



Coaching around

Michigan State University's (MSU's) varsity football staff helped conduct a pre-coaches clinic recently at Bloomfield Hills Lahser. During the one-day clinic, MSU Head Football Coach Denny Stolz and his assistants discussed all phases of football, both on the collegiate and high school levels. Stolz's offensive assistants are Andy MacDonald, offensive coordinator, and Charles Butler, offensive line coach. His defensive assistants are Ed Youngs, defensive coordinator, Dan Underwood, linebacker coach, and Sherman Lewis, defensive backfield coach. Clinic

Director Ted Guthard, Lahser's head football coach, called the event an "unqualified success." Guthard commented, "Denny and his assistants wanted to do something for the high school coaches because of the helpful things the coaches have done for them." Similar clinics run by Stolz and MSU's varsity football staff have been held in Detroit, Grand Rapids, Flint and Saginaw. Pictured are participants in the clinic at Lahser — (from left) Al Fracassa, Birmingham sive coordinator, Dan Underwood, linebacker coach, and Sherman Lewis, defensive backfield coach. Clinic

For Vasu-Lynch

No tourney tomorrow

By ROBERT A. SKLAR
Tomorrow never came for Vasu-Lynch Funeral Home's scrappy sandlotters during last week's state class B men's slowpitch softball district five play.

Player-manager Bill Tar's "mod morticians" suddenly lost their batting touch and suffered elimination in the district tournament's semifinals.

Champion Park in Allen Park hosted the two-loss, knockout tournament which involved four teams. Vasu-Lynch ended up with a 1-2 tournament mark.

Along with Vasu-Lynch, tournament teams were Southfield, Clinton Township and Allen Park. Undeclared Southfield took the tournament title.

"WE HAD hoped for better," said Roger Fausch, Birmingham's supervisor of golf and recreation.

"However, a lack of timely hitting by the guys cost them the game. They simply didn't play up to their full potential."

In the tournament's semifinals,

Vasu-Lynch bowed to Clinton Township, 7-4. Going into that game's last inning, the seventh, trailed 7-3.

But a gutsy rally catapulted Vasu-Lynch to within one run of pulling out a dramatic triumph. THE LOSERS prepared nine hits. Top players offensively were John Barich and Ron Jacobson. Barich lagged a two-run homer and Jacobson a one-run homer.

Mark Post went the distance on the pitching hill for Vasu-Lynch. He surrendered 15 hits.

By taking the tournament title, Southfield has advanced to the state class B men's slowpitch softball finals Aug. 23-25 in Waterford. State rounds are sponsored by the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association.

ALSO AMONG Vasu-Lynch's starting line-up this summer were Scott Brykalski, Randy Fraser, Dave Hain, Steve Jacobson, Pat Lynch, Dennis Rafferty and Stan Wither.

Combining with Post to anchor Vasu-Lynch's pitching staff was Tar.

Both are right-handers. Supplying bench depth were Tony Bellasario, Angie Fiorini, Pete Johnson, Tom Moonen and Greg Rice.

Team sponsor is Edward Lynch. Vasu-Lynch's owner and one of sandlot baseball's biggest boosters. DESPITE FAILING to reach the state finals, the "mod morticians" still have something to crow about, according to Fausch.

As he perceptively put it: "When you get into a tournament, there's little room for mistakes. Either you do well or you don't. We didn't."

"But the guys most certainly were worthy representatives of our community."

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The sporting life

Brewster adds GAM gem

Add Golf Association' of Michigan's (GAM's) 1974 junior championship to Rob Brewster Jr.'s latest laurels on the links.

Monroe Golf and Country Club hosted this year's episode of the annual 36-hole, medal-play championship Monday.

The championship's field annually contains the top two players from each GAM-affiliated club.

A Detroit Golf Club member, Orchard Lake's Brewster beat out Win Fisher, a Country Club of Detroit member, 14-16. Fisher is defending Western Junior champion.

Next in line was Jeff Roth, a Farmington Country Club member. GAM's defending junior champion, he carded a 146 score.

