



His name may never be engraved in bowling's Hall of Fame, but Tom Gailbraith turned in one of the most unusual shots of all times at Bel-Aire Lanes.

Bowling with a group of friends in "open" competition he knocked over the 7-10 on his first ball.

On what he considered a wild pitch his ball streaked down along the right gutter, hit the No. 10 pin hard enough to have it bounce back and topple the No. 7.

While no records are kept of such things it is claimed to be the first time this has happened in any of the Observerland lanes.

ANOTHER ODDITY marked firing in the Wonderful Classic when top scoring honors were shared by two fellows at 718.

Paul Sterling put together games of 233, 236 and 249 for his 718 and a few lanes away John Walunas opened with a 198, followed with 267 and closed with a 253 to earn the tie.

OVER AT Mayflower Lanes, Ann Peslamme contributed another oddity when she converted the 3-7-8-10.

Two other girls reached the goal of 200 for the first time. In the Thursday Ladies League, Joan Mobley went 109 pins over her average with a 520 series that included games of 155, 150 and 205.

Bowling in the same league Nancy Dobies, who carries a 159 average, opened with a 221 and added games of 144 and 143 for a 508.

Ed Schwartz posted a 266 game to take single game honors in the Best B's league at Oak Park, while Ed Lefson came through with a 567 for high series. Second in the single game effort was Jack Tomarrin with a 255.

DINO PIERGENTLI showed the way in the Whirlwind League at Livonia Lanes with a 236 game in a 540 series.

Other high games included Rich Davis 228, Paul Dell 203 and Dick Mandile 203.

Betty Moeller, with the benefit of a good start, paced the Ladies Classic with 503-117-620 that included an opening game of 198-39-237.

One pin back of the leader was Darlene Cook who posted a 226-19-236 game while Mary Worden landed third with 178-39-217.

PROFITING BY a middle game of 254 Joe Aubrey took top scoring honors for the week in the Garden Lanes Classic with a 725 to beat out Jim Pierce who put together counts of 244, 247 and 217 for 708.

Among the other high scorers were Bob Morton 692,

Laurie Brandt 672, Joe Gill 658 and Chuck Stanley with 658.

IN THE TEEN Classic at Merri-Bowl, Ken Peterson showed the way with games of 222, 213 and 188 for a 603.

Second place, one pin behind, went to Rick Montas with a 602 on games of 189, 192 and 221. Tony Leonard finished third with a 568.

THE SHARPSHOOTERS had a field day at Bel-Aire Lanes where five series above the 700 mark were posted...two by the same fellow.

Bowling in the Our Lady of Sorrows League Jack Brown linked 277, 210 and 244 for 731, then came back in the Classic with a 728 that included a starting 278 and other games of 248 and 202.

The Senior House loop produced two more when Mike Walter had a 721 on games of 234, 243 and 244, and Don Smith followed with a 707 on counts of 254, 226 and 227.

The fifth 700 of the week came in the Classic when Gaston Marois, holder of the city record, had a middle game of 257 in 712.

Following the two leaders-Brown and Marois-Murray Quinlan landed third with 692 and Larry Fenton was fourth with 688.

Florence Namzin fired a 598 to help her team set a season high of 2151 in the Green Dolphin league.

In the Women's Classic Helen Simpson showed the way with a 225 in 609, and Bertha Simonson had high single with 234 and Mary Coxen followed with 232.

BOB HITT, the Livonia milkman who suffered a wrist and arm injury that handicapped him on the lanes, is looking forward to making a comeback next season.

"I'm able to grab the ball a bit better now," he said, "and with a much freer movement of my arm I should be back on the All-Star trail next season."

Prep Schedule

BASKETBALL TUESDAY



DALE BJERKE

Colorful 'Hoff' Finally Decides To Step Aside

By W.W. EDGAR

One of the finest romances in bowling has come to end with the sale of Livonia Lanes—the pioneer establishment in the northwest suburban area.

After more than three decades in which the Hoffman name has been synonymous with the sport of tenpins, Clarence M. Hoffman and his family have decided to step aside.

In arriving at this decision which came as a surprise to many of the oldtimers in Livonia, the 16-lane establishment has been sold to two

Farmington business women—Mrs. Clifford Terry and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Irene Stacpyski.

THE NEW OWNERS plan to take over the operation by the end of the month and have let it be known that they are not contemplating any changes in the operation.

This is not Mrs. Terry's first venture in sport. Several years ago she took over a billiard room in Allen Park and has made a success of it.

In announcing the sale "Hoff", as he has been

known since the days when he was Livonia Township's most popular bowler, explained that, "we have had our hearts in the business for more than 30 years and just feel that we are entitled to rest from the pace of today's competition."

Livonia Lanes has had a colorful history. Built in 1940 when Hoffman and the late Vic Petuchal were partners, it always has been a popular rendezvous.

Opened as an eight-lane establishment on Plymouth Road, just west of Merriam, it was expanded to 16 lanes in 1955. In this same year the automatic pinsetters were installed—the first of any suburban house.

While running the new establishment Hoffman had time to develop his three children—Warren, Clarence, and daughter, Lois, into all-star bowlers.

