

Sports

classifieds inside

Chris McCosky, Brad Emons editors/591-2312

Thursday, June 20, 1985 O&E

(F1C)

C.J.
RisakStars deserve
spot in limelight

THE EXPERIMENT enters its third year tomorrow evening. Tomorrow is the date for the high school girls all-star soccer classic.

This is the third annual game sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric newspapers, featuring the best girls soccer players from the Eccentric coverage area against the best from Observerland.

It's truly quality competition because the O&E coverage area includes the best high school girls soccer talent in the state. Five of the six Class A state finalists over the past three years have come from the O&E area.

I think these athletes deserve the recognition such a contest provides. Not everyone shares that thought, however. There are those who firmly believe that all-star contests only benefit the promoters while exploiting the athletes.

THE FATE of high school all-star contests could be decided in the next few months. A committee has been designated to examine the issue. Its findings will weigh heavily on the future of such games because this committee has been appointed by the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA).

"We do not approve or disapprove of all-star competition when school is out."

That's the official opinion of the MHSAA, as related by assistant director Lenore Lowry. That doesn't mean members of the MHSAA don't have opinions regarding all-star games.

Vern Norris, the MHSAA's executive director, sees little benefit from such contests for prep athletes. Yet he is willing to go with the flow. If most schools belonging to the MHSAA backed a plan for all-star games, Norris would follow prevailing opinion.

THAT'S WHERE the danger lies -- in prevailing opinion. Sure, the committee could uncover an outcry of support for all-star competition. But its investigation could just as easily reveal feelings slanted in the opposite direction, toward banning all such games for high school students.

First, it's necessary to understand just what the current MHSAA regulations are governing all-star games. They are really very simple:

- All high school coaches, athletic directors, teachers and officials are not allowed to associate in any manner with high school all-star games in football, basketball and ice hockey;
- All high school underclassmen cannot participate in high school all-star games in football, basketball or ice hockey during or after the school year;
- Any high school senior who participates in a football, basketball or ice hockey all-star game after that sport's prep season has concluded but before graduation will be ineligible to compete in any other interscholastic sports;
- A high school athlete who violates the above regulations faces a maximum penalty of one year's suspension from all interscholastic sports.

Those penalties may seem harsh, but the MHSAA has its reasons.

"I hate to use Magic Johnson as an example, but he comes immediately to mind," said Lowry. "After his senior season in high school, he could have been gone all spring traveling from one all-star game to another and never completed his classes."

It's difficult as a high school youngster when someone comes along and says, "How would you like an all-expenses paid trip to California?"

THE REASON football, basketball and ice hockey are strictly governed is that, according to Lowry, they "generate enough revenue to attract promoters." There are all-star games in these sports, but the participants have already graduated.

Limiting the ban on all-star games to the more "popular" sports has helped the O&E in its production of the girls soccer classic, even if it is a bit of a slap. But it seems more could be done.

In speaking with the Observer soccer stars, the consensus strongly favored the game's survival. Rivalries are budding between the two areas, and the girls felt the previous two games had been fun but intense.

As a witness to the first two games, I can testify that neither was boring. Play was fast and furious, and the athletic abilities on display were worth the price of admission (which the O&E takes no profit from).

THE O&E has discussed expanding its all-star sponsorship. Several sports have been mentioned, but the current MHSAA restrictions are far too limiting. Sponsoring an event that's played during the fall or winter after school is out for the summer is silly.

It seems a better method to bar the exploitation of high school athletes can be formulated. Limit the number of appearances an athlete can make in an all-star game; carefully scrutinize all-star promoters; restrict the number of all-star contests in each sport.

A combination -- or all -- of those suggestions could remedy the problem. Certainly it's better than making a football or female basketball player wait seven or eight months before competing in an event that's meant to praise their athletic talents.

Strikers eye O&E title defense



Mary Kay Husey, Livonia Stevenson all-star, will make her third straight appearance in the O&E All-Star Soccer

Classic Friday. The 1985 Observerland soccer team is featured inside.

By Jim Hughes
staff writer

The Observerland soccer team is on a roll, and it would like to keep things that way Friday when it takes its 2-0 All-Star game record into Friday's clash with the Eccentric stars 6:30 p.m. Friday at Troy Athens High School.

In addition to its previous wins from the first two Observer & Eccentric All-Star Soccer Classic games, Observer representative Livonia Stevenson defeated the Eccentric's Troy Athens in this year's Class A state championship game.

Observer won the first meeting, 7-1, and the second, 5-2.

If history repeats, Norene Divens' Observer team will make it three straight, but Athens coach Tim Storch, who will direct the Eccentric team along with Troy's Mike Ruddy, hopes for a different outcome.

"I think from an experience factor, they have the advantage," said Storch, who will coach the Eccentric team for the first time. "They have players on their team that have won the last two all-star games, plus they have some players who were on a state championship team, so they are experienced in big games. We're a younger team."

"WE'VE BEEN working a lot using the width of the field," Storch added. That could play an important role. We play on a wider field (65 yards). They've never seen one wider than 55-60. I'm hoping the added width will work in our favor."

When you examine the two teams, you find two of the state's soccer powerhouse communities are involved -- Livonia from Wayne County and Troy from Oakland County. Both areas breed success, and both have different styles of play, although the coaches may see things from a different perspective.

"The big difference is that Oakland County teams play more physically and aggressive than we do here," Divens said. "I know Tim Storch is probably saying, 'Oh my, how can she say that?' but it's true. Our kids won't back down. They won't be intimidated."

