

Now Same Teams Clash In Championship Series

Livonia Sinks Redford, 1-0., Gains 'A' Playoffs

The duels between Redford and Livonia's Class A teams go merrily on. They had a sudden-death, one-game battle Sunday night

to decide the third round title in the Greater Livonia Class A League. Livonia won it, 1-0. Now starts a series to de-

termine the 1968 champ and the team which advances into the state regional at Butzel Field in Detroit against the Dearborn and Detroit winners.

It'll be a strange sort of a series that opens at Ford Field in Livonia Wednesday evening at 8:30 p.m. SINCE REDFORD won the

first two rounds in league play, the championship grind will work as follows:

1 -- Livonia must win two straight to take the crown.

2 -- If Redford wins just one game, it's all over. Livonia undoubtedly will go again with Jay Schwalm, its ace hurler who silenced the

big Redford bats on one hit in Sunday's game. Redford likely will use Rich Krumm or Tom Tanner and keep Larry Salci, who suffered

a hard-luck loss on Sunday. Salci yielded only two hits. But he was the victim of an unearned run in the fifth inning and the ball game was decided because of the miscue.

Redford's Earl Morrall Nine Seeks Connie Mack State Title

The gates will swing open at Marshall Friday to welcome Earl Morrall of Redford Township into the State Connie Mack baseball tournament.

Four years ago Morrall went to Marshall and came home with the title.

Manager Bob Atkins figures he has a team which could go all the way again as substantiated by the combined records of the Redford Union High School nine in the spring and now the Earl Morrall aggregation.

The prep won 16 and lost four and snatched the Suburban Six League championship.

As sandlotters, they've posted a 15-2 mark to haul in the Greater Livonia American League Mack flag and then this past weekend the district title at Ypsilanti.

"During the regular season in the Mack League, we used our high school team intact, except for adding Leland Bjerke, who was with us a year ago," explained Atkins.

IN THE DISTRICT Atkins added three players from rival Mack teams and he'll be able to use the same trio in the state.

Morrall won three in a row at Ypsilanti. Then after losing Sunday, the Townshippers bounced back to best Dearborn Heights, 1-0, in a stirring eight-inning duel for the crown Friday.

Dale Bjerke picked up his fifth shutout in seven victories against the Heights. He had a no-hitter going until the seventh when Steve Gerych singled. In the eighth Jerry Gnowkowski got the only other hit off Bjerke, who fanned five and walked two.

The Townshippers picked up five hits in the game, but it wasn't until the eighth that they could produce the decisive run. Kirk Taylor singled and became the inning's second out when Bob Cascaden forced him at second.

Then Cascaden was off and running and Bill Fahey chased him with a mighty poke which sailed far beyond the outfielders.

The blow ordinarily would have gone for a homer but Fahey didn't have to go any farther than second, as soon as Cascaden hit the plate, the game was over--and Morrall reigned as the champ.

EARL MORRALL started his quest for the district crown with a pair of shutouts. First came a 3-0 win against Wyandotte, then a 2-0 conquest against Ann Arbor.

Dale Bjerke held Wyandotte to a single hit--a blow by the Wyandotte leadoff batter in the first inning. Bjerke fanned seven and walked four.

Bob Cascaden doubled over Kirk Taylor with the first Morrall run, then singles by Fox and Taylor and a triple by D. Bjerke added the final two.

Bob Chidester, borrowed from Garden City West for the tourney, scattered five hits and fanned 11 in blanking Ann Arbor. He walked two.

Both the Morrall runs came in the fourth inning. After Fox was hit by a pitch, Taylor was safe on an error and Fred Dunham singled.

THE MORRALL string of shutouts ended, but not its victory streak in a 5-1 conquest

Putter Cold, Sand Wedge Is Red Hot

Ward Swanson, former greenskeeper at Idyl Wyld golf course on Five Mile Road in Livonia and now greens superintendent at Plum Hollow Country Club, had little putting touch in a round at his former course Sunday but he did register a hole-in-one.

Ward, playing with former Idyl Wyld pro John Ward, had four putts on No. 1, and came back with three on No. 2. Then he grabbed his sand wedge on the 123-yard No. 3 hole and saw the ball hit once and drop into the cup.

His putter was still off for the remainder of the round but he did finish with a 41-37-70--about eight strokes more than he normally takes for 18 holes at Idyl Wyld.

against Dearborn Heights.

Taylor started for the winners and was replaced by Dale Bjerke in the fifth. With three on and none out, Bjerke fanned the next batter and got the next one to hit into a double play.

In the final inning, he struck out two more.

Ann Arbor's Storm Zieger team ended the Morrall winning streak in a nine-inning duel, 4-3, cashing the deciding run on a walk and two singles.

The Morrall team had only itself to blame. Thrice the Townshippers had two men on

base and couldn't score.

Bill Howe doubled and scored on Leland Bjerke's single for the first Morrall run. A single by Fahey, stolen base and single by Fox added another run. Jim Powers singled and came around without the benefit of a hit for the final run.



PUTTING HAS THE ATTENTION OF Joyce Kazmierski (left), former Stevenson High teacher in Livonia, and Mrs. Rodney Thompson, of Redford Township, in the finals of the Women's District golf tournament at Western Golf Club. Joyce won the championship, whipping her rival, 6 and 4, in the finals.

Observer Editor Is Champ

Bob Ameen, a recent Illinois import into the Westland area, was crowned Michigan state three-cushion billiard champion Sunday in Lansing after sweeping through the final three games of competition without a loss.

His victory in the Michigan State Open automatically enters him in the United States Three-Cushion Open which begins Oct. 6 at the Civic Center at Lansing. Ameen, who is a member of the editorial staff of The Livonia Observer, edged Bob Letherby, Muskegon, 50-45 in the final game after trouncing his other two opponents.

Harold Brown, Rochester, fell 50-21, while Gil Elias, veteran cue artist from Oak Park, met a similar fate, 50-19. The field of 12 contestants from throughout Michigan was narrowed to four at the conclusion of preliminary play Saturday.

Mike Donnelly, Monroe City, one of the pre-tournament favorites, was knocked out of a chance to play in the finals when he was humbled 35-10 by Kerwin Crane of Lansing. Donnelly did succeed in winning high run honors with a run of eight.

Ameen's only loss came in the preliminaries when he was defeated by the slim margin of 35-33 by Brown. Letherby finished second with only one defeat. Elias was awarded third and Brown ended up fourth.

Ameen's win at the Q-Master Billiards was his second major victory of the year. In March, he won the Illinois State Elks' Three-Cushion title for the second time, his first triumph coming in 1963.



STATE CHAMPION—Bob Ameen of Westland (left) is shown being congratulated by Philip H. Power, publisher of the Observer Newspapers, for the trophy he received after his victory in the Michigan State Three-Cushion Billiard Tournament at Lansing Sunday. Ameen won all three of his final games to earn the state crown. He is a member of the editorial staff of the Livonia Observer.

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