

Observer Sports

The Farmington
Observer

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Thursday, July 29, 1999

FARMINGTON, CT FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Danielewicz is MVP

Both Danielewicz was named the most valuable player of the Girls Incredible Fastpitch Softball League's varsity all-star game Saturday after leading the Blue team to a 10-2 victory over the Red.

Danielewicz, who plays for the Farmington Hills Diamonds, was a winning pitcher, tossing a six-hitter through four scoreless innings while striking out seven.

She also was 2-for-3 with the bat and scored a run in the mid-summer classic at Shawansee Park in Farmington.

Becky Mitchell (Livonia Lancers) and Amelia Aranza (Diamonds) also had two hits apiece for the Blues.

Christine Fones (Livonia Knights) and Mitchell batted in two runs each; Kathy Rospierski (Lancers) and Sheila Gillies (Knights) had one RBI apiece. Courtney Wilmering (Lancers) and Aranza scored two runs each.

Amanda Sutton and Shae Potocki of the Plymouth Lightning scored first-inning runs to give the Red team a 2-1 lead, but the Blue took the lead for good with two runs in the fourth.

Sutton and Jamie Lindon (Livonia Lancers) hit triples in the first inning. Lindon's three-base hit scored Sutton with the Red's first run.

Other members of the Blue team were Sallie Kuratko, Carly George, Meghan Mielink and Kathleen Schram of the Knights; Alyssa Stanbridge of the Diamonds; Kristen Barnes of the Lancers; Jennille Brown and Megan Coultas of the Canton Cobras.

The Red roster included Jessica Chapman, Dawn Allen, Marnie Jones and Jacqui Slesbodnick of the Lightning; Nicole Zabkiewicz, Jeanette Bertrand, Amy Sandrick and Kerstin Minshall of the Lancers; Kelley Hutchins, Amanda Jankowski and Kim Giller of the Livonia Cyclones; Ellen Doughty of the Farmington Hills Hornets; and Janessa Chapman of the Plymouth Thunder.

Alberty wins JV honor

Andrea Alberty was named the MVP of the Incredible JV all-star game after driving in the winning run in the seventh inning to give the Blue an 8-7 win over the Red.

Stephanie Day and Lisa DeRoche had two hits apiece to lead the Blue. Day also had two RBI. DeRoche and Liz Malek one each.

Rachel Koernke batted in two runs for the Red; Renae Ritz and Colleen Badger had one RBI apiece.

The players on the Blue team were Megan Wilkinson, Kim Baldoni, Kristine Torney, Mindy Mitchell, Sue Malonis and Alberty of the White Sox; Malek, Shawna Fallon, Kristin Grove, Sara Robak and Day of the Red Sox; Jackie D'Agostino and Kelly Batterman of the Wings; Amanda Morrill and DeRoche of the Ladybugs.

The Red team consisted of Maria Palmer, Lauren Mydlowski, Sara Sakowski, Erin Agemy, Carly Tracey and Megan Myers of the Mustangs; Ellen Hector, Katie Rhodes, Amy Schiffman, Koernke and Taryn Charrette of the Broncos; Katie Michnink, Ritz and Natalie Krieger of the Gators; Badger and Nicole Zamitt of the Rangers.

Soccer players wanted

The Farmington Soccer Club is inviting children under the ages of 7 and 8 to play in its fall season. All skill levels welcome. For more information, contact the registrar at (248) 426-7146.

Hoop coaches needed

Birmingham Brother Rice High School is seeking varsity assistant, junior varsity and freshman boys basketball coaches. Candidates should send a resume to Donald J. MacAloon, 180 Oakland Ave., Suite 260, Birmingham, MI 48009; or fax a resume to (248) 646-2841.

OCC position open

Oakland Community College is seeking qualified candidates for an immediate opening as women's head volleyball coach.

The team is based out of the Highland Lakes Campus in Waterford. Candidates should have a coaching background in women's volleyball.

If you are qualified and interested in the job, contact OCC Athletic Director Bernie Little at (248) 360-3156. The volleyball season runs from August to mid-November.

Champion Cobras

NFWB 14-year-olds achieve World Series victory



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER
domears@thehomecomm.net

Sunday was a day filled with World Series memories — past and present — for former Major League pitcher Dan Petry.

