

S'craft budget half full or empty?

A RAGGED GROUP of Neanderthals crouched around a flickering fire discussing their future. It was the year 10,650 B.C. and — much like their ancestors would later do — they deliberated over who should guide them into the next century.

One of the older guys — about 150, maybe 155 (there were no environmental hazards to shorten lifespans back then, except the occasional roving tyrannosaurus rex) — thumped his chest and trumpeted, "I always led well, Look."

He thrust forward his hand, into the firelight. In it was a roughly hewn, hollowed-out piece of wood with water in it. "I have always found water for us. Our cups are never empty," he said.

A younger member of the clan — no more than 135 — waited until the murmuring among his comrades died down. Then, narrowing his eyes, he said:

"Yes — but our cups are never full. Always they are half-empty."

That was the dawn of politics.

FORUMS AND THEORIES have changed since, but the basic rules of political thinking are much the same. The *is the cup half-empty or half-full* adage has been retold countless times. It offers more than a descriptive definition of the difference between optimism and pessimism.

Politically speaking, it illustrates how hard facts can be twisted to suit one's own purpose.

A more contemporary example is currently on display at Schoolcraft College.

Wednesday, I was informed by Adelard Raby,



C.J. Risak

a member of the SC administration, that information I had used in an earlier column regarding athletic scholarship budget cuts was incorrect.

Raby told me the athletic scholarship fund for 1990-91 was \$33,600; he added the fund for 1991-92 was exactly the same.

So why the cut?

It was a question he could not answer. Only the department head, Midge Carleton, could shed insight into that, and she's still on vacation.

IF ATHLETIC DIRECTOR Marty Nowak knew anything regarding the budget, he refused to say. "No comment" was the only answer Nowak supplied.

I requested three of the coaches I had interviewed previously, and each of them reaffirmed that there were, indeed, cuts to be dealt with the scholarships — more than 50 percent in some cases.

Right about now, you should be asking yourself what I was asking myself. Like: What the heck is going on here?

There are really only two possible answers. Either costs have risen so dramatically that the

same amount of money cannot come close to paying for the same number of scholarships, or the dollars meant for athletic scholarships are being diverted elsewhere.

Raby assured me it wasn't the former. Tuition costs have risen slightly, he said, but "not enough (difference) to make a hill of beans."

SO WHERE ELSE could the money be going? Cost overruns in other areas of the athletic budget (something that doesn't really exist, according to several sources; there is no firm budget for athletics, they say) is a good guess. But are those due to overruns from the past or rising costs?

Again, Raby said he could not answer those questions. And Nowak gave his usual "no comment."

Carleton, apparently (hopefully) is the only person who could.

So what's the deal? Is SC's athletic scholarship budget half-empty or just as full as it's ever been?

Both are true, I guess.

So is, this, according to coaches: The money they get for scholarships from the school is already gone. Unless there is more adjusting to the budget, coaches will be left to raise additional scholarship funds for themselves.

And if the history of politics maintains its course, there will be a lot of finger-wagging as each group blames the other. The ultimate victims, of course, will be the kids who don't get scholarships and the coaches who will look foolish when forced to renege on promises of scholarships previously made.

PBA affords area bowlers chance

THE PINS WERE really flying last weekend at Drakeville Lanes in Farmington Hills as the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) held its regional tournament.

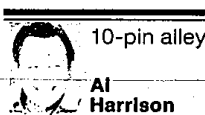
The PBA stages 30 of these events annually. The region includes Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia.

Regional competition is usually a stepping stone for the national PBA tour, and it affords a chance for the younger bowlers to try their skills against the toughest possible competition. This is also a great opportunity for the local classic bowlers to bowl with the PBA without the heavy travel expenses incurred when competing away from home.

In order to bowl in the PBA, it is necessary to meet the standards of the PBA bowlers, pay the entry fees and meet the dress and conduct codes of the PBA.

Among the top bowlers from the Observerland area entered were: Mike Samardzija, John Bryngelson, D.J. Hochstein and Lee Snow, all of Farmington Hills; Mark Sawalski and Mark Abelle, both of Garden City; Doug Spicer and Bob Raf of West Bloomfield; Ken Kuhl, Dave Myers, David Mahar and Tim Devereage, all of Livonia.

FRIDAY WAS the first day of competition for the Pro-Am event, in which am-



10-pin alley

Al Harrison

teurs can team up with a professional for a special prize fund. There were 73 amateurs competing in four divisions: mens, womens, seniors and youth.

