

Bad show Downriver

By TOM BAER

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West Bloomfield skier Donald R. Morris speaks through his wife Jenny about upcoming Deaf Olympics (Photographed by Patricia A. Beck)

Area skier qualified for Deaf Olympics

By APRIL KORNILLER
Determination, skill and \$850 will send Donald R. Morris, 30, of 5525 Putnam Drive, West Bloomfield, to the "Deaf Winter Olympics" next year. He's got the first two.

Morris, who has been deaf since he was six months old, will need the \$850 to attend the VIII World Winter Games to be held Feb. 2-8, 1975 in Lake Placid, N.Y.

The money will pay for his week of intensive training before the games begin as well as his equipment, clothing, transportation, meals and lodging during the competition.

MORRIS HAS already qualified for the USA ski team in all three alpine events—downhill, slalom and giant slalom.

If he is able to pull together the money, he will join an American team of about 540 athletes and officials competing against another 250 deaf team of about 540 athletes and officials competing against another 250 deaf athletes in seven different events.

Morris talks through his wife Jenny.

who is able to read lips and speak although she too is deaf.

"IT IS THE rhythm of the sport that first attracted him to it," she said.

"The likes it now because it gives him a sense of freedom," she said.

While still in high school, her husband had competed in the diving competition at the summer games and had brought home a gold medal for the American team.

Once accomplished at diving, Morris looked for another sport in which to compete.

GAMES SUCH as basketball would be difficult for someone deaf because being able to speak to fellow players during play is crucial. Or at the referees, for that matter.

So he tried skiing and he liked it.

Now he's concentrating on improving his skill in the special slalom and on giving the last Deaf Olympics woman gold medalist, Tammy Marcinuk of Massachusetts, a run for her money.

THE MALE MEMBERS on the American team have been sorely outclassed by their female counterparts, he said.

And all Americans are at a disadvantage because their participation in the 25-year-old competition dates back to only 1967, he said.

The team to beat from all the European countries competing are the Italians, he said.

Athletes from Canada, Japan, Australia, Russia and other European countries will also be competing.

WHAT WILL he do after the 1975 Olympics? Will he change sports again or get out of competition entirely, he was asked.

"He will keep skiing and racing until he is an old man," his wife answered.

Lincoln Park's American Legion team clubbed Farmington, 12-7, in Connie Mack tournament play last Friday—but the mismatch was a relative thing for one Farmington player.

Winning pitcher Mike Herman and Farmington shortstop Jeff Herman are cousins. The Lincoln Park branch of the family showed most of the baseball flair that night.

Mike Herman, a bespectacled left-hander from Riverview High, tossed a six hitter at a Farmington team still reeling from District 18 playoff loss to Rochester last week. The Lincoln Park lefty fanned eight and walked one in six innings.

The game was ended after six innings according to an American Legion 10-run mercy rule.

"He pitched—pretty good, had a pretty good curve ball," said the Farmington Holton.

But it took more than a sharp pitcher to make the rout complete. It also took 12 Lincoln Park hits and four Farmington errors.

Farmington starter Jim Grace worked four innings, and allowed seven runs on seven hits. Lincoln Park scored an unearned run in the second and added two more in the third.

THE FOURTH inning was the point of no return for Farmington and Grace. Lincoln Park scored four runs on a triple, an RBI hit single, an error and a long home run by third baseman Paul Freitag.

Farmington manager Wally Christensen started the fifth with Dave Smith, who pitched for Berkeley during the regular season. Smith is one of three pitchers Christensen picked up from other District 18 teams for the Connie Mack tourney.

Smith fared little better than Grace. The Berkeley right-hander gave up five runs on five hits in the two innings he worked.

Farmington scored twice in the fourth inning. Tom Cetani led off with a walk and went to second on a single by Rob Holton. Both runners scored on Sam Pink's long double to center.

But Pink was thrown out trying to stretch his double into a triple. Then Mike Herman struck out the next two batters and the inning.

Lincoln Park's Herman was clearly

the star of the game. He retired the first eight batters he faced before Tim Assemany. Farmington's number nine hitter, singled. No slouch with a bat, Herman slammed two triples in three times at bat.

The loss left Farmington with an 8-2 overall record.



Catcher Sam Pink knocked in both Farmington runs

Team draws from 4 campuses

Varsity hockey returns to OCC

Intercollegiate varsity ice hockey is being revived at Oakland County Community College's four campuses on a "college-wide athletic concept," according to OCC Athletic Director Prentice Ryan.

