Ex-Lion calls cage shots

Continued from Page 1

HIS FONDEST MEMORIES were with the Lions, particularly the 1962 season when Detroit went 11-3.

But what most Lion fans remember about that season was the galling 9-7 loss to the first-place Green Bay Packers. It cost Detroit a berth in the NFL championship.

Ahead late in the game, all Detroit had to do was sit on the ball, but quarterback Milt Plum was intercepted. The Packers took advantage of the mistake and pulled out a come-from-behind win.

Lion fans and the media still ridicule Plum's decision to this day.

"I still think about that game; it still bothers me," Whitlow said. "People blame Milt, but he put the ball right in there. People don't remember Terry Barr (the receiver) slipping.

"We had a good football team. We won 11 games, but we didn't win the division. It was a close-knit team."

Nicknamed "Barney Rubble," Whitlow was part of a wild Lions bunch that also included Alex Karras. ("Dan LaRose, the old Missouri tight end was Fred Flintstone," says Whitlow. "We were the Flintstones.")

Did he ever think Karras would become a Hollywood actor?

"He was always clowning around, and he always thought he was funny," Whitlow said. "I told him once he ought to be on TV because he was always good for laughs as an after-dinner speaker."

WHITLOW ALSO had a flare for the dramatic, a daredevil of sorts.

"I got into trouble back then, I was a wild buck," he said. "That's why it's hard for these guys (his players) to *pull something on me. I know every one of their moves* because I was the same way."

Whitlow left the NFL for the world of stock car racing — the NASCAR and USAC circuits.

He was helped along the way by race car drivers Roger McCluskey and the late Jim Hurtubise, both from Indiana.

"I loved it," Whitlow said. "I could have been Rookie of the Year. I just missed. Once I was fifth at a race in Pocono (Pa.)."

Whitlow nearly got a ride at Indy in 1974, but wrecks left him financially strapped.

"I had no car left," he said. "I couldn't afford to keep it going. Once I went through the wall at MIS (Michigan International Speedway). If I had hit the wall on my side, I may have been killed."

WHITLOW EVENTUALLY settled down in sales, first in the steel business before going on to his current job with an air freight company at Pontiac-Oakland Airport. (He is also a licensed pilot.)

As for his basketball career, Whitlow started at the bottom, coaching a sixth-grade elementary school team, a JV team, summer AAU teams and at OCC where he was an assistant under Lynn Reed.

"I have a decent basketball background," he said. "I've coached a lot of games and worked at Knight's camps."

Whitlow is close with Indiana's Bob Knight, who, he says, "is real nice to me."

"I can go there (Bloomington) any time I want," Whitlow said. "Their staff has helped me and any time they're recruiting somebody, I try and help them out."

A la Knight, Whitlow believes in the passing game. He also believes in tough, hard-nosed man-to-man defense.

"We're not playing any defense right now," said Whitlow, whose team nearly gave up 100 points the other night to Schoolcraft. "It's embarrassing. We just don't guard anybody."

BEYOND THE X's and O's of the game, Whitlow says the key to building a successful program is recruiting.

"I like to think I can compete," Whitlow adds, "but *winning is awfully hard unless you get the players.* I'm only as good as my players."

There is talk about Madonna joining a nine-school basketball league next year, which would also include Aquinas, Northwood, Siena Heights and St. Mary's. Whitlow has also upgraded the schedule for next season. Madonna will play such teams as Wayne State and Grand Valley State.

sports shorts

● C'VILLE GYMNASTS ROLL

Livonia Clarenceville upped its record to 7-3 overall last week with a 118.2 to 96.25 girls gymnastics victory over visiting Walled Lake Western.

In the vault, Lisa Granfeldt and Colleen Wood tied for first with 8.35 each. Roberta Wiggle took third (7.95).

On uneven bars, Erin Maguire and Christy Nagorka shared first at 7.2, while teammate Tricia Dunklee was third at 6.8.

