

Ron First In Connie Mack To Get 5 For 5

Yanks Lose Mantle--DiPonio Comes Up With Mandle

Major league baseball may have lost its Mickey Mantle, but the Greater Livonia Connie Mack League has come up with a young man whose name almost matches that of the great slugger of the Yankees.

Meet 15-year-old Ron Mandle of the DiPonio team, which is comprised of varsity and junior varsity members of last spring's teams at Plymouth High.

Mandle, an outfielder, performed with the Rocky JV squad in '69, but if he has many more games with DiPonio like he did in the team's 15-4 romp over Holman, the young man is on a clinch to win himself a job on

the Plymouth High Varsity next spring.

Mandle became the Mack circuit's first five-for-five man of the season in pacing the DiPonio romp.

All of his shots were singles. What's more he came around to score each time and also

belted in one run.

A four-run inning in the third saw a five-run uprising in the fifth settled matters in convincing fashion for DiPonio.

Mike Schroeter, Gary Schroeter, John Mathias and Mandle drilled out hits in the

third. In the fifth, Mandle singled, John Stodt tripled, Greg LaMitrone doubled and Mike Schroeter singled to lead the assault.

MEANTIME, in a battle of unbeaten, the Livonia Spartans arose to nose out the Plymouth

Elks, 4-1, as Clark Colton buried the victory with Nick Fiewelling suffering the loss.

Valter Lee's homer in the fourth ruined Colton's shutout.

The Spartans were led by Jerry Detter, the All-Observer prep third baseman this past

spring. Detter singled in Gary Fiewelling, who then tripled over Jim Cronin who had walked in the third.

A single by Nick Horstman and an error by Detter led to another Spartans' run in the fifth.

Allen Fence from Livonia

alipped past Tom's Service, 3-2, as Ken Ockerman allowed only two hits for the winners. Both blowers came in the first inning when Gary Leirstein singled and Pat Walsh tripled

after Keith Armstrong walked

for the two Tom's runs. Ockerman finished with 11 strikeouts in leading Bob Jares of Tom's.

A double by Ken Gawkowski and singles by Jim Ewila and Joe Berg gave Allen (Gentley High) a run in the first. John Schroeter walked and came around on an error in the third in the fifth, Schroeter tripled and strolled home with the winning run when Bill Rice singled.

THE BATS SANG a merry tune for Chesley Industries (Farmington High) and resulted in a 6-1 win over Livonia's Phillips Service.

Mike Daly gave up three hits and one run in the first inning and pitched alright the rest of the way as Chesley found the range.

Tony Himmelspeich gave Daly all the margin he needed when he homered after Jim Flynn was safe on an error and brother Joe Himmelspeich singled.

Hits by Vic Forester, Paul Koperschmidt and Bill Lee led to another run in the fourth. Then in the fifth, Flynn and Joe Himmelspeich singled, Tony Himmelspeich walked and Forester singled for one run. An error produced the final run on the same play.

TWO RUNS in the sixth inning broke a 3-3 tie and enabled Bryan-Walker (Garden City West) to down Warholak Tire (Redford Union), 5-3.

Leon Anderson singled, Al Poland walked and then pinch-hitter Whaley shot a double with two out to belt across two decisive runs.

Steve Pummell with sixth-inning help from Pat McHugh kept Redford in check. Jerry Dork slapped a homer early for the winners while Randy Taylor socked a round-tripper in a losing cause.

Nov's Band's stopped Hubert Realty of Livonia, 6-3, as Bob Flano had two hits for the losers and scored once.

THE STRONG BIG BOY team of Redford Township (Thurston High), received four-hit pitching from Steve Kregager and Tim Carr in blanking McKay's Partville (Garden City East), 3-0.

Kregager, a sophomore at Thurston last spring, yielded four hits and fanned eight in five innings. Carr, the Observer's All-Area pitcher, fanned four and walked one in two innings.

Big Boy took a 2-0 lead in the fourth when Gary Eszes was safe on an error. Scott Stacy squeezed him in after a Bob Graustein sacrifice and then John Munson singled to knock Stacy over.

Graustein reached first on an error and scored on a Stacy hit for the final run of the game.

NORTHVILLE ROLLED along with a 12-7 win over Raitigan by scoring seven times in the sixth inning to wipe out a 7-5 deficit.

Raitigan had counted five runs in the fifth when Jerry Opland walked, Jim Davies was safe on an error and Dick McAdam, Walter Lee, Layne Thompson and Stu Goetz all singled in a row.

But walks and errors helped Northville to come back and pull the game out. Randy Lee also had a triple for the losers.



Vic Skirmants, of Warren, won the 12-lap E-production feature with Dave Castago, of



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The Stable's Wide Open Monday, Thursday Evenings This Week



Fairgrounds' Use Continues To Grow

Year-around use of the State Fairgrounds at Woodard and Eight Mile in Detroit continues to grow, reports E.J. (Jeff) Keirns, general manager of the Michigan State Fair.

He said that attendance at events since January of this year totaled 530,560, up 107,485 over the comparable period in 1968.

Keirns also reported 19 "big days" of fairgrounds facilities during the period, compared to 277 last year. He said the goal is to provide for a maximum number of community programs, functions, activities and general use by citizens of Michigan.

The main purpose of the fairgrounds, of course, is to house the annual Michigan State Fair, which this year will run from Friday, Aug. 22, through Labor Day, Sept. 1.

