

Preps Open Play in Les Anders Baseball Tournament

The lid goes up Saturday on the Les Anders Memorial Invitational baseball tournament.

Twelve of the 14 high schools, served by the Observer Newspaper group, will participate in the meet which is being co-sponsored by the Livonia Recreation Department and this newspaper.

The meet is dedicated to the former Livonia athletic school administrator and coach who died unexpectedly of a heart attack several months ago after founding the tourney last year.

Franklin copped the

1985 Invitational with a victory over Redford Union in the championship game.

This year's entries include both the '85 finalists, along with Garden City East and West, Stevenson, Bentley, John Glenn, Clarenceville, Thurston, St. Agatha, Our Lady of Sorrows and Plymouth.

The Franklin team will begin the defense of its crown against St. Agatha Saturday at 7 p.m. at Livonia's Henry Ford Field on Farmington Road where all games will be played.

To Clarenceville and

John Glenn will go the honor of clinching in the meet's first game. They face off at 3 p.m. Then it will be Thurston and Bentley at 5 o'clock with Stevenson engaging Garden City

West in the evening finale at 9. Garden City East and Redford Union are paired in an unusual Sunday evening game while Our Lady of Sorrows and Plymouth will wait until

Saturday, May 28, before beginning their title bids. Other second-round games also are set for May 28 with the semifinals on tap for May 30 and the championship game Saturday, June 4.

As was the case last year, the tourney will be conducted on a one defeat and out basis.

No admission will be charged for the games. There are plenty of seats for the fans and

good parking adjacent to the lighted Henry Ford diamond.

A beautiful trophy will be awarded to the 1986 champ.

After last week's play, John Glenn shaped up as

the team to beat. Glenn had won 14 while losing only two.

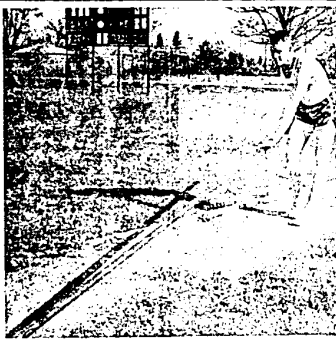
Thurston figured as a strong threat as did Bentley, North Farmington and Garden City East.

Observer Sports News

Page ★ 2-B Wednesday, May 18, 1986



TIPS ON PROPER pole vaulting form are discussed by Farmington High Coach Doug Race and his star, Ron Shortt, who has cleared 14 feet already this year.



READY FOR THE long run down the runway is Shortt who already has bettered all state high school records but still has to clear 14 feet in the state meet for official recognition.

Star Vaulter Makes Pitch for Record

The big moment comes Saturday at Ann Arbor for Ron Shortt, Farmington High's brilliant pole vaulter.

He'll make his bid for the state Class A record as he leads a strong contingent of area performers who'll be seeking the most distinguished laurels that can come to a prep thincard in Michigan.

While the Class A schools are vying on the University of Michigan oval, the Class B teams will take over at Michigan State in East Lansing.

Shortt will be out to duplicate his feat of two weeks ago when he cleared 14 feet to become the first Michigan prep ever to go so high.

He'll have to soar 14 feet if he's to erase the state standard of 13 feet, 11 1/4 inches.

Shortt accounted for all six of his school's points in last Saturday's "A" regional at Clarenceville in which Pontiac Central walked off with team honors with 45 points.

Groves was second with 31, followed by Thurston with 22, Kimball 20, Southfield 17 and Southam 14. North Farmington lagged with nine points while Redford Union drew a blank.

Meanwhile in Class B, Cranbrook won the laurels with 43 points followed by Clarenceville with 31 and Lutheran West 24. Livonia Stevenson failed to register a point.

Other area teams tied in the regional at Ann Arbor where Ypsilanti won with 49 points.

Ann Arbor was second with 47 1/2. Then came Milford with 23, Franklin with 14 and Bentley with 12 1/2. Glenn and Garden City West each gained four points while Garden City East and Plymouth went scoreless.

In addition to Shortt, the following area thincards also qualified for the state meet Saturday:

BENTLEY—Ken Jackson in the high and low hurdles along with Mike Gormes who tied for second in the high jump.

THURSTON—Bob Grimm (second in 800), Leonard Cyr (second in low hurdles), Al Phillips (second in high jump).

(Continued on Page 4B)

One-Run Jinx Hits Trojan Nine Again

The one-run plague is running Clarenceville high school in baseball for the second year in a row.

Last season, the Trojans dropped five of their nine decisions by a single tally.

This spring, things have become worse. Clarenceville has been involved in six one-run contests and lost five.

"Little wonder we're only 3-7 in the Wayne-Oakland League," mused Coach Gordon Larsen after last Friday's 5-4 setback at the hands of Clarkson.

The game went nine innings, two over the regulation prep route, and came after the Trojans had blanked Holly, 9-0.

The shutout job was administered by Mike Nye who scattered five hits and fanned six. Fred Neal led the winners with three hits while Nye himself counted a triple and a single while Bob Dumas had two hits and knocked over three runs.

The game never was in doubt after Clarenceville scored six times in the first inning. A double by Neal, triple by Nye, double by Dumas and singles by Gale Armstrong and Tom Schlack paced the uprising.

Clarksonville led Clarkson, 4-2, in the seventh with two outs when Armstrong weakened. He served up two walks and two hits to permit Clarkson to tie the score.

Clarkson cashed its winning run on an error.

Dumas doubled over Clarenceville's first two runs in the first inning. A single by Neal, a stolen base, a sacrifice

and a perfect squeeze by Nye added to Clarenceville's lead. Armstrong counted the final Trojan's tally on an error.

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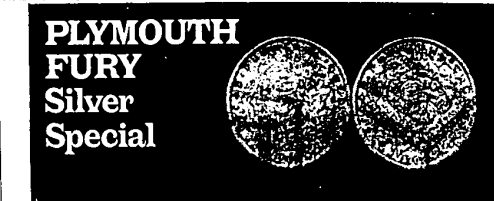
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