

Where this baseball team plays, there are no dugouts. lighted diamonds are a rarity, and raised pitching mounds are found only on farms.

As a matter of fact, the populace would rather indulge in cricket, rugby or soccer.

Even though America's national pastime is a secondary sport in South Africa, its young players are well-tutored baseball athletes.

On a goodwill tour of the United States, a group of 14- and 15-year-old South African boys, accompanied by parents and friends, ventured into Troy earlier this week and dropped their first game in seven tries. It took a three-run sixth-inning rally—high-

lighted by Tim Schruitt's game-winning hit—for the Troy all-stars to beat the South African Comets Monday afternoon. 4-2.

The Comets had won three games in New Jersey and took two wins and a draw in Massachusetts. In the game at Boulan Park, American players and coaches were impressed with their visitors' ability to execute fundamentals.

The South Africans, most of whom live near Johannesburg in the country's northeast corner, had groomed a 2-0 lead after four innings. The team only had one hit, but smart base running and hustle accounted for both runs.

BOYTJIE BEZVIDENHOUT, the South African coach, explained that he instructs players to bunt and hit behind the runners.

"If we get runners on," he said in his British accent, "we want them home."

"The difference between the two styles of play [American and South African] is that we play more of a refined game. Americans sit back and wait for something to happen—they always wait for that big inning."

"We like to nibble away at our opponents, and I think that has been the key to our success so far in America," said Bezvidenhout, who catches for the South African national team.

"Nobody expects us to do that, and because we know they're going to, we have to force them to realize it, we're a couple of runs ahead."

In South Africa, which is at the southern tip of the African continent, baseball is what we term a minor sport. There are only three leagues within 36 miles of Johannesburg, and most teams play a maximum of 20 games during one season.

The South African Comets team is a group of all-stars composed of those three major leagues. Through a series of fund-raising campaigns, with additional financial help from parents, the team embarked on a three-week tour of the United States and South America.

The Cornets' first games were on the East Coast the week of July 14 before stopping in Troy. The team will participate in four more games in Cincinnati, then travel to Orlando, Fla. and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The trip into Troy was organized by Richard Rabuck, a former Birmingham resident who has spent time in the African country coaching the national team. South African players while in Troy are staying with families whose children participate in the Troy Baseball Boosters program.

"The main reason for our tour was to improve the baseball playing ability of our players by playing against good opposition," said Troy manager

Théunis Rotha. "A major secondary reason is to give our boys this kind of experience and expose them to the American way of life.

"We want them to see how Americans live, and maybe through this experience, they can go back to South Africa and grow up to be leaders," he said. "The American hospitality has been wonderful, and the players are very excited about the trip."

Besides playing on the well-nursed Trevor baseball diamonds, the South African players visited Greenfield Village and the General Motors Tech Center in Warren. The Comets also saw the Detroit Tigers beat the Toronto Blue Jays Monday morning.

By JOHN BOZZO
Sports Editor

clocked by a radar-like device developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The girls' winner was Jodo Russ of Bloomfield Hills. Her fastest serve was 91 miles per hour. She is a teaching professional at Square Lake Racquet Club.

BOYS' SQUASH The **SR FARM** Squash Club has just finished a round of doubles tournaments. A Ladies A Doubles tournament was held July 16-17 with 12 teams participating. Sybil Wyburn and Mary Ann Greenawalt combined to win the championship by defeating Laurie Kama and Laurie Kama 6-3, 4-6, 6-1 in the tournament final.

Mixed doubles tournaments were held July 23-24 at Centaur. Shirley Stein and Mark Fleming teamed up to win the B Division championship with a 6-3, 6-0 victory over Madeline and Ed Bailey in the finals of the tournament. There were six teams in that division.

The A Division saw Tom Harrett and Fran Putnam score a 6-1, 7-5 victory in their championship match against Ben Witcher and Mary Ann Greenawalt. Eight doubles teams were entered in the A Division. Centaur is planning a mens' pro-am tournament Aug. 12-14 and a mixed doubles tournament Aug. 19-21.

