

# New league suits Miller

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"They had thrown the same pass pattern on the previous play and completed it," Miller said. "When I saw it developing, I got a good jump on the ball."

"I was getting ready to put a killer lick on the receiver, but the pass was thrown out in front of him and I was able to cut in front of the receiver, intercept it and break it out to our sideline."

The play developed like a punt return with Miller getting key blocks. Linebacker Maurice Oliver took out the last player, quarterback Mike Elkins, who had a chance to tackle Miller at midfield.

"I was thinking to myself 'I had better kick it in, because this is a once-in-a-lifetime chance' and I didn't want to get caught on the 5-yard line," Miller said. "I didn't feel any pressure coming up the field and at the 30-yard line I thought 'God, I'm going to get it.'"

The only other time Miller returned an interception for a touch-

## football

**"I'd practice hard all week (with the Lions) but wouldn't get a chance to go out and show what I could do. It was tough because I was only on the special teams."**

— John Miller

down was in the MSU-Indiana game of 1988.

"But that was a deal where I caught the ball and had clear sailing into the end zone," he said. "In this case, all 11 players were in front of me and I had to run around them. I thought if I could get to the sideline fast enough and make a

couple moves I had a chance to go all the way."

Miller was invited in December to apply to the WLAFF by former Lions Assistant General Manager Jerry Valstad, now the vice president of football management for the WLAFF. Miller was one of 700 players invited to a combined workout camp in Orlando, and the WLAFF had a draft using that talent pool to fill its 10 rosters.

"I think they're accepting it in Europe, and it's going to be great here in the states," Miller said. "They've done a good job picking the cities where it would be accepted most."

"The difference between this league and the United States Football League is we're not in competition with the NFL. The league is owned by the NFL and the salaries are not what they were in the USFL. It's a great opportunity for the guys who got caught up in the numbers game in the NFL."

In a twist of irony, Miller can be glad for that.

# Sarsfield to teach English?

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Sarsfield appears to be a worthy candidate, having played on back-to-back Class B state football champions for Harrison coach John Herrington. He couldn't go wrong either by getting reference letters from Herrington, Bob Stuter (one of Harrison's assistant coaches) and Harrison school administrator Dave Poelke.

"I think it will help a lot," said Sarsfield, who played quarterback his first two years at Harrison before switching to swingback and safety. "All the coaches are great and taught me a lot so I will have a lot going for me."

Sarsfield's only previous coach-

## football

ing experience came last summer when he taught tennis to beginners for the Bloomfield Hills Parks and Recreation Department. He found out about the opportunity to teach football overseas when his father, Anthony, read about it in a local magazine and encouraged his son to respond.

"MY DAD SAW IT, showed it to me, and I said, 'What the heck,' recalls Sarsfield.

Sarsfield sent a resume at

Christmastime to Athletic Enterprises, in Sarasota, Fla., the company which is making the selection. He has not been interviewed in person, but he has spoken over the telephone with Athletic Enterprises' Sam Ketcham, who is in charge of making the decision.

Sarsfield originally intended to take correspondence classes while being overseas, but a college is not within reasonable driving distance, he said.

"They said it's pretty much up to me what I do with my time," Sarsfield said. "They can set me up with a part-time job (to go with the football teaching position), but other than that I'll be just like a vacation."

# Head strong Dena volunteers to play lead role in NCAA win

By C.J. Rieck  
staff writer

Just one week ago, Dena Head outlined what her University of Tennessee team needed to focus on to capture the NCAA women's basketball championship: play as a team and everyone elevate their game.

When asked what more she could do herself, Head did not reply in numbers of points, rebounds, assists. Instead, she answered, "Leadership."

The junior guard from Canton (Plymouth State HS) elevated her game during the NCAA Final Four Tournament all right, held last weekend in New Orleans. She not only provided floor leadership — Head was installed at point guard for the championship game against Virginia — she did just about everything else in the Lady Volunteers' 70-67 overtime win.

It was a spectacular performance for the 5-foot-10 Head. She connected on 9-of-17 floor shots and 10-of-14 free throws for 28 points, tying the NCAA Championship Game record for Virginia's Dawn Staley also scored 28 in the game. Head added nine rebounds, three assists and three steals while playing 41 of the 45 minutes.

HER PLAY in the clutch had to be inspiring to her teammates. Head's two free throws with seven seconds left tied the game and forced overtime. She then cannot 3-of-6 foul shots in the OT to help the victory.

In comparison, Virginia shot its way out of the title by missing the



Dena Head earned second NCAA title

front ends of three one-and-one free throws and both ends of a two-shot foul.

Head insisted she wasn't thinking about scoring coming into the final game. "This was not just one person," she said. "It was everyone stepping up."

