

SPORTS & RECREATION

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Kelly chosen for ODP

Kate Kelly of Farmington Hills has been selected to the United States Youth Soccer Association Region II Girls Olympic Development Program pool team in her age group.

She was selected by regional and national coaches this summer at the regional camp in DeKalb, Ill. The top 18 players from 14 Midwestern states competed for a place on the pool team. Only 30 players were chosen in each age group.

Kelly is a freshman at Farmington High School, a former member of the Livonia Meteors Soccer Club and a new member of the Ann Arbor Arsenal under-15 premier team.

"Being selected to the regional pool is a major accomplishment," said Bonnie Skover, regional administrator for the Olympic Development Program. "Kate will be considered now and in the future for possible selection to a United States national team."

"Some (former ODP) players went on to win Olympic gold medals in 1996 and are part of the U.S. women's World Cup team."

C'ville tankers place

The Clarenceville Swim Club had six participants earn top-10 finishes in the Michigan Long Course Championship Aug. 2-6 at the Holland Aquatic Center.

In the girls 15-18 age division, Ashley Eilers placed fourth in the 100-meter backstroke (1:11.06) and fifth in the 200 backstroke (2:32.77). Andrea Hurn placed sixth in both the 200 breaststroke (2:56.17) and 200 IM (2:32.67).

In the girls 11-12 age division, Anna Polkowski finished third in the 50 butterfly (31.99); sixth, 50 freestyle (30.46); seventh, 100 butterfly (1:16.69); and eighth, 100 freestyle (1:06.69).

Carly Burgio added a seventh in the 400 freestyle (5:00.94) and a 10th in the 200 freestyle (2:28.61). Teammate Maria Gordon finished sixth in the 200 individual medley (2:43.5) and ninth in the 400 freestyle (5:02.77).

Brynn Marocki took seconds in both the 50 and 100 breaststroke events in 40.03 and 1:29.49, respectively. She also took seventh in the 50 freestyle (33.69).

Other participants in the state meet included Jeff Andonian, Travis Hatt, Mara Loniewski, Jeff Pauza, Monica Pauza and Samantha Reid.

Representing Clarenceville last weekend in the 2001 Central Zone Long Course Championships at Oakland University were Eilers, Gordon, Hurn, Loniewski, Brett Meconis and Polkowski.

Ex-CC hurler stars

Eastern Michigan University pitcher Anthony Tomey (Redford Catholic Central), playing this summer for the Springfield Rifles of the Central Illinois Collegiate League, ranked seventh in the CIGL in innings pitched (63.1) and fourth in strikeouts (61).

Tomey, who will be a junior this fall, and EMU teammate Joe Linde (Midland) finished one-two in the league in winning percentage, innings pitched, strikeouts and games started.

OCC signs prep star

Oakland Community College men's basketball coach Dymetrius Ware announced the signing of 6-foot-6 forward Christopher Gierd, who played for Class B state champion Detroit Crockett High School last season. Gierd averaged 14 points and seven rebounds.

"Chris will make a big impact on our program this season," Ware said.

OCC opens its season on Friday, Nov. 9, in the OCC Pre-Thanking Shootout. The Raiders will play Lorain (Ohio) CC at 7:30 p.m. at the Orchard Ridge Campus gymnasium in Farmington Hills.

Building model boats more than hobby

Farmington's Suydam is champion in one-meter, radio-controlled class

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER
domeara@oe.homecomm.net

When Alan Suydam of Farmington builds a model ship, it doesn't just sit on a shelf in his home.

The chances are good it's going to see water.

Suydam, 56, likes to race the ships he puts together from scratch in his basement, and he has traveled the country doing so with success.

The vice president of the Midwest "Vintage Model Yacht Group" won the one-meter U.S. national championship in the radio-controlled sailboat competition Aug. 2-5 in Mystic, Conn.

The event was part of the Second Annual Model Yacht Regatta at the world-famous Mystic Seaport Museum of Nautical History.

It was sanctioned by the American Model Yacht Association, the national

governing body. Suydam belongs to the Detroit Model Yacht Club, which is a member of the AMYA and is one of about 100 clubs in the country.

"Usually, there's one in every major city," Suydam said, adding the AMYA was formed in 1944 for the purpose of preserving the history of vintage sailing ships in replica.

"It's like a vintage car racing group whereby it seeks to preserve older models. It's the same thing except this is for model sailboats."