WARREN BOWLED in the All-Star, Clarence A., who was better known as "Pal" was a member of the De Luxe Tool & Die team when it won the state championship. And Lois was a member of the games Gears By Enterprise squad that dominated women's bowling for several years.

In later years two grandchildren, Wesley and Jill, the children of Warren, who now live in Menominee, brought further honors to the Hoffman name in bowling by being awarded places on the All-State Junior Team.

Through the years "Hoff" has tutored many of the all-stars when their games developed flaws and he was the "Father of Senior Bowling" in the northwest area.

It was through his efforts that the Senior Citizens were organized into a traveling bowling league and he also was first to initiate after school and Saturday morning bowling for the Livonia children.

Lois and I are going to stick around for awhile to make the transition a smooth one," the elder Hoffman, the city's first Director of Recreation, explained, "but we'll be taking a lot of fond memories with us when we leave."

100-yard Free: 1—Murland (F), 2—Chan (H), 3—Norton (H). Time: 57.2 seconds.

400-yard free: 1—Arnoldy (H), 2—Jamison (F), 3—Rado (H), 2—Jayroe (F) 3—Pulsy (F). Time: 1:00.9.

200-yard breaststroke: 1—Patton (H), 2—Jenks (F), 3—Kerastas (F). Time: 1:10.8.

400-yard freestyle relay: 1—Harrison Chan, T. Dolan, Norton, G. Dolan. Time: 3:49.5.

200-yard individual Medley: 1—Rado (H), 2—Geer-

sene (F), 3—Lawshs (F). Time: 1:01.9.

100-yard Free: 1—Murland (F), 2—Chan (H), 3—Norton (H). Time: 57.2 seconds.

400-yard free: 1—Arnoldy (H), 2—Jamison (F), 3—Rado (H), 2—Jayroe (F) 3—Pulsy (F). Time: 1:00.9.

200-yard breaststroke: 1—Patton (H), 2—Jenks (F), 3—Kerastas (F). Time: 1:10.8.

400-yard freestyle relay: 1—Harrison Chan, T. Dolan, Norton, G. Dolan. Time: 3:49.5.

200-yard individual Medley: 1—Rado (H), 2—Geer-

sene (F), 3—Lawshs (F). Time: 1:01.9.

100-yard Free: 1—Murland (F), 2—Chan (H), 3—Norton (H). Time: 57.2 seconds.

400-yard free: 1—Arnoldy (H), 2—Jamison (F), 3—Rado (H), 2—Jayroe (F) 3—Pulsy (F). Time: 1:00.9.

200-yard breaststroke: 1—Patton (H), 2—Jenks (F), 3—Kerastas (F). Time: 1:10.8.

400-yard freestyle relay: 1—Harrison Chan, T. Dolan, Norton, G. Dolan. Time: 3:49.5.

200-yard individual Medley: 1—Rado (H), 2—Geer-

sene (F), 3—Lawshs (F). Time: 1:01.9.

100-yard Free: 1—Murland (F), 2—Chan (H), 3—Norton (H). Time: 57.2 seconds.

400-yard free: 1—Arnoldy (H), 2—Jamison (F), 3—Rado (H), 2—Jayroe (F) 3—Pulsy (F). Time: 1:00.9.

200-yard breaststroke: 1—Patton (H), 2—Jenks (F), 3—Kerastas (F). Time: 1:10.8.

400-yard freestyle relay: 1—Harrison Chan, T. Dolan, Norton, G. Dolan. Time: 3:49.5.

200-yard individual Medley: 1—Rado (H), 2—Geer-

sene (F), 3—Lawshs (F). Time: 1:01.9.

100-yard Free: 1—Murland (F), 2—Chan (H), 3—Norton (H). Time: 57.2 seconds.

400-yard free: 1—Arnoldy (H), 2—Jamison (F), 3—Rado (H), 2—Jayroe (F) 3—Pulsy (F). Time: 1:00.9.

RU's Dale Bjerke Signs Contract With Boston

The baseball major leagues have plucked another of Bob Atkins' "boys" at Redford Union High School.

This time it's Dale Bjerke, a righthanded pitcher who for three seasons sparked during the spring under Atkins at RU and then during the summer months on the Redford Township District and Adray League teams.

The Boston Red Sox signed Bjerke, who has been attending St. Clair Community College, to a contract and he'll report in March to their rookie camp at Winter Haven, Fla.

Bjerke, whose brother Le-lan formerly starred also at Redford Union and is now attending Eastern Michigan, played prep baseball from 1967-69.

He fashioned 28 victories in three seasons of high school pitching, a rare feat indeed, according to Atkins.

DURING THE SUMMERS, he hurled Redford to Connie Mack and Adray titles, and the last two years pitched for Redford in the All American tournament at Johnstown, Pa., where he beat tough Baltimore each summer.

"He's a winner," said Atkins, in discussing his fourth protegee to be lured by a professional team.

The first to sign was Rick Clark, a pitcher now in the California Angels system. A year ago, the Washington Senators signed Bill Fahy, another catcher, who also is rated a prime prospect for a spot in the majors.