But when the Lady Vols' leading scorer, Daedra Charles, fouled out in regulation, the offensive load shifted to Head.

"(Coach) Pat (Summitt) told us to take the ball at them," said Head. "My shots were falling. She just told us to keep doing what we were doing."

Before the game began, Summitt came to Head and told her she was going to start at point guard. "So I had the ball in my hands a lot more," said Head.

It turned out to be in the right person's hands.

THERE WAS more, of course. Peggy Evans, a freshman forward from Detroit Country Day, played 20 minutes against Virginia and collected seven points and two rebounds before fouling out with 33 seconds left in OT.

In Tennessee's 68-60 semifinal win over Stanford Saturday, Evans collected 11 points, eight rebounds, a block and a steal in 20 minutes. She fouled out of that game with 1:08 remaining.

Head tallied 15 points, five assists and three rebounds against Stanford. She hit 5-of-9 from the floor and 5-of-8 from the line, playing 38 minutes.

The question now is, what's next? "I've got to win a third one in my senior year," answered Head. "No one (in women's basketball) has ever done that — won three."

Head's also very interested in playing for the U.S. Olympic team in 1992 and, if possible, overseas. But her first priority is finishing her schooling (she's majoring in sports management), so she won't be playing quite as much basketball this summer while she takes extra classes.

But when October rolls around, both she and her teammates, like Evans, will be focusing on another NCAA title.

# Crusaders do better than expected

Maybe a first-year collegiate coach of a first-year program just isn't expected to know how good a team he has. But every indication was Madonna University's softball team would struggle in its first season, after losing four players — all probable starters — to academic woes.

"I would have taken a .500 record when we headed down there," said Dave Racer, the Lady Crusaders' coach, prior to the team's Florida spring trip.

"That's not what he got. Indeed, he got much more. Madonna rattled off five-straight wins before losing and returned home from Fort Myers, Florida, with seven wins in 10 games."

And Racer's reaction? Typical, for a coach: "We very easily could have been 8-2," he said. "We should have been 8-2."

But the Crusaders' coach isn't dissatisfied. Not at all. He got decent pitching from No. 1 starter Joann Doneyay, superb top-of-the-order hitting from both Megan and Mandy Armstrong, and some power strokes from Holly Brachel and Jill Burt.

IN THEIR season-opener against Plymouth State March 24, Doneyay fired a two-hitter in a 4-0 shutout victory. She walked four and struck out four.

The Crusaders "manufactured a run right off the bat" in the first inning, said Racer — a demonstration of things to come. Megan Armstrong

singled and stole second, scoring on her sister's base hit.

In the second inning, singles by Hughana Wilkie, Angie Vandyeke and Cheryl Baker brought in another run. Megan Armstrong's fielder's choice drove in the third run and two walks forced in a fourth.

On March 25, Madonna faced Marion (Wis.) College and, in a game trimmed to five innings by a 90-minute time limit, came up with a 13-9 triumph. Brachel started and went three innings, leaving with Madonna up 10-3.

Janet Hietala relieved and did not fare as well, getting tagged for six runs on three hits and three walks in 1½ innings. Doneyay finished, going the last ¾ of an inning.

Megan Armstrong set the tone of the contest by slugging a solo homer leading off the game—Brachel followed with a two-run homer in the first. Brachel finished with two hits, two runs scored and four RBI. Mandy Armstrong, who hit .481 on the trip, had three hits and two RBI, and Burt contributed three hits, three RBI and two runs scored.

LATER THAT DAY, the Crusaders got a two-run triple from Brachel in the first and made it stand up in a 4-3 victory over St. Benedict (Minn.) College. Doneyay surrendered eight hits and two walks, fanning three in six innings to earn the win.

On March 26, Megan Armstrong and Burt each had two hits and an

RBI to support Brachel in Madonna's 7-1 triumph over Elmhurst (Ill.) College. Megan Armstrong hit .310 on the trip; Burt batted .333 with 14 RBI. Brachel buried six innings against Elmhurst, allowing one run on four hits and three walks.

The same day, Madonna blanked Olivet Nazarene, 9-0, for its fifth consecutive win. Doneyay burlied a four-inning no-hitter, walking five and striking out two, in running her record to 3-0. Megan and Mandy Armstrong each scored twice. Mandy getting three hits and Megan two. Jill Burt also had two hits and drove in two runs.

The streak ended the next day, March 27, against Lee College (Tenn.). Madonna managed only two hits in the 4-0 blanking. Doneyay absorbed the defeat, surrendering the four runs on eight hits and two walks, striking out five.

THE CRUSADERS clashed with Marion for the second time following their loss to Lee and came out with another victory, 10-9. Madonna struck for six runs in the second, three scoring on a bases-loaded triple by Burt. Brachel followed with a run-scoring triple and, after Doneyay reached base on an error, two more came home on Wilkie's triple.