Brewster, Fisher and Roth all are

16 years old. In special run-off action to determine the championship's overall runner-up, Roth defeated Fisher.

FULL-SCALE workouts kick off Monday (Aug. 19) for Birmingham Grove's cross country team. They will run at 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Groves Cross Country Coach Jim Crosby invites prospective team members, especially sophomores, to call him at 636-1406 during the evening.

Crosby also again plans to conduct his Lakeside Cross Country Summer Conditioning Camp, this year set for Aug. 23-30 in Brighton.

The camp's objective is to act as a moral booster, Crosby says.

"It's to get the guys acquainted with each other so they can work bet-

ter as a team," he said.

Though geared primarily for Groves harriers, Crosby stresses the camp is open to any interested prep harrier. To register for it, contact Crosby.

BIRMINGHAM COUNTY Club completed its women's medal-play golf championship for 1974 last week.

Flight A qualifiers played 54 holes. Flight B and C QUALIFIERS PLAYED 36 holes. Flight winners and runners-up follow:

*A-1. Mary Borst 270, 2. Helen Braley 279. Low net, Lynn Weyand 221.

*B-1. Carol Duncan 201, 2. Marian Tracy 205. Low net, Margaret Tar 155.

*C 1. Joan Emde 234, 2. Peg Freuburger 229. Low net, Betty Guilmet 163.

BIRMINGHAM'S BOB Daley joined Oakland County's expanding ranks of hole-in-one collectors on the golf links last week.

He used a five wood to ace the 185-yard, third hole on Oakland Hills Country Club's South Course.

The ace marked Daley's first ever. Daley finished the 18-hole round with an 87 score.

Brother Rice cheerleaders win trophy

OAKLAND COUNTY—the cheerleading guys (yes, guys) from Brother Rice High School won the Team Improvement trophy from the United States Cheerleading Association for overall accomplishments.

The all-male team also received awards for Most Original Cheer and a skit.

The awards were given out at the Walden Woods Camp in Hartland, where 186 other cheerleaders representing 21 schools learned and competed. Members of Brother Rice's team—the first all-male team at the camp—were Tim Kelleher, Shawn Riley, Bryan McMahon, Jim Birchler and John Andrews.

Sponsors of the cheerleaders are Brother William Kramer and Mrs. Mabel Griffin.

Bloomfield Hills Junior High School's team received an award for being the best junior high school team.

900 playing in Bloomfield

By DAN SPICKLER

In 1958, the Birmingham-Bloomfield community had expanded to such an extent, that the Birmingham Little League had to limit membership to Birmingham residents.

That action would have meant no baseball for boys in Bloomfield, but hardworking and interested dads banded together and formed the Bloomfield Hills Baseball League.

FRED JANZ, first president of the league, remembers it as a handful of fathers with less than 40 ballplayers. Dads used to be umpires, managers, and groundskeepers.

The school district granted the small group permission to use the fields around the schools. Players wore simply a t-shirt and a cap, brought in voluntary donations from the parents.

Today over 900 boys play on 65 teams and yet the league still carries over some of its founding characteristics in a subtle way.

ALL FIELDS are still owned and maintained by the school district. The league is still a non-profit corporation which depends heavily on parental support.

With the money, the league has put backstops on many of the school district's fields. Funding is also used for bats, uniforms, and pictures.

The league has never been affiliated with the national Williamsport, Pa., organization. Reasons for this have changed over the years.

AS JANZ explained, when the league first formed parents questioned the feasibility of joining the league. Founders were more interested in getting boys playing ball than they were in getting them organized.

Also, joining would have meant centralizing, which was hard to do for the whole district. Schools and fields were few and far between. Later, other reasons came for staying out of the national group. As former president Jack Simpson stressed, there was a differing philosophy, but it was by no means a spectacular controversy.

"BACK THEN, it was fashionable to question the Little League," he lamented. "Doctors and parents wondered if it was really competitive having nine-year-old boys facing 12-year-old pitchers."

In the Bloomfield Hills Baseball League, there is the National Division (9-10), the American Division (11-12), and the Continental Division (13-14).

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