

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1996

SPORTS

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FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Bandits win another title

The Farmington Bandits have done it again. After winning the West Suburban Soccer League under-10 boys select championship (9-0) and finishing first at the Canton Invitational (4-0), the Bandits also won the Wolverine Tournament.

The Bandits defeated the Michigan Wolves 3-1, Northville Arsenal 6-0, Dearborn Heights Cyclones 4-0 and the Lakes Area Warriors 2-1 to capture their age-group championship July 6-7 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

The team is comprised of Eric Anderson, Chris Conlisk, Nathan Crowther, Matthew Daigler, Matthew Dansey, Momehil Filev, Jordan Fylenko, Alex Gargol, Chris Kollias, Chris Kovencinski, Mike Mennotti, Matt Mulliken, Scott Muscov, Brian Patterson, Jesse Ranney and Ian Schinelli.

"This is a special group of kids; they're awesome," coach Bill Kollias said. "This was quite an accomplishment, because they were up against some odds."

"All the credit goes to the kids. I show them the way, and they go and do it. There are some real players, some future stars, on this team."

"Everybody knows his job, and there is a good chemistry. It all starts with defense, and our defense is second to none."

Preseason conditioning

The Farmington Fire Midget AA 17-and-under hockey team will begin fall conditioning at 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 19, at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

All players are welcome to participate. Actual tryout dates for the team will be posted at the rink in early August.

For information call coach Lou Bitoff at (810) 489-0368.

Founders tennis champs

Four winners emerged from an original group of 30 players Saturday in the 20th Annual Founders Festival Tennis Tournament in Farmington.

Andrew Golaszewski won the junior boys singles title by defeating Geoff Strait, 6-1, 6-3. Tom Fargo earned the men's singles crown with a 6-2, 6-4 victory over Neil Schulz.

George Onisko won by default over Larry Sturtevant to claim the men's 45-and-over singles championship.

In men's doubles competition, Carl and Rick Karoub swept opponents James Frederick and David Marke by straight sets, 6-0, 6-0, in the final.

Jam City 6th in nation

The Jam City basketball team represented Detroit in the 13-year-old national AAU tournament and finished sixth out of 86 teams in Memphis, Tenn.

Jam City won seven games and lost only one during the week-long tournament at the end of June.

The team includes three players from Farmington Hills: Adrian Bridges, Garlin Gilchrist and Matt Mikel. The other members are Steve Clayton and Grant Mason from Pontiac, Nick Cabauatan from Canton and Lloyd Cowles Jr., Hayes Grooms, James Ramsey and Ricky Paulding from Detroit.

Ken Hubbard is the head coach. The assistant coaches are Dennis Mikel and Lloyd Cowles.

Red Wings charity benefit

If you can't wait until the fall to watch your beloved Detroit Red Wings, come to Claude Allison Field on Sunday afternoon.

The third annual charity softball game matching the Red Wings against members of the media and celebrities starts at 2 p.m.

Hockey's Helping Hands and the first-year Redford Union hockey program are the beneficiaries of the event.

Claude Allison Field is located on Beech Daly Road between Six and Seven Mile roads.

Admission is \$5 for fans 13 and over. Children 12 and under who are accompanied by a parent will be admitted free.

Red Wings players will be available after the game for autographs. A home run derby for fans and players starts at noon.

Pitchers pace Diamonds

The pitching of Mickey Spiez and Jessica Brubaker played a major role Tuesday as the Farmington Hills Diamonds swept a doubleheader from the Livonia Lancers in the Incredible Girls Fast-Pitch Softball League, 4-0 and 10-5.

Spiez allowed just two hits in the first game, and Brubaker tossed a one-hitter in the second. Both pitchers struck out 12 and walked four.

Kristy Reinhardt, Spiez and Kate Devereux had one RBI apiece in the first game. Angie Balconi tripled and scored a run.

Melanie Stein hit a two-run double in the nightcap, and Brubaker and Kristin Timpner had RBI singles.

The Diamonds are 7-5, the Lancers 0-4.



Steady stride: Rich Stark of Ann Arbor (left) was the official winner of the men's event in the Founders Festival Road Race, and racing teammate Kerry Barnett of Saline was second. They challenged each other to maintain the same pace throughout the race.

Founders race winners plan for next challenge

Rich Stark of Ann Arbor and Patricia Bagley of Livonia were the men's and women's overall winners Saturday in the Third Annual Founders Festival Road Race in Farmington.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

The winners in the Third Annual Founders Festival Road Race hope the four-mile run is a stepping stone to future success in other races.

Rich Stark of Ann Arbor was the official overall men's champion with a time of 19:18 in the open division Saturday, but he considers teammate Kerry Barnett of the Saline and Mary Keating Team a co-winner at 19:15.5.

The race served as a test for the 30-year-old Stark, who used it as a springboard to the Bedford Road Runners Classic next week.

"I didn't run a race since March 10," Stark said. "I had been battling an injury, so I didn't want to see how it affected my training."

The women's overall winner was 26-year-old Patricia Bagley of Livonia, who ran 28:55.5 and is preparing for the Detroit Marathon in October.

"That was a good time for me, so I felt I was working hard," she said.

Stark's race was fast, so it didn't seem too long. After the first mile, it was pretty much all over for him.