Jennifer Kalplo (7.7), Wiggle (7.4) and Nagorka (7.35) made it a clean sweep on balance beam.

On floor exercise, the top three finishers were Granfeldt (8.25), Kalplo (8.2) and Wood (7.5).

● MARATHON DATE

The 13th West Bloomfield Half Marathon will take place Sunday, April 16. The starting time is 12:30 p.m.

To receive an entry form, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation, 3325 Middlebelt, 48033. The entry fee is $10 if runners register on or before Friday, April 7. The registration fee after that date is $13.

For further information, contact Scott Van Meter of the West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation Department at 334-5660.

Last year's overall male winner was Paul Aufdemberge, 23, of Detroit, with a time of 1:11.39. The best female finisher was Daine East, 31, of Butler, Pa., with a 1:25.30 time.

● COACHES NEEDED

● Farmington Public Schools is seeking qualified non-teaching candidates for the following coaching positions: boys varsity track, girls softball, soccer and swimming.

Applicants should write to Farmington Athletic Department, Farmington Public Schools, 32500 Shiawassee, Farmington 48024, or call 471-6337 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. during the week.

● Walled Lake Western is searching for an assistant baseball coach, freshman baseball coach and head softball coach. Walled Lake Central needs an assistant boys track coach.

Interested candidates should contact Bob Atkins, director of athletics, at 624-6604.

● SOFTBALL TEAMS

The Farmington Hills Recreation Division is accepting new softball team registrations beginning Thursday, Feb. 2. The office is at 31555 11 Mile.

The entry fees are: $370 for men's and women's open; $330 for men's resident, men's industrial and women's industrial; and $295 for open coed.

All classifications are guaranteed 14 games except for open co-ed, which has 10 games guaranteed. The season begins May 1 and runs through Aug. 27. For information, call 473-9570 weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Prep bowlers get ready to compete

10-pin alley
Al Harrison

BOWLING IS GOING back to school — high school, that is.

Many of the area's high schools will be participating in the Southeast Michigan High School Bowling championship series. Those schools which enter teams will have the qualifying round on March 19 and finals on April 2.

Southfield High will have a five-man team ready to compete, I will announce others as this information reaches me. If you are a high school student and wish to find out whether your school is involved, check with the athletic department.

Deadline for entries is Feb. 24.

●

The Young American Bowling Alliance has announced its Top 10 list for various and individual categories.

The following awards were presented last Sunday during competition in the Ward's Invitational Youth Travel League: **Chris Phillips Jr.** 800 series; **Tamika Glenn** 642 series and 242 game: **Tanya Harris** with a 277 game.

There were several other team honors for the Ward's bowlers, but too numerous to mention in this column.

●

The Inter-Lodge Masonic Bowling League was saddended by the passing of Norman Wlanick. Norm was an active masonic bowler for the past 39 years. We will miss him.

He was 82 and had been voted Mason of the Year by Perfection Lodge and had also accomplished a hole-in-one in golf.

●

The Greenfield Mixed League reported a fine series by Bill Pietryk at 668 with games of 236 and 263.

Julie Wright, bowling at Country Lanes in the Farmington Schools League, rolled a 241 game and a 604 series. The 16-year-old had just won the Greater Detroit YABA Girls Singles championship on Jan. 15 at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park. She had a tournament high game of 243.

●

Last week's high scores at West Bloomfield Lanes included Rick Kirsch with a 717 series, Brian Huislander rolling a 279 game and Jay Kravetz with a fine 288.

●

The Senior Bowlers are going strong at Plum Hollow Lanes in *Southfield. Lew Diamond* led the way in the Monday Mixers with a 514 series. In the Bright Spotters, Nate Barman continued to have the hot hand with games of 216 and 246 for a 637 series.

Frances Rushman a 510 series and **Wes Turnquist** shot 200 and a 527 set.

Jack Abramovitz, and Inter-Lodge bowler, rolled up a 677 with handicap in the bowling charities tournament for second place among qualifiers on Sunday.