COURT HOUSE Tennis and Racquets Club defeated the Farmington

Court House's men won six of eight singles matches, while the women defeated Farmington in all eight singles matches. Court House's women won both their doubles matches, while the men split their two doubles matches. Court House players won all four of the mixed doubles pairings.

Elise Niedeck (F) 122. Judi Ross (CH) defeated Judy Huston (F) 125. Eunice Noriega (CH) defeated Kathy Mac Adams (F) 159. Shirley Osby (CH) defeated Paul Nichols (F) 122. Donna Sprague (CH) defeated Debbie Oles (F) 124. Marlene Piatkowski (CH) defeated Paula Haddad (F) 121. Barb Zembra (CH) defeated Nancy Ranney (F) 121. Jan Hankins (CH) defeated Sandra Gröcher (F) 124.

Men's Singles: Chris Shol (CH) defeated John Lindsay (F) 123. Wayne Heston (CH) defeated Kirk Leighton (F) 123. Wayne Heston (CH) defeated Bob Whited (F) 123. George Grisdale (CH) defeated Joe Hager (F) 124. Kirk Huston (F) defeated Jack Elliott (CH) 121. John Heller (CH) defeated Bob Moody (F) 121. Scottee Hubbard (F) defeated Bob Moody (F) 121.

Feated Mike Glicker (F) 123
Womens' Doubles: Judi Ross-Eunice Noriega
 (CH) defeated Judy Huston-Kathy Deleo (F) 82
 Maria Puskowski-Jen Hankins (CH) defeated Nancy
 Hammer-Sandra Glicker (F) 82

Mens' Doubles: Chris Sho-Greg Grudeak (CH)
 defeated John Lynch-Kirk Leubron (F) 97, Dick
 Huston-Bob Moody (F) defeated Arnie Ross-Jack El
 lott (CH) 84

Mixed Doubles: Wayne Higgs-Kathy Midraski
 (CH) defeated Bob Whited-Kathy MacKardugh (F)
 82, Verne and Shirley Osterlund (CH) defeated Joe
 Hager-Elle Nwedek (F) 84, Bob and Doris Singlet
 (CH) defeated Scottie Hubbard-Paula Hudt (F) 84
 John Heller-Barb Ziemba (CH) defeated Mike G

6-3, 4-6, 6-1 in the tournament final.

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Just west of the quiet road (M33), an occasional whining hum whisked through the night air. Those hurried highway sounds from nearby I-75 were quietly foiled by the methodical running of the Michigan Marathon Team.

Three of the 12 runners on the MMT have been in the Boston competition. Several other race at Belle Isle each year with the Motor City Striders. Most are just entering college. The youngest member is Eric Baker, 14.

tended by a 26-year-old physical therapist, Tom McKelvey, from St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. McKelvey was the center of attention during the "77" Marathon. As well as wrapping toes and thighs, he lubri-

THE SHIFT EACH runner was responsible for consisted of eight miles. A time of 53 minutes for a run of this distance is good. Only cool nights

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also mapped out the course. His experienced instructions sustained the confidence of newer runners on the team.

Following, a chemist's Flint link of Bedford felt, though we had no overconcerns problems, both physical and economic, the ambition and skill of "the individual runners brought us

Soccer c

With "soccer fever" sweeping the country in 1977, it's no surprise that 129 boys and girls will be enrolled in the Michigan Soccer School clinics at the Southfield Civic Center, 26000 Evergreen Road.

Due to increased participation, two one-week sessions have been slated at the Southfield site. The clinics are scheduled for Aug. 15 and Aug. 8-12. The first session begins at 9 a.m. and continues till 4 p.m.

The instruction will focus on training in individual skills in the morning and the study of tactics and team play in the afternoon.

clude games featuring top-flight area teams against the Michigan Soccer School staff team. In addition, each

WAYNE JONES
says...

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This year, the runners had an additional challenge because they spent 77 hours of this marathon riding in cramped, pick-up trucks, sleeping in tents or under the stars, instead of travelling in motor homes as in past years.



Wayne Jones

FACE LIFT

Heavy and shapeless with the ice break down the last good

and remove the tell-tale signs
appears younger and more beau-

BEFORE

Home with slightly
overgrown shrubs.

AFTER

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much longer
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