

# Christian girls lose regional final

By TOM BAER

Owendale-Gagetown, with pitcher Ruth Erickson leading the way, eliminated Southfield Christian, 14-7, last Saturday in the finals of the state Class D regional softball tournament at Genesee High School, northwest of Flint.

Coch Dave Seils' Christian team, which finished with an 11-5 record, defeated Carsonville, 27-10, in the regional semifinals. A week earlier, Christian advanced to the regional by winning the Class D district at Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes.

In the regional final, Owendale's Erickson allowed nine hits, struck out three and walked six. She was hard to hit because of her "unusual delivery," Seils said.

"She had a very unusual delivery. I talked to the umpire about it, but he said it was a legal delivery. She'd start with her hands in the glove on the ball, and then she'd make a big backswing and stop right at the top of her windup for a two-count."

"Usually a pitcher doesn't hold the ball that long. It was messing up our hitters' timing. We were popping them up and hitting them on the ground."

But Owendale had more going for it than just a pitcher with a tricky windup. The winners produced 13 hits, including seven triples. "When they hit it, it was gone," Seils said.

JILL LENHARD was Owendale's big hitter. She had a pair of triples and drove in seven runs. Losing pitcher Elyssa Edblom, who started and lasted 2 1/2 innings, was relieved by Laura Vroom.

The district victories boosted Owendale to 22-0 this season. "That's a good year," Seils said. "It could go all the way and win the state championship."

All nine Christian hits were singles. Vroom, Cathy Holiday and Lynn Frank each had a single. In the semifinal game, Christian scored 14 runs in the sixth inning, prompting the umpires to halt the contest on a mercy rule. Laura Renaud, who was a batting star for Christian with eight hits in nine trips and nine RBIs in both games, had a pair of triples against Carsonville.

Frank, Cheryl Mays and Laura Howland also clouted triples, and Robin Harris had a home run. Edblom was the winning pitcher, going the distance, striking out five, walking 11 and allowing just six hits.



Christian's Cathoe Holiday gets in some practice before the Class D district softball tourney. (Photo by Allen Scholtsberg)

## DRC plans big week

The Roaring Grand Circuit, which features the best of harness racing's young trotters and pacers, headed by the top drivers in the country, is in full swing at Wolverine Harness Raceway, Schoolcraft at Middlebelt, in Livonia. Thursday night, the nation's best 3-year-old trotting colts and geldings will test each other in the 68th running of the Matron Stakes. The 13-horse field will be competing for a purse of \$43,248.

Post time is 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday during the remainder of Grand Circuit Week.

Local favorite It's Magic holds a Wolverine track mile record of 2:00.1 for 3-year-old trotters. The record makes him the season leader for 3-year-olds on a mile track.

The Haughton stable entry of Doublemint, the season leader on a half-mile track with a time of 2:00.4, and stablemate Count's Pride are also expected to compete.

The rest of the contenders are Sisters Eric, Lowell Trigg; Ata Doug, Hakan Wallner; Tall Oaks Flash, Charles Sylvester; Gambi Lobell, William Wyatt; Town Gesture, Don Hall; Arnie Dart, Archie McNeil; and Brilliant Yankee, Lucien Fontaine.

Grand Circuit racing will continue Friday with the 3-year-old fillies and Saturday with a pace for 3-year-old colts and geldings.


## Basketball school set in Farmington

The basketball coaches at Farmington and North Farmington high schools are sponsoring a five-week summer basketball camp for fourth grade through senior high players, June 22 to Aug. 1.

The summer camp, which covers basic basketball skills, costs \$24 per player. Registration may be accomplished at the Farmington High School lobby from 8 a.m. to noon, June 21.

Sessions will be held at Farmington and Farmington Harrison high schools. Instructors include Ken Dean, varsity coach at North Farmington; Richard Roy, varsity coach at Farmington High; Tom Negeshian, North Farmington assistant coach; and Greg Grodzicki, Farmington High assistant.

Additional information may be obtained by calling Dean at 626-2511, or Roy at 474-6158.



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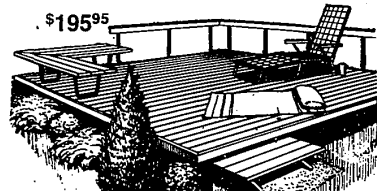
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