Hockey and Occ's eight other varsity sports will be operated under the new college-wide system. There will be one varsity team representing the college's four campuses—Orchard Ridge (Farmington Hills), Auburn Hills (Rochester), Highland Lakes (Union Lake) and the new Southwest Centers (Oak Park and Royal Oak).

OCC dropped ice hockey during the 1972-73 season because of inadequate funds. But the school was one of Michigan's strongest small hockey powers for the previous five years.

winning championships in the Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association in 1972 and 1973.

The college's decision to switch from individual-campus teams to the college-wide concept made it possible to restore hockey to the program, Ryan said.

OCC will play a 25-game hockey schedule. The team will practice and play its home games in the Bloomfield Arena, Square Lake and Franklin roads. Several prospective coaches are being screened by the Board of Trustees, Ryan said.

The Raiders will compete against Henry Ford Community College, Macomb County Community College, St. Clair Community College, Lambton (Ont.), College, Oberlin University, Bowling Green University, University

of Michigan-Dearborn, Hillsdale College, and other midwestern schools.

Interested hockey players should contact Ryan at the Orchard Ridge campus at 476-9400, Extension 222.

THE FOLLOWING college-wide varsity sports and coaches were announced:

- Cross Country, which will be coached by Lynn Reed, who had led the cross country and basketball teams at Highland Lakes since the college began athletics in 1966.
- Basketball, which will be coached by Sid Fox, former Bloomfield Hills Hooper coach for eight years.
- Swimming, which will be coached by Dick Osgood. He coached that sport and golf at Auburn Hills for the past six years.

• Baseball, which will be coached by Dave Wenzel. He led the Auburn Hills baseball team for six years.

• Golf, which will be coached by Ryan. He replaces Orchard Ridge's Dick Robinson, Highland Lakes Terry Creameans, and Auburn Hills' Dick Osgood.

• Tennis, which will be coached by Merle Smith, an English professor at Orchard Ridge and an area tournament player.

Two other varsity sports—bowling and women's volleyball—will be offered. Coaches for these sports will be announced at a later date. Volleyball represents OCC's first attempt at intercollegiate athletics for women, although several women competed for Highland Lakes' tennis team last spring.

NFWB Colts lose in tourney

Joe Georger allowed only seven hits as he pitched the Birmingham Colt All-Stars to a first victory in the regional Colt baseball tournament.

Held in Mount Pleasant, the tournament is a double elimination affair, with the winner continuing to the divisional tourney in Springfield, Ill., this weekend.

On the losing end of a 6-3 score was the North Farmington-West Bloomfield team, managed by Bill Doerr.

GEORGER WENT the distance on the mound, shifting seven while giving up three walks, which the NFWB team failed to convert to runs.

Mike Cullen took the loss for the NFWB All-Stars, scattering four hits but giving up seven walks.

Manager Dick Harris' Birmingham sandlotters were trailing 2-1 at the start of the sixth inning, but picked up four runs then to take the lead.

The Birmingham half of the sixth started out with two walks—ones to Paul Kramer and one to Bob Menzies.

TODD FRIESNER singled to load the bases. An error allowed Dave Harris to reach first base and Kramer to score.

But Cullen was not out of the jam as he walked Georger Foussianes to score Menzies.

Doug Smith singled to left field and drove in Friesner and Foussianes.

Friesner was given offensive leading credit for Birmingham, knocking in two runs on two singles and a double in four times at the plate.

Doug Smith was given credit for two runs.

THE NFWB COLT sandlotters scored two of their runs back-to-back, as John Patek reached base on an error and scored on a double by Steve Morrison.

Morrison was pushed across the plate on a single by Paul Rogind.

Birmingham picked up an additional run in the sixth inning on a single by Kramer, who scored on Foussianes' double.

In the fourth inning, Birmingham's run came on a walk and two singles.

ALTHOUGH THE team is a favorite to repeat as Michigan champions, "we'll play the games one at a time," said manager Harris.

Mike Murphy started for Birmingham against Mount Pleasant in the second game of the tourney Saturday. Murphy has a 2-0 record in tournament competition, as do Georger and relief pitcher Steve Edwards.

If Birmingham should survive both the regional and division contests, they will play a World Series competition in Lafayette, Ind., the following week.

