National championships next

Yellen excells in first season of pro racquetball

Mike Yellen is 18 years old. He graduated from Southfield Lathrup High School last February and, like many of his classmates, he plans to continue his education at a local college this fall.

So what's so different about him?

Mike also happens to be among the better pro racquetball players in the nation.

Currently, he's in town to participate in the National Championships, held at the Lemontree Racquetball Club in Belleville, Mich. June 17-24. The tournament is being sponsored by the National Racquet Club, one of the two major racquetball tours. It is the last major event of the racquetball season. Seventy-four of the nation's best players will participate.

"This will be a real tough tournament—all the major players will be here," Mike said in a recent interview. "I'm no egotist. I think my chances of winning are slim. But I've been playing pretty well lately. Depending on the draw, I could finish in the top eight."

Mike's racquetball career began a few years ago when he started working at the Southfield Athletic Club. The sport intrigued him, so he played whenever he had the chance.

"I got into amateur competition and won the state championship at the beginning of last year," he recalled. "The club coach, Leonard Karpeles, suggested I try the pro tour. So here I am."

Still in his first year on the tour, Mike has done well. On a recent three-tournament tour out west, he won one and was eliminated in the semi-finals of the other two. One of his losses was to Marty Hogan, the number one player in the nation.

"I like the tour. The travel, meeting new people, and doing what I like to do," Mike said, reflecting on his first year as a pro. "Not many people my age get this opportunity. I'm really enjoying it."

Besides the National Racquet Club, the other major tour is the International Professional Racquetball Organization. Unlike other major professional sports, racquetball does not have the big money prizes. The pros are sponsored by sporting goods companies. Although not all contracts with sponsors are the same, the better players will have agreements similar to Mike's: free equipment, traveling expenses, and bonus clauses. In return, the players become, essentially, walking billboards, with their sponsor's name on just about everthing they wear.

"It can be a problem," Mike related. "In one tournament, the company sponsoring it insisted we wear their shirts from the semi-finals on. Needless to say, my own sponsor was not too pleased."

But as in any professional sport, it is not easy to be successful.

"The first two summers I played, I practiced 8 to 10 hours a day," he said. "Now I practice about three hours a day, and will do some other exercises."

But whatever it takes, you can be sure Mike will be on the tour for years to come.

"The sport is really just starting to grow," he said. "The real centers are California and three cities—St. Louis, Chicago, and Detroit. It's hard to say just how big it will get.

"But I'm sure I'll play for quite a while yet. In racquetball, you can only play until your 27 or 28. After that you begin to slow down. I've got a ways to go yet."

Needless to say, if Mike Yellen keeps playing and improving at the same rate, we will be hearing a lot more about him.

Southfield's Mike Yellen prepares for upcoming national championship tournament.

Farmington Hills softball standings

The following are the won-lost records of the softball teams in the Farmington Parks and Recreation Department's leagues.

MEN'S RESIDENT A LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Town & Country Dodge—3-0; Goat Farm—3-1; Holzer Ford—3-1; Farmington Elks—2-1; Farmington Professionals—1-2-1; Schlitz—1-2-1; Diamond Boutique—1-3; TL Printing—0-3. RESULTS:Sunday,June 4- Town & Country Dodge 8, Farmington Professionals 7; Diamond Boutique 12, Schlitz 3; Goat Farm 17, Holzer Ford 7; Farmington Elks 19, TL Printing 3. Sunday' June 11 - Goat Farm 13, Diamond Boutique 8; Farmington Professionals 13, TL Printing 5; Holzer Ford 31, Schlitz 1.

WOMEN'S OPEN

TEAM STANDINGS — All Sport Uniforms—4-0-1; LaPlata's Raiders—4-0-1; Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home —2-2; Taylor Sporting goods—2-2; C.C. Collision—1-2; Nomads—1-2; A.J. Assemany—0-4.RESULTS:Wednesday, May 31 - LaPlata's Raiders 8, All Sport Uniforms 8; Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home 11, Nomads 2; C.C. Collision 7, A.J. Assemany 6; LaPlata's Raiders 9, Taylor Sporting Goods 4.

