

## in the pocket/W. W. Edgar

This is the time of year when the bowlers carry on one of the oldest traditions known to the sports world. It is the banquet season.

In the olden days, long before the coming of the tepin palaces, bowling was part of the picnic, and the bowling balls were rolled down a single plank, while the food was served from picnic tables alongside the "lane."

One of the famous old pictures shows chickens eating the leavings on the approaches. (How the bowlers would help if that was true of the approaches today.)

This was the start of the feasts and bowling, and it has carried on through the years. In modern times the banquet also is awards night when the prize money is distributed — and to the

bowler one of the biggest nights of the season.

THESE CAN BE little doubt it now — Westland Bowl is the highest scoring house in the western suburbs.

During the past week there were four more 700 series posted, and that brought the total above 50 for the Little Caesar Classic alone.

Heading the parade in to the 700 club this time was a familiar name. It was John Hurley, who has taken time off from fishing, and he came through with a 718 on games of 247, 248 and 233 for 718. At that figure he had a one pin edge on Ken Kossick who linked games of 227, 235 and 255 for 717.

Behind this pair came Pat Cochatt with 711, and Tom Wright who had a

middle game of 246 for 709.

For Kossick it was a welcome 700 series for it was his fifth in as many weeks in the Classic.

On the ladies side, Kim Jones was high with a 257 in 685. Geri Beattie was right behind with 633, and Julie Zimmerman was next with a 605.1/1. THE '700 CLUB got another new member from an unexpected source during the past week.

Bowling in the Plaza men's league, Gerry Roberts, who carries a 163 average, overcame an ordinary start with games of 204 and 207 and found the range for a 289 finisher to post a 700.

At this figure he was far ahead of his rivals. His closest was Mike Schweizer with 616, while Al Jose had a 604 and Joe Bardee a 605.

JUDY WOERNER will have something to remember this season by, and she waited until almost the close to turn in her performance. Bowling in the St. Kenneth league at Plympton Bowl, she had games of 735, 198 and 169 for 622. The 235 was high single for the season and the 622 was a new high for the league. Two records in one series made her performance one not to be forgotten.

ONE OF THE ODDITIES of the season was turned in this week at Woodland Lanes. Tom McDonald, bowling in the Grandale league, opened with a 278, far above his 164 average. Then he couldn't stand prosperity and closed with a 128 game and settled for 564.

The leading scorer of the week at Woodland was Hershel Begly who had a 689 in the men's trio group. Next game, Bob Sievert of the Bador's circuit, with a 688 and Tim Henry of the senior house loop with a 657.

BOB BARRON had an easy time of it in the St. Linus league at Garden Lanes. He rolled a 661 to far outdistance his rivals. Art Bazner and Stan Filipowski tied at 614 for the runner-up spot and Bob Harris had a 611 and Mike Resch a 604.1/1. PEG DIZEMBER walked off with top honors in the Livonia Ladies Classic. She won the first game with 210-29-239 and the series with 543-87-630. In the other games, Georgia Kirwan won the second with 207-38-245 and Diane Gadsby took the third with 199-19-228.

IN OTHER GOOD PERFORMANCE, Tom Carey topped the Vinco League at Garden Lanes with 642, and Mary Gailbrith paced the Schoolcraft circuit at Merri-Bowl with a 225 in 612.

Dave Hamilton was tops in the high school league at Farmington with a 614, 12 pins more than Berry Van Dike, and Jean Ludwig had a 234 game in a 532 series in the Las Vegas loop at Super Bowl.

## Central wins 1st game

Walled Lake Central finally came away with a baseball victory by splitting a doubleheader with cross-town rival Walled Lake Western. Central took the opener at Western, 2-1, behind the three-hit pitching of Scott Payton, but lost the nightcap, 4-1.

The Vikings were continued in Inter Lakes League (ILL) play, as they dropped a 5-1 decision at Livonia Stevenson Friday.

Central's problems thus far are in the hitting department. "Nobody's tearing the cover off the ball," Viking coach Ken Butler said of his team's performance. "We're not getting any hits, really. But I'm not disappointed."

In the victory over Western, the Vikes managed only five hits. Three came in the fourth inning when, trailing 1-0, George Burgess singled, Brian Scott tripled for one run and Jim Blaha singled in the winning run.

In addition to three hits, Payton allowed five walks and struck out four in

collecting Central's first win of the season.

Dave Gagnon started the second game for the Vikings. He gave up five hits and two walks while fanning two. Western scored two runs in the third and two more in the fourth to take the victory. Central's run came in the fifth on a Ken Artoogian walk, set of second and a single by Burgess.

Blaha started against Stevenson and absorbed the loss. The score was tied, 1-1 in the fifth when Stevenson broke loose for three runs. Mickey Stusky took the victory for the Spartans, surrendering only four hits and three walks while striking out 10.

Central, 1-5 overall and 0-3 in the ILL, faces conference rival Milford in the fourth inning when, trailing 1-0, George Burgess singled, Brian Scott tripled for one run and Jim Blaha singled in the winning run.

WEST BLOOMFIELD BASEBALL. Jim Arnold, a senior righthander, struck out 11 in helping West Bloomfield to a 7-2 conquest over Bloomfield Hills Lahser last Friday.

The Lakers trailed, 1-0, after one inning but struck for seven runs in the second to secure the victory. Two walks forced in runs for West Bloomfield but the big blow was Tim Paul's base-loaded triple.

Arnold allowed just six hits and one walk in obtaining his first win. Tom Hall and Dave Gowan each had two hits in three trips to lead the offense.

Earlier last week, West Bloomfield rapped out a 7-0 victory over Central. Dave Long gave up two hits, no walks, struck out eight and retired 14 batters in a row.

Jeff Long had three hits, including a two-run home run. Arnold knocked in a pair of runs with three hits and Hall had two hits and one RBI.

The Lakers host Farmington Harrison Thursday at 4 p.m. and Clarkson Friday at 4 p.m.

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