As a member of the 1984 Detroit Tigers championship team, he and his teammates were honored at Tiger Stadium in commemoration of the 15th anniversary of their World Series triumph.

Later that afternoon, Petry helped coach the 14-year-old North Farmington-West Bloomfield Cobras to the United States Specialty Sports Association's AAA World Series title at Liberty Park in Sterling Heights.

"It was very coincidental, that we remember 1984 and at the same time have an opportunity to win one as a youth baseball team," Petry said.

"There was too much deja vu. We felt like luck was on our side. We were in the driver's seat, too. (The St. Louis, Mo., Warriors) had to beat us twice, and we were really loaded with pitching that day; so we were in really good shape."

Setting a goal and achieving it is the major link between the 1984 Tigers and the 1999 Cobras, according to Petry.

"In '83 we had a goal and that was to

win the World Series, and we had been together as a team for a number of years," he said. "We just fell a little short to Baltimore, which went on to win the World Series in '83."

"I draw the analogy that we set a goal and we ended up achieving it. Not automatically, we had a lot of work to do, but we achieved that goal. That's the way life works, setting goals and achieving them."

To prepare for national competition, the Cobras (46-3) have gone out of state to play the best teams they can schedule, including a trip to Atlanta in May to face teams from nationally-renowned East Cobb County.

"We've always challenged these kids," Petry said. "We went to a lot of really good World Series. We battled real hard and fell a little short but were proud of what we did."

"But we decided to take a look at this World Series even though we might be stepping down from the Majors (to

AAA). It was local and it made sense to do it."

"We set that goal for them way back in the fall. We told them what our idea was; they were all for it, and they accomplished it."

In the championship game, the Cobras trailed the Warriors 8-7 after five innings but scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth and won, 10-8.

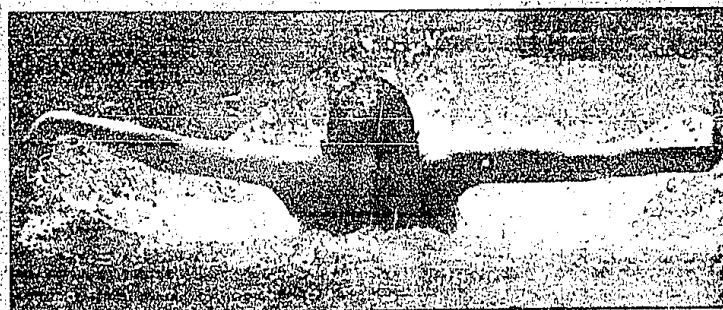
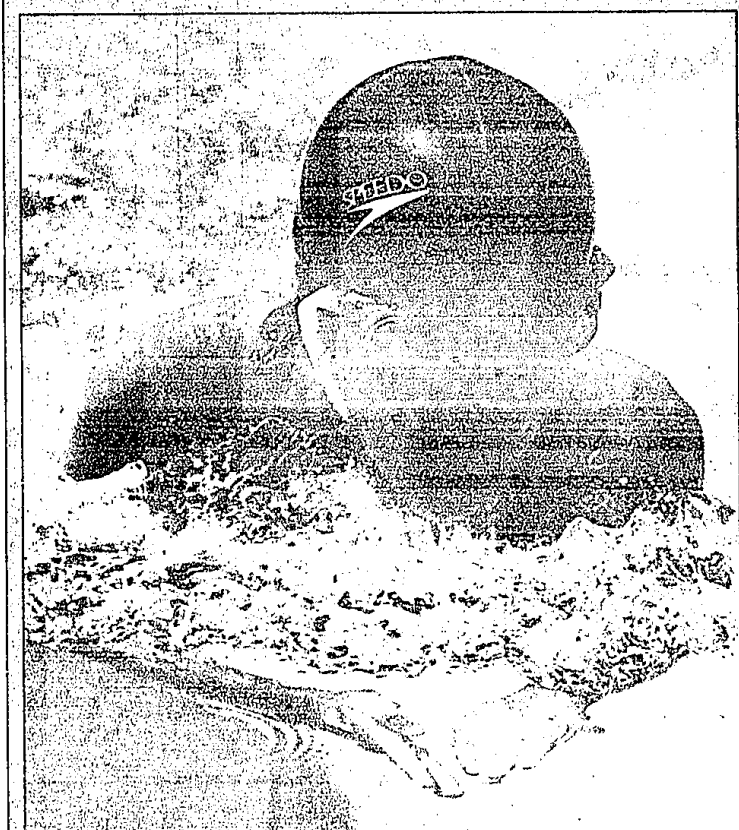
Danny Graham homered and Doug Pickens, who was 3-for-4 with three RBI, had a clutch single in the sixth. Matt Clark tripled to knock in two runs, and Kevin Zerbo crushed a home run.