Burt and Jenny Marquette each had three hits in the game. Burt driving in three runs and Marquette knocking in two and scoring three runs. Megan Armstrong also had two hits and an RBI.

Brachel started and pitched three innings, giving up two runs on two hits and two walks before giving way to Hietala. Marion hit Hietala as hard this time as it had previously, getting five runs on three hits and two walks in 1½ innings. Doneyay finished the game and got the win, surrendering two runs on four hits and a walk in 1½ innings.

On March 28, Culver Stockton proved too tough for the Crusaders, shutting them out 11-0. It was their

worst game of the trip; Madonna committed 12 errors in the game and lost 11 of 13 runs to the hit, a single by Vandyeke in the sixth. Doneyay took the loss, allowing three earned runs in seven innings on eight hits and a walk, while striking out six.

LATER ON MARCH 28, Madonna rebounded for a 12-3 win over Rockford (Ill.). Hietala had her best outing of the trip to get the win; she pitched five innings, surrendering three runs (one earned) on four hits while striking out three. Doneyay pitched the final inning.

Mandy Armstrong led the attack with three hits, two runs scored and an RBI. Wilkie, Vandyeke and Cheryl Baker each contributed two hits, with Wilkie and Vandyeke driving in a run. Burt added a three-run single in the sixth.

The Crusaders concluded their trip last Friday with the game. Racer thought his team should have won. Instead, they lost 8-7 to Elmhurst.

Madonna had enough baserunners in the Armstrongs alone. Mandy tripled, walked twice and scored three times, and Megan walked three times and scored twice. But Elmhurst got three runs in the first inning and five in the fourth to escape with the victory.

Neither Brachel nor Doneyay were effective on the mound for Madonna. Brachel walked four and gave up three runs in just ¾ of an inning; Doneyay was tagged for five runs on three hits and three walks in 3½ innings.

SURE, the 7-3 record was more than Racer hoped for. Now if the Crusaders can maintain it through NAIA District 23 season... they play Friday and Saturday at the Albion Tournament.

ON TUESDAY, the Lady Crusaders opened the northern — and home field — portion of their schedule by splitting a double-header with Lake Superior State at Plymouth's Masey Field. Madonna won the opener 10-3, but fell in the nightcap 11-7.

# Pawlewicz stars in Midwest meet

Karl Pawlewicz of Farmington Hills won four events in the 14-and-under Midwest Swimming Championships March 16-17 in the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center.

The 10-year-old Pawlewicz finished first in the 50-yard freestyle, the 100 freestyle and the 50 and 100 breaststrokes. His time in the 50 freestyle of 26.21 broke a 16-year-old Michigan record of 26.36. Pawlewicz swam 57.92 in the 100 freestyle, breaking the state mark of 58.25 set in 1976.

In the 50 breaststroke, his time of 33.37 bettered the state record of 34.06 that Pawlewicz set at the Michigan state championship meet two weeks earlier.

In the 100 breaststroke, his time of 1:14.73 was fast enough to break the Midwest meet record of 1:20.21 and the Minnesota open record of 1:15.95 set in 1978.

Pawlewicz, a fifth grader at Our Lady of Sorrows School, swims for the Clarenceville Swim Club in the winter under the direction of coach Greg Phil. In the summer, he is coached by Gordie Larsen at the Farmington Glen Aquatic Club.

## sports shorts

### • HOCKEY FINALS

The U.S. Tier II Junior A national championship tournament will be played April 10-14 at Compuware Oak Park Arena. Admission is \$5 per game or \$20 for adults with a tournament pass.

Games begin at noon (except Saturday), 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. each day. The championship game will be played at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 14.

### • SWIMMING CLINIC

A five-week middle school swim clinic begins Tuesday, April 23, at North Farmington High School. Boys and girls in grades 6-8 are eligible. Clinic sessions will be 4:50-5:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday.

This is not a learn-to-swim class. The swimmers must be able to swim 25 yards before taking the class. The clinic will stress stroke development and correction, starts and turns.

### competitive swimming techniques and water safety and rules.

The clinic will feature mini swim meets and viewing swim clinic videos. The cost is \$35 for 15 hours of instruction. The clinic will be taught by North Farmington swim coach Pat Duhlie, who has led the North boys and girls teams to 16 conference championships in 25 years of coaching.

Registrations can be mailed to Farmington Community School, 30415 Shilawesee, Farmington, 48336. For information call 489-3333.

### • K-OF-C SOFTBALL

The Knights of Columbus in Farmington Hills is organizing its spring, summer and fall softball leagues. There are openings for men, women, coed and over-35 teams. Call 476-9888 for league and fee information.

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