

# In The Pocket

By W.W. EDGAR



Although he bowled only a 494 series, Bill Scudder of Ferndale, took over the spotlight in the annual Old Timers Tournament last Saturday at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park.

There was good reason for making him the center of attention. Scudder is 91 and the oldest in the group of more than 500 Old Timers who competed for the titles in the various groups.

"The over all championship went to Rick Rossman with a 666. Max Lewis

of Garden City took top honors in the 70-74 bracket.

ONLY TWO 700 series were bowled in the western suburbs over the holiday period and both of them were recorded at Westland Bowl.

The first was the work of Bob Bosacchi, who linked games of 214, 254 and 236 for a 704 in the Little Caesar Classic and the other came in the Monday men's league when Don Hole had a 270 game in a 709 series.

While Hole was putting together his big series, John Hurley's streak of 700 series was ending. Hurley had four in a row, but fell back to 621. He was going good until a series of 10-pin tips stopped him.

Behind Bosacchi in the Classic came Bob Javor with a 672 and Ken Lang with a 255 in 653. In the ladies division, Leandra Michalak took top honors with an odd 629 series. She started with a 122 and followed with

games of 246 and 255. Julie Zimmerman was next in line with a 596.

JIM HILL had the best series of his career at Garden Lanes when he fashioned a 656 in the Swingers League. It was best for him because he is a 150 average bowler and went 216 pins over.

In the Vinco League, Brad Lackey was top man with a 692. Lannie Fugile had a 630 and Otis Lackey a 614. In the

ladies classic, Lorain Young was high with a 587.

MARION HEATH easily walked off with the lion's share of honors in the Livonia Ladies Classic. After Lois Flora took the first game with a 198-35-224, Marion went to work. She won the second with 184-27-211, the third with 209-27-236 and the series with 584-81-668.

THE SENIOR CITIZENS captured their share of honors, too, around the western area. Showing the way was Carl Spelling, who piled up a string of nine strikes at Livonia Lanes before he was tapped and had to settle for a 263 game.

At Plaza Lanes, Josie Ballard linked games of 228, 156 and 142 to show the way with a 525.

MYRNA HILL was the only bowler to beat double-century figures in the Ladies Classic at Farmington Lanes. She had a 225 in 601 to beat Lucy Sosnowski by 31 pins while Carol Solata landed third with 570.

In the high school league, Jim Hamlin set the pace with a 226 in 592.

CHERYL MERTZ continued her winning ways in the doubles at Merri-Bowl with 223 finishing game in a 615 series. Her nearest rival was Lottie Geary with a 576.

In the Father and Son league, Tom

Novotny was high with a 624 and E.J. Archer had a 277 for high game in the senior house league.

IT WAS A CASE of being so near and yet so far for Ron Kowalski in the Catholic Central league at Woodland Lanes. He put together 10 consecutive strikes only to be tapped and had to settle for a 289.

Rod Slevest also was close, too. But he missed breaking the 700 barrier by just two pins over he linked counts of 253, 219 and 226 for 698 in the Vator's loop.

In the Morning Stars loop, Betty Koski went 103 pins over her average with a 610 series that included an opening game of 221.

LINDA PACKER, a 155 average bowler, celebrated her birthday at Fiesta Bowl by rolling games of 210, 209 and 168 for 587 in the Little Caesars league. It was her best series of the season.

IN OTHER good performances, Gene Keyanday had a 692 in the senior house league at Super Bowl, where he beat out Carl Barr by 20 pins and Audrey Munio paced the Bowlerettes at Plymouth Bowl with a 508.

In the meantime, Ruby Williamson rolled a 712 in the make-up match in the All Star Bowlerettes at Crown Lanes to join the select group among the all stars.

## Women's net tour has Detroit stop

The \$150,000 Avon Championships of Detroit, a major stop on the traditional women's winter professional tennis circuit, will be held Feb. 19-25, 1979 at Cobo Arena. This marks the ninth consecutive year that the Junior League of Birmingham has staged a tournament in the metropolitan Detroit area for the game's leading players.

According to Tournament Director Chris Nightingale, representing the Junior League of Birmingham, the 32-player event, one of the 12 comprising the new Avon Championship tour, will be presented by the Metro Detroit Ford Dealers.

"We are pleased to be a part of Avon's commitment to the women's game," said Mrs. Nightingale. "The Junior League of Birmingham was among the first to host the leading women players nine years ago. The game has grown enormously in that time. As the game heads in a new

direction, we are delighted to become a part of the Avon Championship Tennis Tour."

Mrs. Nightingale's remarks came during a Nov. 14 press conference held to announce details of the tournament and its relationship to the circuit. The Metro Detroit Ford Dealers were represented by Ray Whitfield.

"The Metro Detroit Ford Dealers are proud to join with the Junior League of Birmingham for the sixth consecutive year to bring the very best in women's tennis to the Detroit area," Whitfield said.

Avon Products, Inc. was represented by John Hughes, Group Manager for Special Promotions.

"When we took over as sponsor of the tour," Hughes explained, "it was Avon's desire to maintain as much continuity as possible. In that regard, Avon is pleased to have the opportunity to work with Chris Nightingale

and the Junior League of Birmingham members in the staging of the Avon Championships of Detroit. The Detroit Tournament is especially significant in that it is organized and staged entirely by volunteers, with all tournament proceeds returned to the metropolitan Detroit community in the form of projects and programs supported by the Junior League of Birmingham."

Hughes explained that the event is part of the larger eleven - tournament circuit that leads to the \$275,000 Avon Championships, scheduled for March 19-25 at Madison Square Garden in New York.

"Each week," he said, "with the exception of a 64-player mid-season extravaganza in Dallas, 28 players from among the top 32 on the com-

puter rankings of the Women's Tennis Association will be joined by four players moving up from Avon Futures events scheduled concurrently in other cities. The format insures the best possible players for each event on the Avon Championship Tennis schedule, and sustains the developmental concept of the Avon Futures by giving lower-ranked players an opportunity to be the game's highest level."

Avon Products, Inc., is the world's largest manufacturer and distributor of cosmetics, fragrance and costume jewelry. It does business in 25 countries around the world and maintains its world headquarters in New York at 9 West 57th Street.

Tickets for the Avon Championships of Detroit will go on sale in January.

## Holiday classic ratings set

A defined rating system will be used for all entrants in the first Holiday Tennis Classic Dec. 26-30 at the Franklin Racquet Club.

Four divisions have been set for the tournament allowing players of various skill levels to compete. The rating system, used by some area clubs for leagues, defines the range in ability for all players of different skills.

The Holiday Tennis Classic has four levels: open AA (4.5 and over), A (4.0 and over), B (3.5 and under) and C (2.5 and under).

At Franklin, where Waggoner is activities director, a rating system is used on a six-point scale.

"I determine what rating a player should get by watching them play and checking how they stand on a ladder or league," Waggoner said.

What about players who will play in the

tourney from clubs which don't use the system of rating? Can they "sandbag it?"

"We can't always tell if a player from outside is playing in a lower division than he or she should, but the better the player, the harder they rate themselves," Waggoner said.

### SPECIAL NOTICE

83 County Map Book Available Dec. 12

The Bureau of Maps has just completed a total revision and updating of the popular Michigan County Map Book and outdoor map. 128 large pages, size 16" x 11" - minutely detailed line maps of all 83 counties. These are the latest maps available and a special feature is the clear delineation of public and private property in each county. The books are \$2.00 postpaid and will be available Dec. 12. Orders will be accepted while quantities last, order from Bureau of Maps, Drawer 30235, Lansing, MI 48901.

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