Nick Vitanis earned the victory on the mound, relieving Ben Darga in the fifth inning and shutting down the Warriors the rest of the game.

The pivotal game was NFWB's fourth of nine and its first in the double-elimination round. After spotting

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Summer swimming championships



Farmington swimmers: Kendallwood Club's Lauren Givens (top photo) placed fifth in the 9-10 girls 50 breaststroke Sunday in the Northwest Suburban Swim League's A level championship meet at Educh Woods Recreation Association in Troy. Ryan Booms of the Farmington Glen Aquatic Club finished sixth in the 11-12 boys 100 individual medley (above), but he also won the 50 breaststroke in his age group. Kendallwood was 12th in the 16-team meet with 155 points. Woodbrooke Hills 13th (142), Farmington Glen 14th (125) and Beechview 15th (124). Forest Hills Swim Club won the meet with 709 points. See Page C4 for story and results.

10-year-old Blues No. 1 in regional

The South Farmington 10-year-old Blues earned a trip to the American Amateur Baseball Congress World Series by winning the East Central regional championship July 21-25 in Fort Wayne, Ind.

The double-elimination World Series will pit nine regional winners from the United States and Puerto Rico in competition starting today in Olive Branch, Miss. South Farmington opens against the Memphis Tigers tonight.

In sweeping the regional opposition, the Blues defeated Kendallville (Ind.) 12-2, Dublin (Ohio) 2-1, Wallen (Ind.) 11-4 and the Michigan Rams 14-6. To clinch the title, the Blues again defeated Dublin, the Ohio state champs, 12-8.

BASEBALL

Complete-game pitching victories were recorded by Zak Kozuchowski, Josh Rebandt, Brian Noble and Jeff Gorecki.

The efforts by other Blues players were led by center fielder Harvey Martin and infielders Stephen Doty, Brooks Tuyn and Andy Lentz.

In the title game, the Blues overcame a two-run deficit with a six-run rally ignited by Paul Greenwood and aided by key hits from Martin, Doty, Gorecki, Kevin Rafferty and Jon Castine.

The Blues have an impressive 48-9 record entering the World Series.

Blues win 14-under event

The South Farmington Blues 14-and-under baseball team won the AABC district championship on Belle Isle last week with a 6-0 record.

The Blues beat Milan 13-3, the Clarkson River Dawgs 12-4, the Shelby Township Avengers 11-7, Hartland 10-8 and, in a rematch in the championship game, the Avengers 12-2.

In the first game of the tournament, Gabe Crawford went the distance in the five-inning mercy win over Milan. He kept the Milan batsmen off balance all game, giving up just four hits and striking out six.

The offensive star of the game was Aaron Marx, who went 3-for-3 with four RBI and scored two runs.

James Melvin was 3-for-4 at the plate, and Jon Pearn, Bobby Houchins and Crawford were 2-for-3. Brian Bosler added to the offensive show with a home run.

In the win over the River Dawgs, Bosler pitched a complete game, giving up just three hits and collecting four strikeouts.

Houchins provided the big offense with a single and a triple in three trips to the plate. Chris Cheney had three RBI.

In the first game against the Avengers, Houchins started on the mound but lasted just 2½ innings, giving up six runs. Melvin won the rest of the way giving up one run on three hits.

The Blues exploded for six hits in the second inning when the Shelby pitching staff hit three of the first four batters that inning.

Pearn followed with a three-run homer. Cheney tripled in the sixth

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