The Pro-Am winners included: Lewis Rowe, 1,594, mens; Barbara Scribner, 1,559, womens; John Cristman, 1,007, seniors; Shannon Rowe, 1,395, junior girls; Lisa Bishop, 1,453, major girls; Jason Swartz, 1,452, junior boys; and Jim O'Doherty, 1,419, major boys.

The field for qualifying was cut to 24 Saturday. The bowlers had 10 games in which to qualify for the head-to-head finals on Sunday. The surviving competitors included Samardzija, Snow, Sawalski, and Tom Shively of Northville.

The head-to-head competition wooded the field down to the final five for the stepladder finals (television format). Samardzija held the fifth and final spot. Snow missed the cut and took home the sixth place money.

THE MATCH play finals had Mark

Asclitoe of Flint eliminating Samardzija in a close contest, 218-216. Jeff De-Kubber of Grand Rapids then beat Asclitoe by a wide margin, 258-206. The third match wiped out Shively, 279-243.

The championship match pitted De-Kubber against Kevin Taber of Toledo for the \$3,000 first prize. It was De-Kubber in the lead all the way until an unfortunate 4-6-7-10 split (double plocce) occurred in the ninth frame, opening the door for Taber, who took home the championship trophy.

The next regional tournament takes place June 6-8 in Indianapolis. Drakeville will be the host site again for a future PBA regional. I will keep you posted.

All told, our local bowlers performed very well in this elite level of competition. With a few more lucky breaks, anyone could have won.

TEAM USA STATE rollofs are currently underway at Allen Park's Thunderbolt Lanes. There are 23 women and 28 men attempting to advance all the way to the nationals.

Among the contestants are: Kathy Halasp of West Bloomfield, David Myers of Livonia, Judy Grewick, Marilyn Lueck and Ken Koslick of Canton Township, Sally Harris of Westland, and Garden City's Tom Johnston, Garrett Nagle, Larry Walker, Steve Pencola and Paul

Hutchinson.

Five women and four men will then advance to the regionals based on actual pinfall. The ultimate goal is to make "Team USA" and represent the country in international competition.

The regionals will be held in late June and the national finals in late July in Atlanta.

BRUNSWICK Corp. and Kmart have entered into a long-term nationwide vendor partnership for a variety of bowling products.

Beginning Aug. 1, Brunswick will supply Kmart with bowling balls, bags and shoes. Kmart, based in Troy, is the world's largest retailer of bowling products with approximately 2,100 stores throughout the country.

FARMINGTON'S Bel Aire Lanes has openings in the youth leagues which start up June 4 and run at 4 p.m. each Tuesday for both regular youth and bumper bowlers. Bel Aire is located on Orchard Lake Road, just south of Greenes Road.

MERRI BOWL Lanes in Livonia announced its summer open bowling schedule. Monday through Thursday will be "all you can bowl" for \$4.95 and will take place between 1 and 5 p.m.

Monday evenings will feature summer singles no-fee. The \$11 entry fee includes a mystery game, prize money and the bowling cost.

Marlins tumble

Continued from Page 1

sidering the schedule the Spartans played. "Our experience was a plus," she said. "Our conference is so difficult. (Mercy) just doesn't play a schedule like that."

Even though the Marlins played steadily throughout the second half, they couldn't match Stevenson. And they were losing. It was evident on both of the Spartans' second-half scores. On the first, Maureen Drabicki merely outran the Mercy defender down the left wing, turned toward goal and scored to make it 4-0 with 20:42 left.

Mercy got on the board with 8:17 left after they were awarded a direct kick from 25 yards out. Kathryn Dudley lofted her shot over the Stevenson wall and into the corner of the net, trimming the deficit to 4-1.

The Spartans closed out the scoring when Shannon Wilkinson took a long through pass and outraced the defense down the middle of the field to beat a diving Larabell with 4:00 remaining.

It closed out a bad day for Mercy, which graduates nine players. To make matters worse, the Spartans graduate just five. Only one — Godlewski — scored against Mercy.

The other four goal-scorers? Two freshmen, a sophomore and a junior.

Hawks fall in 15th

A heartbreaker.

There's no other way to describe Farmington Hills Harrison's 4-3 loss Saturday to Clawson in a Class B district semifinal game at Madison High School.

The game was a heartbreaker not only because it lasted 15 innings, but because Harrison stranded the tying run at third base in the bottom of the 15th. Dan Hight walked, stole second base and was sacrificed to third base.

The Clawson pitcher struck out both Jeff Cisto and Gary Devine to end the threat and the Hawks' season.

Mike Pesci started and lasted the first four innings on the mound for Harrison. Devine came on in the fifth with the Hawks ahead 3-2, but Clawson tied the score at three to send the game into extra innings.