MEN'S INDUSTRIAL B LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Executive Office Sply.—4-1; Flor D'Italia—4-1; Roman Terrace—4-1; Michigan National Bank, Farmington—3-2; Stein Haus—3-2; Alexander Hamilton Life—1-4; St. Alexanders—1-4; Fargo Customs—0-5.RESULTS:Wednesday, May 31 - Mich. Nat. Bank, Farmington 18, Alexander Hamilton Life 12; Executive Office Supply 10, Flor D'Italia 9; Roman Terrace 18, St. Alexanders 4; Stein Haus 22, Fargo Customs 3.

MEN'S TUESDAY OPEN LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Dan's Submarine—4-0-1; Big Bill's Sporting Goods—3-1-1; Miller Auto—3-2; Wayne-Oakland Police—3-2; Suburban Sports—2-3-1; Henderson Glass—1-3-1; Jeannie's Lounge—1-4; Phil's B & B Lounge—1-4 RESULTS:Tuesday, June 6 - Big Bill's Sporting Goods 17, Miller Auto 11; Dan's Submarine 13, Suburban Sports 12; Jeannie's Lounge 19, Henderson Glass 5; Wayne-Oakland Police 11 Phil's B & B Lounge 9.

MEN'S THURSDAY OPEN LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Adray Photo—4-0; Fisher's Sporting Goods—3-1; Miller Auto—3-1; Lippon's Sports—2-2; Village Blues—2-2; Bertin Agency—1-3; Oasis Golf Center—1-3; Meininger's Sporting Goods—0-4. RESULTS:Thursday, June 8 - Adray Photo 10, Oasis Golf 5; Fisher's Sporting Goods 18, Miller Auto 9; Lippon's Sports 19, Meininger's Sporting Goods 9; Village Blues 7, Bertin Agency 1.

3-2 LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Mathison Heating—5-0; DSE—4-1; Ferti-lawn—4-1; Ace Control—2-3; Buryl Hill—2-3; Bill Knapp's—1-4; C.S. Bellmore 4. RESULTS:Thursday, June 8 - Matheson Heating 25, Bill Knapp's 7; Ferti-Lawn 12, C.S. Bellmore 11; Panel Clip 29, Buryl Hill 16; DSE 18, Ace Control 9.

MEN'S INDUSTRIAL C LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Automatic Parking—5-0; Swagelok—5-0; J.B. Webb—3-2; Farmington Hills Police—2-3; Livernois & Sons—2-3; Pro Auto—2-3; Larkin's Optical—1-4; Digital—0-5. RESULTS:Sunday, June 4 - Automatic Parking 18, Digital 9; Swagelok 22, Pro Auto 2; Larkin's Optical 11, J.B. Webb 6; Livernois & Sons 15, Farmington Hills Police 8. Monday, June 5 - Automatic Parking 18, Pro Auto 7; J.B. Webb 18, Livernois & Sons 8; Farmington Hills Police 16, Larkin's Optical 4; Swagelok 12, Digital 7.

WOMEN'S INDUSTRIAL A LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Bulldozers—5-0; Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home—5-0; Precise—4-1; Dunleavy's Pub & Grub—2-1; Farmington Foxes—2-1; Toggery—2-2; Digital—1-4-1; Livonia Tool—1-2; Webb Wompers—1-3; Ace Control—0-4-1; Alexander Hamilton—0-4; American Way—0-4. RESULTS: Tuesday, June 6 - Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home 22, Ace Control 0; Bulldozers 18, Webb Wompers 0; Precise 21, Alexander Hamilton 6; Sunday, June 4 - Bulldozers 30, American Way 6; Precise 13, Ace Control 8; Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home 15, Toggery 0; Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home 15, Webb Wompers 0; Bulldozers 24, Alexander Hamilton 10; Ace Control 12, Digital 12. Thursday, May 25 - Toggery 13, Ace Control 10; Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home 17, Dunleasy's Pub & Grub 0; Precise 26, American Way 2.

Southfield softball

Following are the won-lost records of the softball teams in the Southfield Parks and Recreation Department's leagues.

RESIDENT A LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Official Sports—4-0 won-lost record; Suburban Sports—4-0; Athletic Supporter—3-1; Ike's Party Shop—3-1; Jakk's Lounge—3-2; Ross Moving—2-2; Shirt's Unlimited—2-2; General Mill —2-3; Ryke Photo—2-3; Corvo Iron—1-3; Ace Wiping—1-3; John's Auto—0-5.

RESIDENT B LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Drakeshire—5-1; Adam's Electric—4-1; Norm's T.V.—4-1; Chargers—4-1; Mr. Joe's—4-3; Acme Ladder—4-2; Taxi Squad—4-2; Whodunit—4-2; C&J Metal—3-2; Mark's Meats—2-2-1; Practical Home—2-4; Mama Zeldes—1-4; Smart Set—1-5; Headhunters—0-5; Rashid Mod.—0-7.

