

Batter up!

and up and up and up

By DIANE HUBEL

FARMINGTON—Despite high temperatures, resident complaints, and plain fatigue, a marathon baseball



Paul Hunkete, a player (Evert photo)

game, planned to raise money for the American Cancer Society, was expected to reach its goal of 120 hours into last Saturday afternoon.

The game, which was played in Farmington Park, Shawassee and Powers, was arranged by a 17 year old Farmington resident, Jason Mortier.

Mortier said he planned the marathon game to raise money for the American Cancer Foundation because he has been impressed with recent developments in their research, and because some of his friends have had the disease.

The ballplayers were asking contributors to pledge a certain amount of money, per hour, for each hour played.

MORTIER SAID original estimates indicated that nearly \$500 had been pledged.

He said the amount had gone up since the original estimate was made but the final figures were indefinite.

When the game started on Monday, Mortier and his friend Al Wynns, who helped organize the game, had 30 people playing with them.

The original players were mostly friends who they had asked to play. Many of these players are still part of the marathon game.

Since the first day, people have

come from as far away as St. Clair Shores to play.

FOR A WHILE it appeared as if the game would have to be cancelled when residents in the park area complained about the noise.

However Mortier and a spectator went to talk to Farmington city manager Robert Deadman and straightened the matter out.

"They just didn't realize there was a large apartment complex with 300-400 people in it, right behind the park," Deadman said. "The players were shouting at three and four in the morning when they hit a home run or there was a team change."

"Some of the people in the area were complaining about the noise. Anyway, we straightened it out and they are still playing. They have agreed to keep the noise down during the night."

WHEN THE GAME ended on Saturday the ballplayers not only raised the money for the cancer foundation but they also broke the existing record of 73 hours which was set by a Southfield team.

Mortier said they originally thought the game could end on Friday but found they had miscalculated and ended up with only 96 hours, so they decided to extend it into Saturday afternoon.

At the beginning of the marathon two teams were picked. Newsletters just joined one or the other of the teams.

A PLAYER stayed in the game until he got tired, then he asked some-



Jason Mortier, organizer of the game, takes a turn at bat. (Evert photo)

one else to play for him while he rested. Mortier said both males and females of all ages have joined in the game. Spectators were asked to keep

score, by Thursday afternoon it was in the 500 range.

Mortier said the players are hoping the winning team can play in a championship game with the Farmington Police Department.

Neighborhood youth help clean park

BY DIANE HUBEL

FARMINGTON HILLS—The Farmington Hills police and several young residents of the city got it together and did a cleanup job on Waldron Park, two weekends in a row.

Police officers went to the park a couple of times before the cleanup day and told the young people that the city would be willing to buy them lunch if they would join in and help clean up the city park.

Nearly 30 people including the police officers, some firemen, and the young people showed up to work for six or seven hours, according to a police spokesman.

"THIS WAS a joint effort on the part of the city and the young people in that area," he said. "We hope they will feel more like it is their park if they can participate in setting it up."

In return for picking up litter, bagging rubbish, and raking the grass the workers were treated to cokes, Big Macs, french fries, and apple pie.

The workers spent both Saturday and Sunday at the park, and made plans to return the following week to complete the job.

The city had been receiving complaints from residents in the area who said that the park was being used for late night parties.

The complaints prompted the Hills Council to post signs in the park establishing a ten p.m. curfew and prohibiting motorized vehicles within the perimeter of the park.

The council is also considering prohibiting all fires, except those built in a grill for cooking purposes, placing restrictions on the consumption of alcoholic beverages, and prohibiting pets from running wild within the park.

Following the week-end cleanup the police officers brought trash cans and picnic tables into the park.

"The city just designated the park a year ago, and they haven't had a chance to really fix it up yet," a Hills police officer said.



A Saturday cleanup at Waldron park. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

"The kids in the area wanted to use it, so we thought maybe they could help get it ready. We really want them to take care of it once it's all ready."

Farmington may acquire mini-park from the state

FARMINGTON—The city of Farmington may be able to acquire a small park from the state for a mere \$64.

The park, in Floral Park Subdivision, is located directly behind the Quigley Warehouse Building, north of Grand River, on the east side of Violet Street.

City manager Robert Deadman told the Farmington city council the city had replaced 80 sq. ft. of sidewalk in front of the state-owned property as part of the Floral Park sidewalk program.

Deadman said a state employee with the Department of Natural Resources, Land Division, told him the city could request the state to give the property to Farmington as payment for the sidewalk repairs.

The repairs had cost the city approximately \$64. Deadman said the lot would have to be used for recreational purposes if the state did agree to turn it over to the city.

The lot, which is rather small, 40 ft. by 123 ft. could be used as a small tot lot, with a swing set and slide, and picnic tables or park benches.

The land was originally bought by the state many years ago.

AT ONE TIME the state considered selling the property but the State Highway Department put a stop on the sale because the land was so close to Old Grand River.

City-funded agencies to get supervision

FARMINGTON—A Farmington Area Charitable Review Committee is being organized.

Two residents will be named to the group at the next regular meeting of the city council.

The Charitable Review Committee will be made up of six members, four from Farmington Hills and two from Farmington.

The committee will review the community service organizations in the area, such as the Farmington Youth Guidance Committee, and the Farmington Area Advisory Council, to see if they are accomplishing their stated goals.

The state highway department apparently thought the land could be of some use if Old Grand River were ever widened.

The council instructed the manager to proceed with his attempts to acquire the land from the state as payment for the sidewalk repairs.

The new organization will also be responsible for reporting to each of the city councils quarterly, and making recommendations to the councils for the allocation of city funds for community service organizations.

They will also develop a directory of community resources which may be available to residents, and help area charitable organizations approach these services for financial support.

The Charitable Review Committee will also review all requests made to the city council concerning aid or permits to solicit funds within the community.

Fireworks display highlights Friday

A spectacular fireworks display will be a featured part of the 10th Annual Farmington Founders Festival.

The fireworks display will be held on Friday, July 26, at 10 p.m. at the rear of Our Lady of Sorrows Church. The sky will be ablaze for nearly an hour as hundreds of rockets and spar-

ling fireworks are set off.

Metropolitan National Bank of Farmington, sponsors of the fireworks program, indicate that should rain prevent the event from taking place on Friday night the display will be held at the same time and place on Saturday.

Police to hold Festival auction

The City of Farmington Police Department will auction off lost and confiscated items on Wednesday, July 24 from 1 - 4 p.m. at the Showmobile located at the Downtown Plaza Shopping Center.

Items to be auctioned include bicy-

cles, sporting weapons, radios, phonographs, cameras, hubcaps, tires and other unclaimed or unidentified articles which have accumulated during the past year.

Proceeds from the auction will go to the city's General Fund.

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Farmington
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