The hobby had its heyday in Detroit in the 1930s when there were eight clubs that sailed model yachts.

"A pond was built on Belle Isle for model yacht racing," Suydam said. "It's been filled in (to a quarter of its original size), but it's still there and it still has a sign that says 'Model Yacht Basin.'"

"Every year junior high kids in the Detroit industrial arts program have made model yachts and sailed them on the pond for 75 years. But it's not useable as a model-yacht racing venue."

Suydam's passion in model building is the older ships. He has two schooners, one being a model of the

Please see SAILBOATS, B4



Alan Suydam



Suydam's handwork: At left is one of the schooners Alan Suydam built. It's a replica of the "Brilliant," a historic sailboat. Suydam, however, won the one-meter sailboat competition at the Model Yacht Regatta Aug. 2-5.



Model of consistency: Suydam displays one of his boats, giving an idea of the scale of the model sailboats he builds and races.

Panthers runners-up in USSSA Series

The Michigan Panthers of Farmington Hills finished second out of 40 baseball teams in the 10-year-old USSSA World Series last week in Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Panthers faced teams from Texas, Missouri and Washington in preliminary play to qualify for the 24-team championship round.

The first challenge for the Panthers in the elimination phase came from the El Paso (Texas) Conquistadors.

In a game that went past midnight, the Panthers outlasted the Texans, 6-5. Pitcher Mike McCormick gave up five runs on 10 hits in the first six innings.

Then, with two men on base and no outs in the seventh, Eric Theisen retired the next three El Paso batters to earn a save.

BASEBALL

Steve Antonietti, who was 3-for-4 at the plate, led the Panther offense. Matt Clark, Geirrel Grayer and Theisen contributed two hits each.

The Panthers were back on the diamond the next morning, and Theisen was back on the mound to face the Kansas Cubs.

After seven innings, the score was tied, 6-6, and the game went into extra innings. In the top of the eighth, the Panthers scored two runs to take the lead.

Matt Holly came in to pitch for the Panthers in the bottom of the eighth and retired the first three Cubs.

Antonietti led the offense again with a 3-for-5 hitting performance. Rich Hegstrom chipped in two hits. Holly threw a one-hit shutout the following day as the Panthers topped the undefeated and top-ranked Louisville (Ky.) Players, 9-0.

Holly struck out 10 in five innings. John Roessler, Antonietti and Grayer contributed two hits each to the team's 10-hit offense.

In the quarterfinal game, McCormick allowed only three hits and struck out seven over six innings as the Panthers defeated the Fort Worth (Texas) Tornados, 10-0.

Nick Crist, Antonietti and Grayer had two hits apiece to pace the Panthers, who had eight total.

Please see PANTHERS, B2

Cobras finish with 3 tournament wins

From Brighton to the Ohio line and back to Wayne, the 14-year-old NWFB Cobras can run up the month of July in one word: Champions.

Manager Rick Burkhardt's squad compiled an overall tournament record of 24-9 for the season but was nearly unbeatable in the July travels.

Burkhardt, assisted by coaches Randy Kay, Bob Goltzhofer, Mark McKenzie, Dave Morrison and Mark Goldberg, led the Cobras to three consecutive tournament titles.

BASEBALL

The first was a five-game sweep of the Brighton Invitational. The winning effort was highlighted by Brad Burkhardt's three home runs against the Brighton Red Sox and the pitching of Sam Yashinsky and Pete Goltzhofer in wins over the Bedford Broncos, Clio Mustangs and Brighton Blaze.

Burkhardt allowed just three hits

in going the distance in the 11-1, championship-game win over the Blaze. Catcher Andy Goldberg and shortstop Matt Leikowitz contributed two hits each.

The Cobras turned up the heat on opponents from Michigan and Ohio in the Bedford Invitational Tournament. Jason McKenzie led the way with four runs scored in a 20-9, opening-round rout of the Walbridge (Ohio) team.

Bill Morrison pitched three strong

innings for the win and was backed by a 10-run third inning. Josh Kay walked three times and scored three runs in the blowout.

Victories followed over the Adrian Angels and the Ida All-Stars. Joe McKoon led the attack against Adrian with three hits.

The duo of Morrison and McKenzie returned to the fore in a 6-5, nine-inning victory over the Royal Oak Rangers.

Please see COBRAS, B3

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