●

The Ladies Classic League at Country Lanes recently has had some pretty fine scores. Tina Schaefer rolled a 626 series, Audrey Sirola a 615 series, Kates Paulk a 637 series with games of 235 and 219 and Sue Scheuher with a fine 245 game.

In the Wednesday Nite League, Kathy Moran rolled a 213 and 204 games in a 599 series. In the Sunday All-Over Mixed League, John Rentie shot a 723 series with a high game of 280.

●

The Ward's Invitational Youth Traveling League bowlers were onthe top of their game recently at Astro Lanes. These teenagers are the superstars of tomorrow as shown by the following scores: Joe Jozwik with a 670 series and a 245 high game; Tamika Glenn with a 626 series and 225 game; Melissa Lindroth with a 616 series and high game of 225; and Robin Ostro a 617 series.

Other top efforts included Michelle Ewald with a 224 game and 583 series, Pam Ainto with a 211 game, Kely Bennett with a 246 high game and 620 series, Kurt Pilon a 237 game, Scott Dothard a 221 high game, Scott Stephens with a 237 high game and 636 series and Mike Penkala with a 220 game.

Jimmy Stores rolled 239, Robert Hibbitt 238 and a 654 series,Donnie Harrison 236, Chris Phillips 235, Darius Cunningham 246, Lawrence Hocks 236, Tim Phinney games of 223 and 228 in a 619 set, John Balicki 222, George Cannon 225, Corey Olsen 236, Michael Fox 225 and Matt Piatkowski 231.

The next stop for this league is 21st Century Bowl on Highland Road across from Pontiac Airport on Sunday, Feb. 12 at 1 p.m.

●

Bowling tip of the week: Watch the best bowlers — this can help you improve your own game. If you watch bowlers who have good form, score high and throw a lot of strikes, it may bring out the best in you.

This advice applies to watching the pros on TV as well. This is not to say you should try to copy someone else, however good form usually brings about good scores. Watching good form can help your game whether it is bowling, golf, tennis and all sorts of athletic endeavors.

Example: Last week, my opponent Charlie was throwing a lot of strikes and I noticed he used a short backswing. I shortened up on my backswing and immediately started to carry more strikes. Thanks, Charlie!

●

(Al Harrison, a Southfield resident for 20 years, serves as the secretary for the Inter-Lodge Bowling League. Harrison requests that any information dealing with area bowling establishments be sent to the Eccentric Sports Department at 1225 Bowers, Birmingham 48012, or called in at 422-1609.)

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, Michigan 48909

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TAKE NOTICE, That the Michigan Department of Natural Resources proposes to hold a formal public hearing at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 West 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, the 16th day of February 1989.

The purpose of this hearing is to secure the views of interested persons concerning the following application for permit:

Application for Permit 88-14-1105 under the Inland Lakes and Streams Act (1972 Public Act 346, as amended) by Meadowridge Associates, 34595 Grand Beach Highway, Warren, Michigan 48089, to seek authorization to construct a stormwater detention pond, involving 3,000 cubic yards of wetland excavation and 6,450 cubic yards of wetland fill, with a 48 inch diameter outlet to an unnamed stream, as part of the Meadowridge Condominium Development, T2N, R9E, Section 14, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan.

The application may be reviewed in the Pontiac District Office, Land and Water Management Division, Department of Natural Resources, 2455 North Williams Lake Road, Pontiac, Michigan, during normal working office hours.

The hearing will be held pursuant to Section 6 (3) of the cited statute. The hearing will not be a court-type proceeding; witnesses will not be sworn, and there will be no cross-examination. Public Hearings are primarily informational and are held to encourage the expression of views and presentation of facts.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will, upon written request, provide a copy of the Department's decision on this application.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By Leo Thomas Jr.
DANIEL H. MORGAN
Lakes and Streams Protection Unit
Land and Water Management Division

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Publish: February 6, 1989

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