

IN BRIEF

BASEBALL LESSONS

Midwest Baseball Academy, which operates a national network of hitting and pitching camps for players in grades 2 through 12, is entering the Michigan-Ohio area at Waterford Mott High School and the University of Toledo. Registration is now under way at www.MidwestBaseballAcademy.com. MABA's Spring Training 2003 provides young players with hitting and pitching training programs at indoor facilities. The training sessions include six weeks of instruction for \$95. The session at Toledo Jan. 18-Feb. 22 and Waterford Mott Feb. 9-March 16. Coaches at each site will include the

school's respective coaching staff, plus high school and college coaches from the area. Registration deadlines are approximately six weeks before each session begins. Details and times for each site, as well as registration forms, are available online at the above site or by phoning 1-800-669-6323.

WINTER SENIOR BASKETBALL

Schoolcraft College is offering basketball for seniors 60-and-over from 10 a.m. to noon each Tuesday and Thursday through the end of March. Cost is \$35 for the entire winter season. For more information, call (248) 478-4457, or just show up Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Blues capture winter league crown

The South Farmington Blues won the championship game in the 10-and-under division of the Oxford Winter Baseball League Dec. 22.

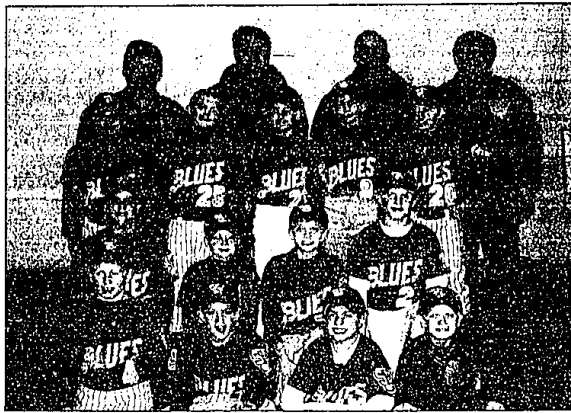
The Blues outscored Oxford Area Travel, 11-4, to take the title. They earned a spot in the championship game by posting a 6-0 record against teams from Oxford and Birmingham.

Throughout the season, the Blues dominated their opponents with solid pitching and hitting.

In seven games, Blues pitchers combined for two no-hitters and gave up only nine hits. Offensively, the team outscored its competition, 68-19.

The Blues' roster included Blake Burnett, Joel Fisher, Emmanuel Francane, Steven Kopeck, Michael Kozlarski, Austin LeGault, Collin Morrison, Bennett Orsini, Daniel Pochmara, Jeff Sorenson, Dallas Sutton, Jake Vento, and Tommy Vento.

The team is managed by Steve Sutton, who is assisted by coaches Bruce Morrison, Greg Pochmara and Todd Sorenson.



The members of the 10-and-under South Farmington Blues baseball team are (first row, left to right) Austin LeGault, Michael Kozlarski, Jake Vento, Blake Burnett, (second row) Daniel Pochmara, Dallas Sutton, Bennett Orsini, Tommy Vento, (third row) Joel Fisher, Collin Morrison, Emmanuel Francane, Steven Kopeck, Jeff Sorenson, (back row) manager Steve Sutton and coaches Bruce Morrison, Todd Sorenson and Greg Pochmara.

Shamrocks crush Spartans in hoop game

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER

At one point during Tuesday's basketball game, Redford Bishop Borgess basketball coach Lloyd Praedel turned to the score's table and asked how to defend Redford Catholic Central.

"If I put my 6-7 kid on their 6-10 kid, it leaves their 6-7 kid wide open," opined Praedel. "We just don't have the height to go man-to-man with them."

But it wasn't the inside game that gave the Shamrocks an easy 75-43 win over the host Spartans - it was the outside game.

The only way the Shamrocks would have improved on their 3-pointers is if football kicker Jason Ginnell threw on a jersey. CC knocked down 11 triples in the game - six of them by Ginnell's grid teammate Derek Brooks.

"We were trying to keep them out of the paint and force them to shoot from way outside," said

BASKETBALL

Praedel. "We kept them out of the paint and they hit from way outside. And as the game wore on, we wore down. It's hard to chase people when you only have seven kids."