Stark, who is a student at the University of Michigan, is a member of the Ann Arbor Road Runners Club.

state of Pennsylvania, and 35-year-old Barnett of Saline trained together and had planned to keep the same pace.

"We wanted something to be a gauge where we were in our training," Stark said. "Kerry did all the running on what the pace was, and we said, 'That sounds like a nice run to go to.'"

"We kept each other a little bit, you have to find out where the other guy is, too. We definitely wanted to stick together."

Both runners had difficulty early in the race as they adjusted to the hot and humid weather, but both "broke" more than a minute ahead of the rest of the pack.

"I was having trouble the first mile, but then I was back in the lead," Stark said. "At the end, I was a little bit out of breath, but I was able to hold on."

Stark and Barnett were the only runners to finish the race in under 20 minutes, and they were the only runners to finish with a time under 30 minutes.

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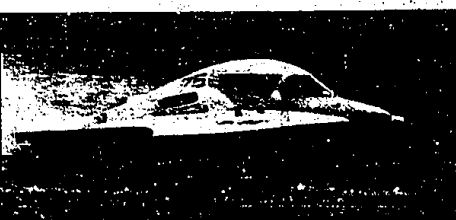
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Patricia Bagley of Livonia is women's overall winner of the Founders Festival Road Race.

Sylvan Lake Regatta benefits children's charity



Like on water: Bob Dabrowski of Farmington Hills will reach speeds of 130 mph in his boat (above) Sunday in the Sylvan Lake Regatta.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

During the week, Bob Dabrowski of Farmington Hills conducts business as an industrial real estate broker.

On weekends, he still means business, with some competitive fun included, as the driver of his own powerboat.

Dabrowski will be racing Sunday in the 79th Annual Sylvan Lake Regatta, featuring championship hydroplanes.

The "Race For Wishes" is sponsored by the Oakland County Boat Club and will benefit the Rainbow Connection, which grants special wishes for children with life-threatening illnesses.

Dabrowski, who has been competing since 1968, will be one of eight boats in the 2.5 Litre Modified Class, one of six that will race Sunday. The event begins at noon.

"I'm too big a kid to give it up," said the 54-year-old Dabrowski. "If you've never seen one, it's awful exciting."

The love of competition, racing powerful boats and using brain power, is what keeps him going in the sport, according to Dabrowski.

"I wasn't the best athlete but a fairly good one; I loved competing in football and basketball," he said, adding he's way past his prime for

Blues = Classic champs

The 11-year-old South Farmington Blues baseball team went undefeated to win the Plymouth-Canton All-Star Classic July 12-14.

Andy Wingert was the winning pitcher and hit two home runs as the Blues opened the tournament by defeating the Michigan Bulls 9-7.

The Blues merried Novi 17-3, Dexter 12-2 and the Canton Coyotes 11-1. In the semifinals, Eric Howard hit a grand slam to help the Blues defeat the Canton Cannons 13-8.

The championship game featured South Farmington against its crosstown rival, the NFWB Cobras, who also were undefeated.

BASEBALL

With the score tied 3-3 entering the 12th inning, the Blues broke the deadlock, scoring five runs and making a three-game winner of Wingert.

Howard led the Blues with a .625 batting average followed by Wingert's .474, shortstop Mike Kish's .467 and catcher Chris Chesney's .450.

Jon Pearm had nine hits and Matt Okopny eight. Bobbie Houchins, Robert Whipple and Nick Vitonis had one pitching victory apiece. The Blues also had defensive support from Chris McDonnell and Danny Daig.

After winning the tournament, each player took a turn shaving off manager Bob Houchins' hair.

Blues 2nd in tourney

The South Farmington Blues 15-year-old baseball team finished second in the Sparks Fourth of July tournament in Chicago.

Zach Burton pitched two games, including a two-hit shutout over the Tinley Park Bobcats, 11-0.

The Blues jumped on the Bobcats in the first inning with leadoff hits by Sean Quay and Mark Cole. Brendan Elue drove in the runs with a two-out single.

Every player hit safely for the Blues. Their 11 hits included a triple by Jon Marchel and a home run by Mike Head.

The Blues also defeated the host Sparks team 12-2 with 15 hits. Bob Austin, David Pesci, Charlie Avery and Josh Davis led the hitting barrage, which included a home run by Davis.

South Farmington lost in the championship game to the St. Clair Shores Sox, 4-2.

Cole, Quay, Avery, Marchel and Head hit safely in the final game. Head's connection was a solo homer that cleared the center-field fence.

Since returning from Chicago, the Blues, who have won five of their last seven games, beat the Commerce Rams 9-7, the Detroit Monarchs 5-1 and West Bloomfield 10-8 to put their season record at 13-12.

Burton, Avery, Head, Elue and Cole shared the pitching duties. The Blues are managed by Dan Avery. The coaches are Jerry Marchel and Larry Cole.

Cobras edge Bandits

Andrew Todd and Jason Bull combined to strike out 11 batters as the NFWB Cobras all-15-year-old baseball team picked up a thrilling, 6-5 victory over the Mount Clemens

See BASEBALL, 4C

Readers can submit sports information to Dan O'Meara by fax at (313) 591-7279 or writing to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

See BASEBALL, 3C