

Country Day fields team

Lacrosse—a mixture of many sports

One minute the coach was discussing a screen play similar to a basketball pick. Moments later he described moving the ball out of the defensive zone like a hockey defenseman trying to clear the puck. Still later, he demonstrated a check with all the contact of football.

Lacrosse is certainly an athletic melting pot.

Although the sport has shown only spotted success in this area, lacrosse is in its fifth year at Detroit Country Day School and coach Gene Reilly notes that interest has grown each year.

"The first year we started the program we had 25 players, this year we have 34. We have started programs for seventh and eighth grade students and we have initiated a fall program for the fifth and sixth graders," Reilly said.

The Yellow Jacket coach learned the game in high school and later became the Wesleyan University lacrosse coach before moving to Country Day.

"It's a VERY big sport in the east in both high school and college," Reilly said, "around Long Island, N.Y. and Baltimore, where it has really grown. Lacrosse and basketball are probably the only real North American sports."

The game, according to most sources, was first played by the Indians. While many of those contests resulted in slam bang, keep-your-tom-bawks-ready affairs, the rules were sophisticated into the modern game of today.

Outdoors lacrosse, according to Reilly, should not be confused with box lacrosse — a sport which still maintains much of the brutality.

"As far as I'm concerned, box lac-

rosse gives the sport a bad name," Reilly said. "We have less injuries in lacrosse than in most other sports. The most serious injury we've had at Country Day in five years is a broken wrist."

Academy, Western Reserve and Arlington Heights from Ohio and Shady-side Academy in Pittsburgh.

The Wednesday, April 23rd opener will pit Country Day against Cranbrook.

"Lacrosse takes good conditioning and its greatest asset is that any youth of any size can play. Our lightest player is 110 pounds and our heaviest is 190. You don't have to be a super athlete to play. Ten players play at a time and we normally play 38 during a game. Also, it's the only contact sport in the spring."

The Yellow Jackets, who won the league title last year, have five seniors, four juniors, 14 sophomores and 13 freshmen on this year's team. A year ago Country Day produced its first All American in Mike Bucci.

"We can stay with most teams," Reilly said of his youthful squad. An estimated 450 high schools and 300 colleges now play lacrosse, the CD coach said. Interest is spreading. Its becoming popular in Denver, Colo., for example. A guy like myself will move and try and generate some interest.



Players are allowed to check player with the ball as the youth above was about to demonstrate.

Vern Ruhle Day honors Tiger pitcher

Vern Ruhle, the young right hander on the Detroit Tigers, is going to be paid an unusual honor for a fellow who has been in the major leagues for only a few weeks.

He is to be honored by the Livonia Chamber of Commerce with a "Ruhle Day" on Wednesday, May 14. It will be the highlight of the regular monthly luncheon in Tititorio's on Plymouth Road.

Is 6th winner

Chuck Comer, Wayne State University senior cornerback, became the sixth Annual Winner of the school's Number 35 Award which honors the memory and tenacious play of the late Ron Solack.

Intercepts 10

Wayne State University freshman free safety Terry Rustin set a school record with 10 pass interceptions in 1974. Five of them in his final three games.

Cranbrook sets tennis tournament

A singles tennis tournament for junior high school girls will be held at Cranbrook's Kingswood School on May 3. Registration for competition in grades seven through nine will be at the courts at 9 a.m. on May 3. Young girls may also enter the tournament.

The entry fee for the event is two championship-quality tennis balls, which may be purchased at registration. In case of rain, the tournament will be moved to May 4 at 9 a.m. Additional information may be obtained by calling Mr. John Neville at 851-5237.

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DRC
SUNDAY FLORASCOPE
BY EARL FLORA
The talented little brothers of two of the country's top jockeys are newly arrived but already booting winners across at DRC. Sam Maple, from the same tree that produced Eddie Maple, won eight races in four days last week and in his first 38 starts finished first, second or third 28 times. Jack Fire, from the same hearth as the famous Early Fire, notched three wins in his first 13 outings. Pretty trainer Janice Miller is in from Florida Downs and sent out a winner, Fast Cork, in her opening DRC effort. She's a former Delta Airlines stewardess who started training thoroughbreds after marrying jockey Steve Miller, also a current winner at DRC. For the benefit of DRC race fans who like to keep one eye on other major sports affairs, special television sets have been installed in the grandstand's Paddock Lounge and on the first floor of the clubhouse. If there's a "big game" going on during DRC's afternoon racing card, it'll be there for the viewing. Top 1975 Jackpot last Sunday's tenth race Trifecta, 1-7-11, paid \$30,453.20. DRC features 33 Jackpots daily and 36 on Saturday and Sunday. One of DRC's current pace-setting jockeys, veteran Donald Holmes, is now less than 50 victories short of the "magic" 2,000-career mark. Seven different party groups, totalling some 600 people, will take advantage of DRC's package party group plan this Saturday. Included among the partygoers are the Ford Couples-Bowlers Club, the Jolly 16 Vacation Club and the Travelites, all attracted by the economy package so neatly put together by Sandy Walker, DRC's version of Perle Mesta. DRC's male patrons recaptured some of their fleeing reputation in the track's recent "Handicapping Contest," where in the fans are given the chance to pick as many winners as possible on a 10 race card. Only two of the five winners went to ladies, Betty J. Jones of Detroit and Geraldine DeaRocher of Livonia, contrasted to 1974 when the first four winners were all feminine handicappers. DRC's veteran jockey room custodian John Danaghe points to such riders as Stanley Low, a Chinese; Larry Kunitake, on a Hawaiian; Billy Baird, a French-Indian; Peter Bouras, a full blooded Greek; and Joe Catalano, an Arcadian-French, and aptly suggests: "Join the crowds at DRC and see the world." And to join those crowds remember not one, but three easy entrances make it possible... off Middlebelt, Schoolcraft and Inkster Roads.

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