"We can play physically -- and we

WHAT: Observer & Eccentric Girls High School All-Star Classic

WHEN: Friday, June 21, 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Troy Athens High School, 4333 John R. (four miles east of Coolidge) just north of Wattles Road (17 Mile)

WHO: Featuring some of the best girls high school soccer players in the state, including players from state champion Livonia Stevenson and state runnerup Troy Athens.

ADMISSION: \$1 general admission

do -- but we do it to protect ourselves. We don't initiate it."

Storch's response wasn't "How can she say that?" He simply disagreed.

"Every time we've seen those three Livonia teams -- Stevenson, Churchill and Bentley -- against each other, Mike and I have felt they play a rough, physical game," Storch said. "I hope it doesn't become that way because they are bigger and stronger than we are. We have a small, finesse team, and I'd like to see a finesse game because it would be advantageous to us."

DIVENS, WHOSE teams at Stevenson run a four-forward attack, plans to use that offense in the All-Star game.

"We run a very aggressive offensive game at Stevenson," she said. "My philosophy is to let other teams worry about our offense."

Time will tell what will happen. If they have Katy Andreea (from Birmingham Seaholm) and not a lot missing from their All-Star team, it will be a tough battle."

The Observer team will not be all first-team All-Area players since some of those members are committed to another tournament.

"We'll still have some strong players," Divens said. "It should be a very, very close game."

Observer will have Mary Kay Husey (Livonia Stevenson) and Annette Ruggiero (Farmington Mercy) on its squad, the most valuable players from the first two All-Star games.

"They always field a strong team and they have some outstanding indi-

Please turn to Page 4

Prix volunteers
love their labor

By Brad Emons
staff writer

Redford's Hugh Laird does it as a labor of love.

The chief starter at the Detroit Grand Prix, Laird donates his time and his money as one of the many volunteers throughout the area who work the Formula 1 race.

Laird, in his fourth year as chief starter, works the tower at the start-finish line for the Detroit race. Laird, who can be identified by the houndstooth jacket he wears, uses three different colored flags during the course of the race -- green, red and checkered. As many as nine flags are used throughout the course.

"I'm in the tower assisting the Grand Prix official who actually starts the race," Laird explained. "But once the race starts, I take over."

"I'm the guy that you see in the upper right-hand box of your television set waving the checkered flag," Laird, who has obtained his FISA Super License as a Formula 1 North American Grand Prix official, says things have run smoothly in Detroit.

"We really started our preparations for this race back in September of 1984," he said. "Each year we write a critique of our own area, and we've made only a few minor changes."

"LAST YEAR, for example, we moved the starting box back five feet. But things have been good since the first race in my specialty."

Laird, a principal at Bulman Elementary School in Redford Union, said he has travelled the midwest since 1973 working races for the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA), of which he is a member.

"I pay my own hotel bills and pay for

my own meals when I work a race," he said. "I don't get a penny, but I really enjoy it."

Several other SCCA volunteers from the Observer and Eccentric coverage area have important tasks to perform during this weekend's event.

The volunteers include:

- Bob Pierson, Farmington Hills -- liaison and chairman of the Detroit Grand Prix Committee (Detroit Renaissance Inc.).

- Dona Hallandal, Garden City -- chief of equipment (responsible for getting equipment to the corner workers).

- Jerry and Mary Schloff, Livonia -- chief of registration (responsible for 300 to 400 volunteer workers).

- Dick Meyers, Troy -- chief of fire and rescue teams (a paramedic with the Troy Volunteer Fire Department).

- Mike and Suzanne Royce, Bloomfield Hills -- chief of scrutineers (responsibilities include technical checking of cars under the rules and regulations of the event).

AS FAR as the Friday schedule is concerned, Formula 1 unlimited practice will be 10-11:30 a.m., followed by Formula 1 time practice, 1-2 p.m.; Trans-Am unlimited practice, 3-3:45 p.m.; Lucas Challenge unlimited practice, 4-4:30 p.m.; Bosch-Volkswagen Super Vee unlimited practice, 4:45-5:30 p.m.; and Trans-Am limited practice, 5:45-6:45 p.m.

Practice and qualifying for the four different classifications runs from 8:15 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday. The Trans-Am race begins at 4:15 p.m.

The Sunday schedule is: Lucas Challenge race, 10 a.m.; opening ceremony, 11:10 a.m.; Formula 1 race, 1:15 p.m.; and Bosch-Volkswagen Super Vee championship, 4 p.m.

An investment opportunity in
commercial jet aircraft leasing:

Polaris Aircraft Income Fund I

This limited partnership will invest in commercial jet aircraft leased to major U.S. airlines. The Partnership intends to acquire these aircraft on an all cash basis, without debt, and distribute income quarterly to the Limited Partners.

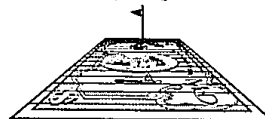
Polaris Investment Management Corporation, a subsidiary of Polaris Aircraft Leasing Corporation, is the General Partner.

\$125,000,000 offering, with 250,000 units at \$500 each. Minimum investment is \$2,500 or \$2,000 for IRA's.

For a free copy of the prospectus, mail the coupon below or call:

540-1221

When you're going for the green.



McDONALD & COMPANY
SECURITIES, INC.

Member NYSE

Member SIPC

This advertisement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy these securities. Such an offer is made by the Prospectus only, copies of which are obtainable only in those states in which these securities may lawfully be offered.

McDonald & Company Securities, Inc.

Suite 333 Birmingham Place, 401 S. Woodward Avenue
Birmingham, Michigan 48011

Please send me a prospectus on the Polaris Aircraft Income Fund I.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____