

Donaldson from page C1

coaches is my job."

Sorrentino believed the program was in danger of becoming extinct within three years if Donaldson continued.

Clarenceville, a member of the Metro Conference with an enrollment of 468 students, carried only 26 varsity players with no junior varsity or freshman squad.

"We really don't have a program," Sorrentino said. "We had a successful (varsity) season, but I'm worried about the big picture."

"There was really no off-season training. We don't really have the all the basics of a long-term program. We need somebody with some fresh or creative ideas to build a program because you can't survive with 25 kids. You have to bridge the gap with the middle school program and build bridges with the varsity. We need to take steps. I know it hurts Chuck and it hurts me as well."

Donaldson, who teaches at Clarenceville, contends he made attempts to establish a total program.

"Every year I had meetings at the middle school, two or three times during second semester to draw up interest," Donaldson said. "I called kids during the

summer. But when it comes to football time and they don't show up, I don't know what else I could have done."

"You can't force a kid to play football. The kids who want to play will play. I actually had JV coaches hired, but 11 doesn't justify a JV team. But I was hoping making the playoffs would breed some interest."

Donaldson's final game at Clarenceville was a 48-28 playoff loss to Capac. The Trojans earned a berth in Class CC-Region IV by leapfrogging four teams on the final weekend.

They were the talk of the state tournament and Observerland.

Donaldson's story of coaching from a wheelchair also came to light in both Detroit daily newspapers.

Hired in the spring of 1993, Donaldson was left a quadriplegic just two months later in a car accident. Michigan State Police reports revealed Donaldson, who collided with a Canton police officer during the early morning hours, registered a high blood-alcohol content.

After spending five months in the hospital, Donaldson, though unable to walk along with limited use of his arms, began his first season in 1994.

This past season culminated in

him being named Class CC-Region IV Coach of the Year.

"I could see if I was cheating, stealing or abusing kids, or even losing, I would have resigned," said Donaldson, a former Livonia Stevenson High quarterback and Central Michigan University graduate. "We haven't won any state titles, but we've had pretty good success and we've been competitive. And people who know me know that I can't stand losing."

Does Donaldson believe that being handicapped played a factor in his dismissal?

"I'm kind of thinking that now the more people mention it," he said. "I'm saying to myself, 'God, maybe it's me being in a chair.' It's been known to happen."

Sorrentino said Donaldson's removal was "nothing personal."

"I've tried to treat Chuck with the utmost respect," the athletic director said. "He's a tremendous individual and a courageous person. If everybody is as courageous as him, the world would be a better place, but we felt it was time as far as making a change."

Sorrentino, who came to Clarenceville after serving as a counselor for nine years at Dearborn Divine Child, also responded the varsity boys basketball job, replacing five-year coach Rick

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Chuck Sorrentino
—Clarenceville athletic director

Larson in favor of DC assistant Bill Dyer.

The Clarenceville A.D. said he has no particular candidate in mind.

"What we're looking for is somebody with varsity experience," Sorrentino said. "We'll post it tomorrow (Wednesday) and see what happens."

Meanwhile, Donaldson is not sure about his future in coaching.

"I can't see coming back, I have some bitter feelings right now and I'm really livid," he said. "It doesn't seem like due process."

Raiders rout Pioneers in 1st dual meet of '99

Dearborn arrived 15 minutes late for a swim meet Tuesday at North Farmington, but the Raiders might have wished they had stayed home.

The host Raiders won every event but the 200-yard freestyle and took most of the second places as well en route to a 141-44 victory.

"We had some good swims and, in some other places, we're not in real good shape," North coach Pat Duthie said. "Some kids who weren't there over vacation still have some speed but are running out of gas quick."

"Hopefully, the kids who swam well will be motivated to keep working hard and the kids who aren't in as good a shape will be motivated to get going and get back to work."

North (2-0) had a pair of double winners in junior Jim Gabriel, who won the individual medley (2:19.24) and the backstroke (59.82) and Matt Zald, who was first in the 50 freestyle (22.82) and the 100 freestyle (51.25).

Aaron Rycroft won the 200 freestyle (2:00.74), Mark Wachaberg, butterfly (59.39); Lough Rycroft, 500 freestyle (6:28.27);

SWIMMING

and Adam Farber, breaststroke (1:06.09). Joe Lebovic won the diving with 198.75 points.

Gabriel, Farber, Wachaberg and Zald combined to win the medley relay (1:45.09), and Zald, Brandon Digby, Wachaberg and Gabriel earned first place in the 400 freestyle relay (3:43.53).

Digia was second in the 200 freestyle (2:01.61) and the 100 (53.83), and Craig Paske was second in the IM (2:19.97) and the 500 freestyle (6:29.84).

The Raiders had additional seconds from Wachaberg, 50 freestyle (24.30); Goodwin, diving (177.65); Farber, butterfly (1:00.23); John Kern, backstroke (1:04.06); and Jon Zald, breaststroke (1:13.13).

North was second in every day. Joe Kern, Jon Zald, Chris Clayson and Dan Goshorn swam the medley (1:56.2); Digia, Clayson, Stephen Pearce and Aaron Rycroft swam the 200 freestyle (1:47.32); Oz Pearlman, Paske, Aaron Rycroft and Sermet Alvor swam the 400 freestyle (3:52.82).

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Independent Probate
File No. 98-260,457-12

Estate of Barbara J. O'Connor, Deceased 378-24-5567

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:

The decedent, whose last known address was 220 Alton Court, Birmingham, MI 48009 died September 20, 1998. An instrument dated May 15, 1993 has been admitted as the will of the decedent. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, Timothy E. O'Connor, 658 Alton Court, Birmingham, MI 48009 or to both the independent personal representative and the Oakland County Probate Court, Pontiac, Michigan 48341, within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. And to the administration of the decedent's will to probate. Objections to the admission of the decedent's will to probate must be filed within 90 days of publication of this notice.

JAMES P. DEAN, P23764, 801 W. Big Beaver Road, Ste. 500, Troy, MI 48064 (248) 362-1300
Publish: January 7, 1999

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF OAKLAND NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Independent Probate
File No. 98-260,457-12

Estate of Madeline V. Hilton, Deceased Social Security #30-29-2841

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:

The decedent, whose last known address was 2714 Manchester, Birmingham, MI 48009 died July 24, 1998. An instrument dated March 19, 1998 has been admitted as the will of the decedent. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, Violet T. Hilton, 2714 Manchester, Birmingham, MI 48009, or to both the independent personal representative and the Oakland County Probate Court, Pontiac, Michigan 48341, within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. And to the administration of the decedent's will to probate. Objections to the admission of the decedent's will to probate must be filed within 90 days of publication of this notice.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF OAKLAND NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Independent Probate
File No. 98-260,457-12

Estate of Arthur R. Cone, Jr., Deceased 131-67-9731

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:

The decedent, whose last known address was 18731 Glenwood Drive, Lathrup Village, MI 48078 died January 20, 1998. An instrument dated September 20, 1990 has been admitted as the will of the decedent. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, Jeffrey R. Cone, 47 Straits Hill Place, Wilson, MI 48097 or to both the independent personal representative and the Oakland County Probate Court, Pontiac, Michigan 48341, within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. And to the administration of the decedent's will to probate. Objections to the admission of the decedent's will to probate must be filed within 90 days of publication of this notice.

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