Nielsen will coach the team. He can be reached at 810 (544-4926) for additional information.

Kneeboard competition

A National Kneeboard Competition will be held at Baypoint Beach of Stony Creek Metropark near Rochester/Utica on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 17-18, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

The event will feature competitions in slalom, tricks and flip out classes, as well as barefoot and other trick-skiing demonstrations.

More than 100 competitors from all over the U.S. are expected for the American Water Ski Association sanctioned event. The event is hosted by the St. Clair Aquafibians and the Huron-Clinton Metroparks, and is sponsored by Mastercraft Boats and other area businesses.

For more information, contact Stony Creek Metropark at 1-800-477-7766.

Macker touney tip-off

Registration will continue through Tuesday, Aug. 20, for teams wishing to participate in the Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament slated for Sept. 7-8 at Pine Knob Music Theater. Entry forms remain available at area Meijer stores and at Oakland University.

Teams that played in the 1995 Macker at OU will automatically receive an entry form through the mail.

For further information, call the Macker Hotline at 1-800-876-HOOP or the local hotline at (810) 376-6762.

Labor Day Tournament

Teams may register now to play in the 21st Annual Labor Day Softball Tournament at Champaign Park in Allen Park.

The tournament will run from Aug. 31-Sept. 2. Entry is \$65 per team plus a \$12 fee per game for umpires. Team and individual awards will be presented.

Those interested should contact Rick Sparks at (313) 675-3219.

Laker Golf Outing

The Laker Fan Club is holding the second annual Laker Golf Outing beginning with a shotgun start at p.m. Friday, Aug. 23, at Brentwood Golf and Country Club in White Lake.

Cost is \$80 per person and includes a cart, a buffet dinner and 18 holes of golf.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the football program at West Bloomfield High School.

Call Steve Bright during business hours at (810) 932-5200 or evenings at (810) 661-1566.

Roller Hockey signup

Roller Hockey America is organizing fall roller hockey leagues for children and adults at the Rochester Hills Skating Center, 1700 S. Livernoid. In-person signup will be taken Tuesdays and Wednesdays after 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 p.m.

League play begins Saturday, Sept. 14, and will have limited space available. Individual in-house league fees are \$120 before Aug. 24 and \$130 after if space is available. Team fees are \$1,050 before Aug. 24 and \$1,150 after.

For further information, call (810) 651-4194 or (810) 656-9201.



Silver Medalist: Krasimir Dounev, a member of Bulgarian Olympic team, works with area gymnasts on form and technique. Here he helps 12-year-old Corinne Rice of Plymouth with her tumbling technique.

Foreign influence

Bulgarians offer expertise to area gymnasts



BY BRAD ENMONS
STAFF WRITER

When Krasimir Dounev was asked by students at the Michigan Academy of Gymnastics in Westland how much his silver medal was worth, the Bulgarian gymnast hesitated with a simple response.

"It's worth about 15 years of hard work," said the 24-year-old, who has plenty of calluses on his hands to show after placing second in the individual horizontal bars at the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta.

"It was the highlight of my

career," added Dounev, who has 12 years experience with the Bulgarian National Team and was making his second Olympic appearance.

Ivan Ivanov, 22, and Jordan Jovchev, 23, who are also currently training and doing spot coaching at the Westland gym, helped the Bulgarian team to a sixth-place finish in the team competition, while turning in impressive individual performances as well.

Ivanov took fourth in both floor exercises and vault, while Jovchev, one of the favorites to medal in rings, also placed fourth.

All three are guests this month of Doug Rowe, who has run the Michigan Academy of Gymnastics the past 18 years.

Petar Gueorguiev, 31, who helped Bulgaria to a fifth-place team finish in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, has served as a coach, along with his wife Tania, at the Westland facility for the past 4 1/2 years. He is one of five Bulgarian coaches on site.

Gueorguiev, who resides in Westland, works daily with the young gymnasts along with two of his longtime friends and fellow elite National Team members Dian Kolev and Stoycho Gotchev.

All three are 31. Kolev, who lives in Canton, is a two-time Olympian who placed fourth in the vault in 1988 and

took a bronze in the 1987 World Championships.

The trio first met Rowe during the 1991 World Professional Championships in Indianapolis.

"We work in a little bit different style," Gueorguiev said. "The kind of professional because we want what's best for the kids. And working for Doug, I've never met a better person. He's like a father to all of us."

Dounev, Ivanov and Jovchev arrived last month in Atlanta with Olympic experience, having competed in Barcelona, Spain, in 1992.