Actually Borgess (2-5) broke out of the gate early, knocking down four of their first six shots for an 8-2 lead. Borgess hit its high mark with 2-40 to play in the quarter as DeAngelo Seale hit two of his team-high 21 points. But CC (4-4) went to work, as a pair of triples by Brooks knotted the score at 12-all.

And in the second quarter, it was lights out. CC hit five 3's outside and started dominating the glass with second, third and fourth chances inside en route to a 20-2 advantage and a 32-14 lead.

"We mislaid some shots early and they hit their first three or four before we started to settle down," said CC coach Rick

Cornti. "We had a decent second quarter and took better shots than we did in the first quarter."

Neither team was 100 percent. Injuries forced Borgess to play with a short bench - two to be exact - and CC's David Herberholz was hurt, forcing Cornti to move forward Doug Creighton, in his third game, to play the point.

The short bench proved to be the bigger factor for the smaller Spartans. CC shot just 6-of-26 from the floor in the third quarter - but was still able to get 26 shots off by dominating the boards. Borgess did manage to close the gap after a slower start to pull within 20 at the end of the third quarter.

"We got a little complacent," said Cornti. "We had that big lead and they played very hard. They made a run and we got complacent."

Dan Waterstrait made a big part of the difference early in the fourth quarter, scoring nine

of his 17 points in the period as CC pulled back out a 30-point lead with 3:19 left.

"In the second half, our fatigue was high, but

Waterstrait kind of took over," said Praedel. "In the first half, he wasn't active, but in the second half he got more active and took over their offensive glass."

CC shot 28-of-76 from the floor and had no turnovers, while the Spartans were 17-for-62 with 16 turnovers. Creighton added 13 points for the Shamrocks, while James Cash had six and Darnell Tyson and Kyle Smith had five each. Duane Jacobs added nine points for Borgess and T.R. Ellis - starting his first game at point guard - added seven.

"T.R. was a little timid but when he had control he did well," said Praedel. "I thought our young kids stepped up and did a good job, but they were too big and too deep."

beaudry@ohiohomecomm.net | (734) 953-2006

TOMORROW'S STARS TODAY!

FRIDAY @ 7:30
WHALEERS vs.
KINGSTON



FAMILY VALUE NIGHT!

4 Tickets, 4 Hot Dogs, 4 Pepsi's
& 2 Programs for only \$39!
advance purchase only

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

Saturday, Jan. 25 vs. Windsor Spitfires
Pat Peake Jersey Retirement
Friday, Jan. 31 vs. Toronto St. Michael's
Family Value Night

Tickets \$9 & \$12

Charge by phone at (734) 453-8400
VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express accepted

COMPUWARE SPORTS ARENA
M-14 & BECK RD. IN PLYMOUTH

"Choose Two for You"

Two Months Rent Free
or
Two Years at the Same
Affordable Monthly Fee

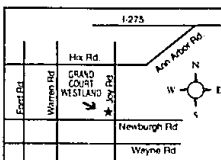
The
GRAND COURT

(734) 451-1155

37501 Joy Road | Westland, MI 48185

A Retirement Community That Won't Cramp Your
Style, Your Furniture or Your Pocket Book!

- Large, Stylish Apartments
- Full-size Kitchens
- Three Meals Daily
- Transportation
- Social Director
- Weekly Linen & Housekeeping
- 24 Hour Emergency System
- On-site Personal Care & Health Services
- LPN on Staff



www.brookdaleliving.com
a BROOKDALE managed community

Ask About Two-Months
FREE Rent Special!

Entertaining for
the Super Bowl?

Game Room Packages Available
From...\$1879



Plus, get a FREE Table
Tennis & Table Hockey Top with the
purchase of a pool table valued at \$600



...Now You're Entertaining!

Allstate
Billards & Game Room Furniture

Quantities
limited.
See store
for details.

Redford
Telegraph Road
MI 48185

Novi Town Center
Novi, MI 48165
734-661-0100

Ann Arbor
Westgate Mall
734-769-1100

www.allstatebillards.com