ALTHOUGH Birmingham came up with the victory Friday, the team did not play as well as it has in the past, according to business manager Ken Barnowski.

"When runs score on errors, the team isn't playing as well as it is capable of," Barnowski said.

Birmingham has won six games in a row—all in tournament competition.

Area athlete at FCA camp

Keith Otterbein, a football and baseball player at Southfield-Lathrup High School, attended a Fieldship of Christian Athletics conference at Central Michigan University last week. The five-day program was one of 28 FCA

national conferences scheduled this summer.

The CMU conference consisted of athletic demonstrations, coaching clinics and evening assemblies featuring talks by prominent sports figures.

Forfeit playoff game

No show means loss for squad

By TOM BAER
Southfield-Lathrup's Babe Ruth baseball team ended its season with a loss to Bloomfield Hills last Thursday in an Oakland Senior Babe Ruth playoff game.

"That decision was accomplished without either team swinging a bat or hitting a ball," Southfield-Lathrup came to the game with only eight players and forfeited.

SL opened the playoffs with a loss to Bloomfield Hills before coming back to beat Berkeley No. 2 and Madison Heights Senators. Then came Thursday's disaster.

"I told the boys last Tuesday that if we win the next game (against Bloomfield) we're in the finals," said Southfield-Lathrup manager Don Shonta. His team finished with a 12-13 record including playoff games.

"All of a sudden, one guy goes out on vacation, four guys have football practice, somebody else has to work—but nobody calls me," Shonta said. "We had 16 guys, but we couldn't get nine for that game."

EARLIER IN the playoffs, Lathrup defeated Berkeley No. 2, 13-1, on a six-run sixth inning and the four-hit pitching of Ron Silberstein. He struck out eight and walked two in his second pitching appearance of the season for the Babe Ruth team.

SL's Ted Fox clouted a bases-loaded homer in the sixth. Tom Hart's

single drove in two runs. The Berkeley team provided little competition, according to Shonta.

"They weren't very good," he said.

"Mike Murphy had one go home in the sixth inning, and they finished the game with only eight players. It's a local rule they made. You can start the game with nine guys and finish with eight."

Right-hander Don Blunden pitched Lathrup to an 8-4 victory over the

Madison Heights Senators. Pitching only his third game of the season, Blunden allowed six hits, struck out seven and walked five.

Lathrup was losing 4-2 going into the sixth inning. Hart led off with a single. Tom Lewandowski added a single and Nathan walked to load the bases.

The Senators brought in a left-handed relief pitcher who struck out the next two batters before he faced

SL's Sherwin Raminick.

Raminick, a pitcher-outfielder, smacked a bases-loaded homer to give Lathrup the lead. The winners added two more runs in the seventh. Hart singled. Lewandowski walked and Blunden's double drove in both.

Southfield-Lathrup finished fourth in the Oakland Senior Babe Ruth League. Berkeley No. 1 finished first with a 17-4 overall record.

Falcons down Adams

Starting the game with only eight players, Rochester took a 5-2 victory from Adams Saturday in the Pontiac Parks and Recreation Dept. Class D Connie Mack baseball league.

The game was almost canceled by the league because of the league playoffs, which had begun on Friday, which involved only the top four teams. Saturday morning, Rochester coach Dave Kerr was informed Saturday the game was on but not all his players arrived until the second inning.

The victory gave Rochester the advantage in the summer series, two games to one.

RICK DURIS pitched the entire game for Rochester, scattering seven Highlander hits. He struck out six batters and walked two. Gary Klumpp pitched a six-hitter for Adams, with eight strikeouts and three walks.

Bill Cupples doubled in Jim Hoffman, who had walked, for an Adams run in the first inning.

Rochester came back with three runs in the third. Curt Smith singled and Dean Ward was hit by a pitch. Dave Witt doubled both runners home and scored on an error.

In the sixth inning, Hoffman singled, went to second on an error and to third on Cupples' second

hit. He scored on an infield single by John Capella.

ROCHESTER added the final run in the bottom of that inning on a single by Duris. Tom Hopp's fielder's choice, an error and Dan DeGroot's single.

The only other Falcon hit was a second inning double by Bill Dubois.

Adams, with a 7-10 summer record, is scheduled to complete its season Thursday (Aug. 1) against Guardian Electric of West Bloomfield. Rochester, which is 6-10 in the Connie Mack league for the summer