"All of them have been on the National Team for at least 10 years, starting with junior," said Gueorguiev, who acts as their interpreter. "They've competed in

See GYMNASTS, 2C

Collegiate squad falls short in regional

BASEBALL

Decision Consultants, Inc., came within one game of advancing in the National Amateur Baseball Federation's College Division (22-and-under) World Series, but St. Louis, Mo., spoiled the bid with a 15-4 win in the regional final Aug. 3 at Derby City Field in Louisville, Ky.

DCI, the representative from the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League, simply ran out of arms after playing five games in four days.

St. Louis advanced to the NABF College Division finals in Oshkosh, Wis.

"We played good defense the first three games, but the last two we kind of let down," DCI assistant coach Frank Corej said. "We were

right there in the tourney, but we ran out of pitching. Our mistakes were compounded by another, and we couldn't get out of it.

"We hit the ball (.336 overall as a team in five games), but we needed a few more key hits."

In the regional championship, DCI and St. Louis were tied at 2-2 after four innings, but the Missouri representative broke it open with six runs in the sixth, keyed by Tim Rocha's three-run homer off reliever Mark Fleming. St. Louis then added seven runs in the sixth to put the game

away. Joel Hillebrand, who won the opener on Aug. 1 over Dayton, 6-4, left in the opening inning with a sore arm.

Fleming then pitched three scoreless innings before St. Louis exploded in the fifth.

Three different DCI pitchers, including closer Joel Fabris, gave up a total of 14 hits.

DCI had a total of 11 as Chris DeShetter, Matt Mynarek and Darrell Roche each went 2-for-3.

Roche (.462), Kevin Uzarski (.455), DeShetter (.438) and Delano Voletti (.412) were DCI's top hitters in the tournament.

Hillebrand, a right-hander from

Madonna University, gave up three runs in the first inning of the tourney opener but settled down over the final six, allowing just one hit the rest of the way to earn the complete game victory.

Hillebrand struck out 10 and walked three, tossing a four-hitter.

All six DCI runs came in the fourth inning as DeShetter had a two-run double, Voletti a two-run single and Roche an RBI single.

Roche and Voletti combined for four of DCI's 10 hits.

In the second game Aug. 2, DCI beat top seed as previously unbeaten St. Louis, 9-1, in a rain-short-

See BASEBALL, 2C

Sportsmanship key issue for prep boss

BY BRAD ENMONS
STAFF WRITER

Jack Roberts has been Executive Director for the Michigan High School Athletic Association for a decade now.

And if he has any say about it, he will continue on the same course for the next 10.

"The fundamental issues remain scholarship, safety, sportsmanship and the overall scope of the program," said Roberts, who met last week with Detroit-area media members at the Troy Hilton.

"Sportsmanship, the atmosphere that surrounds the field, will be with us 10 years from now. It will always be a defining issue."

The 19-member MHSAA Representative Council approved a 13-point package in May which calls for expanded sportsmanship efforts in education, encouragement and enforcement.

The package also adds a fourth element, exposure for those coaches



MHSAA

and programs which are consistently poor in their behavior and sportsmanship efforts.

The Council is reacting to three embarrassing incidents during the fall of 1995, which included a coach throwing a chair during a district tournament girls basketball game; a coach head-butting an official during a regional soccer match; and a bench-clearing brawl in football, which received national attention during the regular season.

Roberts said there were 132 schools where three or more unsportsmanlike reports were submitted during 1995-96.

To end that, the Council approved proposals to have the names of those schools which receive three or more negative officials reports in a single school year, and to publish the names of coaches who are ejected from contests, to be published in the

MHSAA Bulletin.

Also, players who receive three ejections in one year will be banned from post-season play.

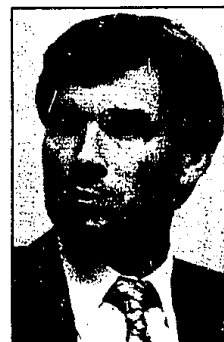
Other changes

The Council also announced some new wrinkles for the 1995-96 season.

Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn will host the Lower Peninsula Cross Country Finals (all classes). Nearly 1,900 student-athletes from approximately 500 MHSAA member schools will gather at MIS, negotiating a course which begins on the infield of the facility, proceeds to an adjacent wooded area for nearly one half of each race, and finishes in front of the main grandstand. Two thirds of the race will be visible to spectators, but binoculars are recommended.

"Girls will be allowed to compete in pole vault in boys track and field meets."

See ROBERTS, 2C



Jack Roberts: oversees state's high school sports program.