But Keirns said businesses, civic groups, and other organizations are realizing more and more that the fairgrounds is an ideal spot for meetings, conferences and other events. He pointed to the central location in the metropolitan area, convenient to expressways and surface arteries, and served by the BRT. In addition, parking is no problem, with lots able to handle approximately 10,000 cars.

MAJOR EVENTS at the fairgrounds this year have included the annual Shrine Circus, sportsman's show, dog shows and horse shows. In addition, there have been coin shows, antique shows, dance recitals, sales meetings, and film showings.

Coming up are concerts by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Detroit Concert Band, ethnic events, a small-business clinic, pro boxing matches, and more dance recitals.

The facilities available at the fairgrounds include the air-conditioned Community Arts Building, with large exhibit areas and an auditorium seating 677 suitable for film and stage presentations; the Coleman, for the circus and horse and dog shows; the Music Shell, for concerts; and various large buildings for exhibits and storage.

In addition, the mall and grounds are used for events such as Boy Scout exhibitions, and the parking areas are available for truck and car road-races.

Information on fairgrounds usage can be obtained from Jim Leonard, sales supervisor, or Dick Schorr, assistant sales supervisor, at 388-1000.

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The daughters and their mothers will be introduced to the crowd before the comedy classic starts, then cheer on the youngsters from the sideline. After it's over, they'll retreat to private quarters for a hot dog and ice cream feast.

Sony Elrod, the funnyman weather expert at Station WWJ-TV, again will be behind the plate as the wackiest umpire in the game.

Festivities will start at 12:10 p.m. with introductions of the Tiger wives and daughters and the Father-Son game is scheduled for 12:30. After that, the Tigers will meet the Baltimore Orioles at 1:15 p.m.

IT TAKES two managers to handle the kids in the game, so Timmers Joe Sparma and Tom Timmerman have been delegated.

A defensive end last season, Newell made the switch to defensive tackle with "remarkable quickness and figures to be one of the Wolverines' top football awards."

Pete Newell, a 224-pounder from Park Ridge, Ill., was named the recipient of the 1969 Frederick C. Matthei Award, given annually to the junior-senior who best displays leadership, drive and achievement both on the athletic field and in the class room.

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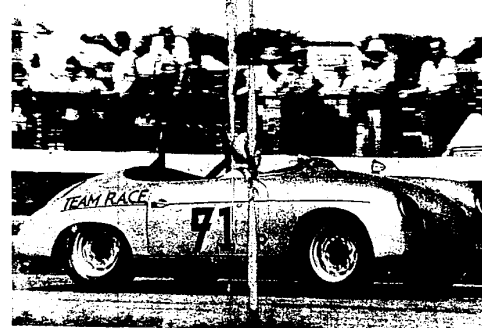
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SPEEDING TOWARDS finish line is Dave Castago, of Farmington, as he takes second in the 12-lap E-production race at the Waterford Hills Sports Car regional championships over the weekend.

(Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

Tiger Dads Face Sons On Saturday

The battle-lines are drawn for the 10th annual Father-Son game at Tiger Stadium Saturday, July 5. It's a highlight of the season for the Tigers as well as their sons and daughters.

The sons will face their fathers in the zaniest game of the year, trying to protect a perfect record -- with everything going their way. The senior Tigers must bat and throw opposite their normal fashion and the juniors will get six outs per inning.

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Snyder Takes Aim On Jockey Honors

Larry Snyder, a riding at the Hazel Park racetrack these days in a way that other jockeys have never ridden before.

The 25-year-old saddlesmith from Toledo is getting a blazing pace with 87 victories in the first eight weeks of the present meeting. If he sustains that pace over the final seven weeks of the season, which ends July 26, he will finish with more than 150 wins.

The present all-time record, which was posted by Don Holmes last year, is 108 triumphs in a meeting. Holmes is the only rider who has ever won more than 100 wins in any single season at Hazel Park in the past 20 years.

Snyder got better as the season moves along. In a 10-day span beginning May 28, he rode 27 winners. In the last four days of that period, he had 14. He has twice brought in five winners in one afternoon this season, and on three occasions he has won four.

With a little more racing luck, he could have a much higher victory total. In the first higher victory total, he had 48 days, Snyder has finished second 78 times. Twenty-five times he has been beaten in photo finishing by a head or a neck. He has no complaints, however.

Snyder is in no contention for the national riding championship. Before he came to Hazel Park this year he was the leading rider at Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas, with 68 decisions.

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Plymouth Pitcher On Squad

Dick Honig, Michigan's assistant baseball coach, will have no trouble evaluating his team that will compete this summer in the Basin League. The 27-year-old member had to recruit every member.

Honig, one of the finest shortstops in Michigan baseball history, will manage the Winner (S.D.) Pleasants in the six-team Basin League which opens June 15 and runs until August 15. The league is comprised mostly of college sophomores and juniors.

Honig will bring two members of the Michigan varsity, and has picked up players from the University of Detroit, Central Michigan, Michigan State, Ohio State and Iowa.

Tom Lundstedt, a sophomore catcher, and Jim Burton, a sophomore left-hander from Rochester, are the two Michigan players.

Mike Alexander, an outfielder from the University of Detroit, and Dan Camp, a left-hander from Plymouth, who had a 13-0 record for First Junior College, are two more of the key players on the 15-man squad.

All players retain their amateur status with each team playing a 51-game schedule.

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