Dale Bjerke was named to the All-Observer team as a senior and also was All-League twice.

Besides baseball, he starred for RU in basketball. An injury cut short his football career at the school.

NE Gymnasts Beat Pioneer

Don Chapman of North Farmington captured a first and two second place finishes to help the Raiders defeat Ann Arbor Pioneer 78.2 to 66.2 in a gymnastics match.

It was North Farmington's fifth victory against one loss as it retained a hold on second place in the Southeastern Michigan Interscholastic Gymnastic Assoc.

The Raiders won five of the seven events. Results were:

Floor Exercise—1st, Larry Beno and Al Burchi. High Bar—1st, Dick Healy; 2nd, Chapman.

Trampoline—2nd, Rick Page. Parallel Bars—1st, Chapman.

Side Horse—1st, Rupert Hansen; 2nd, Jack Kujawa. Still Rings—1st, Mike Mitchell; 2nd, Chapman.

Tumbling—2nd, Beno.

North Farmington's girls gymnastic team won all six events as it swamped Clarensville, 87-42.

First- and second-place finishers were:

Free Exercise—1st, Karen Petronio (NF); 2nd, Fran Soave (C).

Balance Beam—1st, Sandy Laatsch (NF); 2nd, Jan Grelt (NF).

Uneven Parallel Bars—1st, Barb Beiseigel (NF); 2nd, Gina Bregni (NF).

Vault—1st, Miss Nauman (NF); 2nd, Kathy Wood (NF).

Trampoline—1st, Miss Nauman (NF); 2nd, Debbie Wilson (C).

Tumbling—1st, Patti Hoyer (NF); 2nd, Laurie Borden (NF).



observing sports

PUTTING ONE WORD AFTER ANOTHER—And how do you top the Osentoski wrestling story at Our Lady of Sorrows High School this winter?

There are three brothers on the same team and all winners. Fortunately, they're not triplets. Otherwise everybody would be confused.

Paul's a senior, Pete a junior and John a sophomore which means that there'll be Osentoskis around Sorrows for at least a couple years to come.

Speaking of wrestling, attendance at some of the area meets now surpasses the crowds which turn out for basketball games at several of the schools.

Remember Rick Drewitz, the all-stater at Garden City West last season and the player-of-the-year in the state Class A tournament?

He's now playing regularly on the University of Kentucky freshman team and the word from Lexington is that he'll be on the varsity and seeing regular service next winter.

TODAY'S ORCHIDS: To Greg Collins of Brother Rice High, who has been named an All American for 1970 on the annual football selections published in Scholastic Magazine.

Collins, who's 18, was an All-State at guard and linebacker this past season. His honors also included All-Observer and All Catholic.

He's still not certain where he'll attend college in the fall. Michigan, Michigan State and all the other Big Ten schools are after him. So are Notre Dame, Southern California and 30 or 40 other major colleges.

IT CERTAINLY WAS a thrill to hear that the Green Bay Packers named Danny Devine from Missouri their new coach and general manager.

You remember Danny when he played for Michigan State not too many years ago.

And, another ex-Spartan who certainly was in the spotlight this past week was Earl Morrall, who came off the bench after Johnny Unitas was hurt, to help the Baltimore Colts win in the Super Bowl.

My, how time has slipped away. Morrall has spent 15 years in the pros and toss on those four years at Michigan State and the four before that when you first wrote about him at Muskegon Heights High School...gosh, that's almost a quarter of a century.

They never have come much nicer than Morrall.

We recall umpiring games in which he played at Michigan State. So you called a bad one...he never squawked. A couple of times, when the late MSU coach John Kobs came charging from the dugout to scream, Morrall was the first to meet him and declare:

"Don't argue. He (meaning the ump) was right."

Kobs would turn away, perhaps a little embarrassed.

That's the kind of a class guy Morrall always has been. So little wonder, a warm spot ran up our backs when he came in there against Dallas and got the job done with flying colors.

A lousy game, the Super Bowl? Show us a more thrilling finish in any sport!

HOW WE'D RATE the top five teams in Observerland in prep basketball:

- 1—Southfield.
- 2—Livonia Bentley.
- 3—Garden City East.
- 4—Garden City West.
- 5—Birmingham Groves.

What a thought...after Sunday no football on TV until June!

IT WAS NICE to see Gordie Howe playing in the All-Star game after all.

There's no question this has been a tough season for Lathrup's No. 1 sportsman and one could understand how he might have wanted out of hockey's mid-season spectacle.

But an All-Star game without Howe...well, that's like a beauty contest without any women.

Regardless of how bad Howe might be playing...and nobody could use the word "bad" in describing his work this season despite the way things have been going...he's still the star of stars in the National Hockey League.

There's nobody like Howe...there never has been and chances are there'll never be any who adequately can fill his skates.

HOW ABOUT a salute to Southfield's Jack Berry, the new president of the Professional Hockey Writers Association.

Jack covers the Wings and other beats for the Friendly Free Press. He's quite a guy, too.

GOOD OLD WIIID IS BEST