RESIDENT C LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Little Caesars—8-0; Sfld.-Lathrup—5-0; Papa Romano's—3-1; Contractors—3-1; S&O Pool Dr.—3-1; Outlaws—2-2-1; Lath. Brewers—2-4; Wintergarden—2-4; Sfld. Blues—1-2-2; Light Electric—1-3-1; Highland—1-4; Practical Mgmt.—0-4; High Times—0-5.

INDUSTRIAL A LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Ernst&Ernst—5-1; IBM—5-1; VISA—4-2; Schneiders —4-2; Firefighters—3-3; MI. Diversified—1-5; Gervasi Const.—1-5; American Med.—1-5.

INDUSTRIAL B LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Continental Ins.—5-0; MCVL—4-0; Earl Keim—3-0-2; PICO—4-1; Federal Mogul—3-0-1; Eaton Res.—3-2; Citizen's Mort.—2-2; First Federal—1-2-3; Bendix—2-2; Kienle Annex—1-3-1; Consolidated—1-3; Merrill Lynch—1-4; Hammond Ins.—1-4; I.D.S.—0-3; Huron cement—0-5.

INDUSTRIAL C LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Advance Mert.—5-0; Palace—4-1; Pico Pirates—4-1; Eaton Brake—3-1-1; Sfld. Stars—3-2; Detroit Rental —2-2; ChevroletCAC—3-2; Service Bureau—3-2; Bockes—2-3; Computer Serv.—2-3; CEDA—2-3; G&G Tool—2-3; Warriors—1-3-1; Feldbro—1-4; Dix Auto—1-4; Tolley Int.—0-5.

WOMEN'S B LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Providence—4-0; HRC—4-1; Royal T's—4-1; Drifter Tackle—4-1; MI Life Nat. Cas.—3-1; IBM—3-2; Nat. Ben Franklin —3-2; Burkhart Tool—3-2; Patriettes—3-2; Advance Hustlers—3-2; Roseland Bar—3-2; Hair Systems—1-3; League Ins.—1-4; Hammond Ins. 0-4; T.V. Guide—0-4; Mediums—0-5.

WOMEN'S C LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS — Russell's Hustlers—5-0; Nat. Court Rep.—4-1; P&M Figures—4-1; Bendix—4-1; Solid Gold—3-2; McLean and Friends—3-2; Visa—2-2; Oaten Meats—2-2; E.F. Hutton—2-3; Straith Hospital—2-2; Julius Ross—1-4; Comp. Serv.—1-4; Raleigh Truck—1-4; Worldwide—0-5.

Local athletes successful at Harvard

Two graduates of the Detroit Country Day School have recently wrapped up a successful spring of sports action at Harvard Junior Mike Young, a 1975 graduate of Detroit Country Day, excelled as a high jumper on Harvard's outdoor track team. His success was matched by freshman golfer Glenn Alexander, a 1977 graduate of Detroit Country Day.

Young, a 6-0, 165-pounder from Detroit, finished second at the recent Heptagonal Games at West Point with an impressive jump of 6-8.

Two Farmington High grads members of best academic team

Oakland Community College's cross country team was not only successful running down the opponents, they were also very successful in the classroom.

OCC's team was undefeated enroute to an Eastern Conference Championship and finished 12th in the national rankings. Topping off their honors, the team has been named the number one academic squad in the country.

Two Farmington High graduates posted the best grade point averages on the team. Arno Sist had a perfect 4.00 while Jim Brown was next with a 3.76.

Rounding out the squad were Ron Holland (3.71), Steve Sprague (3.5),and Chris Campbell (3.5). The team's average grade point was 3.69.

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NOTICE OF MEETING

OF

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission will be held at 7:30 P.M. on the 27th day of June, 1978 in the Club House at the Glen Oaks Golf and Country Club, located at 30500 West 13 Mile Road, Farmington, Michigan.

The purpose of the meeting is to hold a Public Hearing on the question of whether the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission should acquire the Glen Oaks Golf and Country Club and two (2) additional parcels of land, all totaling 137.6 acres.

BETTY J. FORTINO, Secretary
Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission

Dated: June 13, 1978
Publish: June 19 and 22, 1978

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