

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

NFWB TRAVEL TEAMS

Tryouts for the NFWB travel baseball teams will be Saturday, Aug. 24, at Drake Park in West Bloomfield and Sunday, Aug. 25, at Pioneer Park in Farmington Hills.

The tryout schedule for both days is noon to 2 p.m. for age 10 and 11, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. for age 12, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for age 13, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. for age 14.

The managers with the age groups they manage in parentheses are Tom Hudson (10), Paul Lubanski (11), Jeff Levine (12), Frank Sacha (13) and Craig Barnes (14). For more information call Alan Borsen at (248) 496-3910.

METRO DETROIT DODGERS

The Metro Detroit Dodgers are seeking players interested in playing competitive baseball in the 13- and under division of the 2003 Little Caesars Baseball Federation.

Tryouts will be 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 17 and 18, at Drake Field, which is located on Drake Road, south of Grand River in Farmington Hills.

For more information call Dave Quizz (248-498-7362) or Kevin Sanderson (248-790-5677) or visit our website at www.metrododgers.com.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS

The 14- and under Oakland County Athletics baseball team will hold tryouts 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25, at Northville Community Park (Beck Road between Five and Six Mile roads).

Players with a birth date on or after Aug. 1, 1988, are eligible. The Athletics will play about 60 games in 2003.

For more information call coach Bill Jerney at (248) 348-5857 or send an email to bjjerney@comcast.net.

SOUTH FARMINGTON BLUES

The South Farmington Blues will hold tryouts for the 2003 season at noon Sunday, Aug. 25, at Founders Sports Park (18 Mile Road between Farmington and Haines roads).

For more information call: 9- and under manager John Bateman at 476-6239, 11- and under manager Jeff Zarembki at 473-0133, 12- and under manager Stu Rose at 477-7747, 13- and under manager Jeff Scott at 476-8800 and 14- and under manager Rick Tuyn at 474-8995.

Tryouts for the Blues 10- and under team will be 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27, at Founders. The manager is Steve Sutton (538-4685).

FARMINGTON TORNAIDOS

The Farmington Tornadoes, a 12-year-old travel baseball team playing in the Little Caesars League, will have tryouts 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at Drake Park, Field No. 2, between Grand River and freedom.

For information call David Matto at (248) 476-2314.

WACO WOLVES

Tryouts for the 2003 Waco Wolves Baseball Club will conduct tryouts for its 8- and under and 14- and under teams throughout the month of August.

The 14- and under team is also looking for two serious coaches for its staff. For more information, call Bill Hargan at (734) 516-3123.

DUATHLON

FROM PAGE D1

It is not known if last year's male and female overall duathlon champions will return to defend their titles. Frank Pattison of North Olmsted, Ohio was the overall men's winner in 1 hour, 8 minutes and 38 seconds. The 2000 men's winner, Matt Kowalski of Northville, turned pro this season. The women's champ was Jennifer Schille of Chicago, Ill., who posted a time of 1:26:09.

Duathletes can still register, as well as pick up race packets, from 9-5 p.m. Saturday at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail (at Hines Drive). You can also register online at www.signmeupsports.com.

Entry fees are \$45 for USA Triathlon licensed members and \$52 for non-USAT members. Awards will go to the top male and female five finishers in 15 different age groups, along with the top overall male and female, and top male and female masters (40 and over).

Despite having to cancel the triathlon portion of the race for the third straight year, race directors Joyce and Jim Donaldson of Elite Endeavors are planning big things for the Hines Park race venue.

"We're trying to convince the County to hold a late spring or early fall duathlon," Smith said. "Jim (Donaldson) is a nationally-ranked triathlete who has competed in the Hawaii Ironman and World Triathlon Championships. He's been all over the world and he's very high on this race course. He thinks it's one of the best around."

Donaldson, who lives in northern Ohio, is president of the USAT Midwest Region and hopes to bring the USAT National Duathlon Championships to the Hines Park venue in either 2003 or 2004. The National Championships would consist of a 10K run, 40-mile bike and 5K run.

Also planned is a sprint distance featuring a pair of 5K runs and a 20K bike.

"The Midwest Region has put in a bid, they see it as a great opportunity for the site because it's a closed course, it's only 20 minutes from the airport and it's got plenty of hotel availability," Smith said.

"The transition area would be moved to Sumac Pointe (just west of Newburgh Road on Hines) and the bike course would be like a criterium event with two loops where the spectators could see the athletes go by. It would be spectator friendly, plus there would be plenty of parking close by."

Rams fall short of World Series title

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
STAFF WRITER

The Michigan Lake Area Rams made quite a run at the N.A.B.F. Collegiate Division World Series in Ohio last week, but saw their run end two wins shy of the big prize.

The Rams won four out of five games at the tournament before losing in the semifinals 9-6 to the defending champs, Ohio Warhawks Saturday night. The Rams finished third overall at the tournament.

The game was a bit of an aberration for the Rams, who benefitted from superb pitching to that point in the tournament. In the team's four wins, Rams' pitchers allowed only two runs in 35 innings of work. Even with the nine runs allowed to the Warhawks, the team finished the tournament with a combined earned run average of 1.23. Only six of the 11 total runs scored against the Rams were earned, while they piled up 36 runs of their own in the five games.

The Rams jumped out to a 3-0 lead against Ohio after a 1 1/2 innings, but the Warhawks showed why they were the defending champs, scoring runs in four of the next five frames to eventually take an 8-4 lead.

Mike Hayes (Redford Union) was the starting pitcher in the semifinals for the Rams. The team was close to tying the game twice, leading the bases in the eighth and ninth innings, but came up empty each inning.

Garden City's Rob Hudson was named team MVP after a fantastic tournament. He went 3-for-4 against Ohio with an arn batted in, and finished the tournament with a .542 batting average, 4 RBI and no errors in the outfield.

Hudson batted leadoff for the Rams and currently plays for Jacksonville University.

Ryan Freiburger went 2-for-4 with a run batted in, and Charlie Anderson, Brad Leach and Brent Scheffer each drove home a run.

In earlier action Saturday, the Rams

took a 2-0 lead in the first inning and never looked back in recording a 6-1 win over Brentwood (Missouri) in Springfield, Ohio.

Jon Hastings got the win for the Rams, allowing one run on six hits in nine excellent innings on the hill.

"He told me it was the best game he ever pitched," said Rams coach Rick Berryman. "We had two guys pitch the games of their lives at the tournament."

Hastings got plenty of big bat support, as Ty Herriott, Chris Trot (Plymouth Salem) and Oliver Wolcott all hit home runs for the Rams. Trot and Freiburger were the only players to record more than one hit in the balanced offensive attack.

The bats were even louder and the pitching even better in the team's Friday night game, a 12-0 win over the Dayton Diamonds at Springfield Municipal Stadium.

Hudson was terrific at the plate, going 4-for-6 with two runs scored and two runs batted in. He also stole a base in

his best game at the plate of the tournament.

Trot went 4-for-5, slamming two doubles and scoring twice. Leach drove in a pair with two hits, as did Wolcott. Herriott drove in two more runs, and Anderson went 2-for-4 to add to the team's huge day at the plate. The team racked up 18 hits total in the game.

Five different pitchers combined on the shutout for the Rams, allowing six hits in the game. The Rams scored three runs in the first, four in the fourth and tacked on five more runs in the ninth to cruise to victory.

Berryman said he couldn't be happier with the team's showing at the series.

"We went down there with 16 players, and there's no way I can complain about how we played and pitched," Berryman. "It was everything you could expect, and everyone contributed. In that semifinal game, we actually out-hit them (10-9) but couldn't get the timely hit."

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