Devine was removed after the 14th inning, because he had pitched his allotted 10 innings in one week of state tournament play.

Pesci helped his own cause by hitting a solo home run.

Clawson tops Harrison

Clawson scored seven runs in the top of the seventh inning Saturday to secure an 11-1 Class B district semifinal softball win over Farmington Hills Harrison.

Shelley Bouwens suffered the loss on the mound for the Hawks. She struck out 10 but allowed eight Clawson hits and walked 14 batters.

The Hawks' 5-17 overall, scored their only run on a single by April Jones, which scored Colleen Dwyer from second base. Dwyer reached second after a Clawson outfielder misplayed her base hit, turning a single into a two-base hit.

"You can't win ballgames if all you're going to do is score one run," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said. "That puts too much pressure on the pitcher and catcher."

"I'm pleased (with the season). The girls for the most part competed and hung together real well and supported each other. They had fun playing together."

PRE-SEASON AIR CONDITIONING

SALE

Rebates \$150*

UP TO FINANCING AVAILABLE

TRU TEMP

Model 38TH010 shown

Carrier

"We're the Inside Guys"

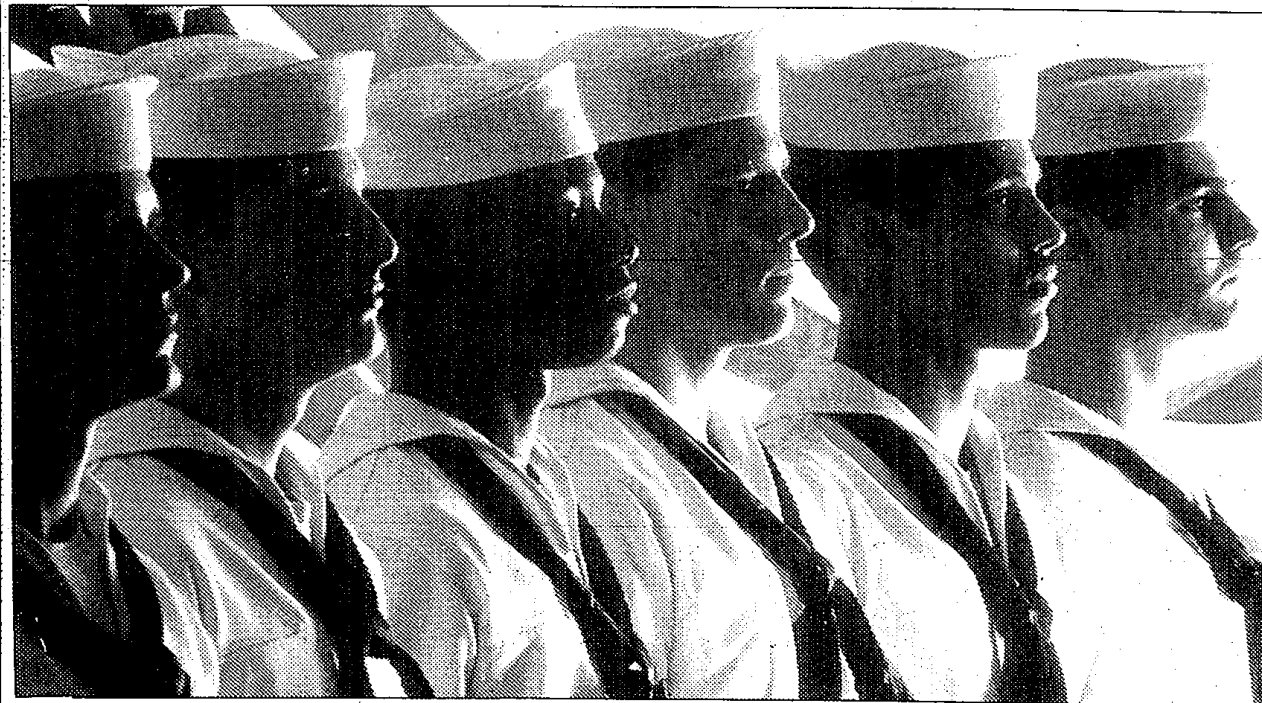
Installed For As Low As \$195

Model 38TH010 shown

Carrier

"We're the Inside Guys"

WE DON'T GO HOME AT FIVE



Americans can enjoy a peaceful evening at home because our armed forces guarantee that peace. All around the globe, at sea and ashore, men and women of the U.S. Navy are working hard to safeguard your tomorrow.

They're protecting you, representing you and making you proud of your country.

IT'S YOUR NAVY.