

Canton pitcher likely to pass on pros No. 1-ranked team eliminates Marlins

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Scott Kennedy achieved the goal of every baseball player when he was selected in the Major League draft last week.

But the Plymouth Canton pitcher, who was taken by the Detroit Tigers in the 35th round, more than likely will pass up the chance to play professionally at the present time.

Kennedy was leaning at the end of last week toward playing college baseball and the chance to improve his situation in future drafts.

With that in mind, his likely choice was Henry Ford Community College, because junior college players can be drafted again the next year. The Tigers will retain the rights to Kennedy until the 1993 draft.

A player who attends a four-year school can't be selected again until his junior year. The 6-foot-4, 205-pound senior said he has been offered scholarships from Bowling Green State University and the University of Michigan.

THE RIGHT-HANDED Kennedy, who was 10-4 with nearly 150 strikeouts in 84 innings for the Chiefs, spent Thursday evening hearing advice from Brian Stemberger, a former Canton and Eastern Michigan University standout who was drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays in 1979.

"He said 'If you think you have the shot to go for it, but if you want an education and want to work a year and try to move up, go to school,'" Kennedy said. "He told me I could only go up in the draft. The only way I could go down is if I hurt my arm or drop out of school."

Stemberger used former EMU pitcher Bob Welch, who has enjoyed a lengthy Major League

baseball

career with the Los Angeles Dodgers and Oakland Athletics as an example of someone who waited and benefitted. Welch was drafted in the 38th round as a college junior but waited and went in the second round the next year.

"The only thing wrong with going to a junior college is what if I get drafted next year in the 35th round?" Kennedy said. "Do I wait another year and try to improve myself or do I sign? Brian said 'If that's too much pressure, maybe you should go to a four-year school.'"

Kennedy was expected to be drafted in one of the first 15 rounds, according to some accounts, so there was some surprise when he didn't go until later.

There was supposedly a rumor circulating among the pro scouts that Kennedy wouldn't sign unless he received a six-figure offer. Speculation was the pro backed off on Kennedy as an early-round selection because of it. Dennis Kennedy, Scott's father, said the rumor was untrue.

DENNIS KENNEDY said he asked Tigers scout Clyde Weir about the rumor but he was "very evasive." Kennedy, however, doubted the rumor was influenced by that, because another highly-touted high school pitcher, Ray Ricken of Harper Woods Notre Dame, wasn't drafted until the 34th round, also by the Tigers.

"I'm not sure it played that big a role," Dennis Kennedy said. "It may have turned away a few

other clubs, but the Tigers seemed very pleased to have them. The thing that made me feel better was the other boy being drafted in the 34th round.

"They tend to go for the college kids (because of their added playing experience and maturity). I was just ecstatic Scott got drafted at all. What an honor."

Citing the Welch example, Dennis Kennedy said "It's not embarrassing to be drafted in the 35th round," adding the Tigers "are going for homespun people. That seems to be the direction they're taking under (club president) Bo (Schemm) Becker." He said they would like to own Michigan.

Besides a signing bonus, Scott Kennedy was offered a contract that was "not for a lot" of money, according to his father, who said Weir told them he would see about including money for college if that issue was preventing Scott from signing.

If Kennedy was to sign now with the Tigers, he had to report today to the club's rookie league team in Bristol, W.Va. He would go to spring training in Lakeland, Fla., next year and then be assigned to either the Lakeland or Fayetteville, N.C., farm teams.

"THEY SAID IT'S A four- or five-year program," Dennis Kennedy said. "That's how long it would take to make it to the pros."

Scott Kennedy said he was glad he waited a few days to sort things out and consider his future.

"If they had asked me on the spot what I wanted to do, I would've signed," he said. "When I heard I was in the draft, that was something, but it didn't hit me until they called me. It's a thrill to be drafted. I never thought I would be until this year."

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BELLEVILLE advanced to the regional championship game with a come-from-behind 9-4 semifinal win over Temperance-Bedford in the first game of the day.

Louisa Wilson's top-out, bases-loaded triple in the top of the seventh inning gave the Tigers the win.

But despite a glittering 35-7 record, including an impressive 10-0 district final triumph over Plymouth Canton only a week earlier, Belleville was a heavy underdog against the Cougars.

"Knowing that we had beaten them twice already (7-1 and 13-3) boosted my confidence. It helped," Thompson said. "Once I got over the hill (Mercury), I felt very confident and really good."

The Tigers unraveled defensively, committing one error.

GC scored three times in the third, four in the fourth, and one each in the fifth and sixth innings off Belleville's Dave Reebowick.

"We can't beat an average or even bad team with nine errors," said Belleville coach Peggy Curtis, who led the Tigers to back-to-back state titles in 1983 and '84. "We haven't played well against Garden City this year, but give them credit. They have all the ingredients. They should do well (at state)."

SHANKS, Sherry Harper and Leigh Cole each collected two hits for the winners.

Thompson also helped her own cause with two RBI.

But the GC hurler was even more masterful on the mound, retiring 11 of 23 batters. Only Belleville's Heather Dickerson and Karrie Gebhart reached base on infield errors.

"I wasn't thinking about the no-hitter," Thompson said. "I was thinking about the three outs, and getting back home as fast as I can so I could go to graduation (exercise, at 7 p.m.)."

Thompson was also backed up by a solid defensive unit, led by Shanks, who gobbed up all nine of her chances on the day at short.

"The team doesn't depend on one person," said the GC pitcher. "When I get hit, the defense is there. I don't feel the team depends on me."

The regional victory, according to Patterson, takes on added meaning for GC's five seniors — Thompson, Shanks, Cole, and the Matetic sisters, first baseman Krystal and right fielder Karla.

"NOT TO TAKE anything away from anybody else, but the five seniors stood out today," the Garden City coach said. "They really made their presence known."

"We thought we could win our league (Northwest Suburban) and district, but our real goal was to win the regional. Everything for here-on-out is 'candy and roses' as they say. Maybe the monkey is off the back for these girls."

And how far can the Cougars go? "We expect to be in every ballgame, that's all I can say," Patterson added.

Off-season conditioning important

THE BEST THING any bowler can do during the off-season is try to keep in the best physical shape possible.

For some, a little moderate exercise is all it takes.

For those that are more serious, there are many ways to get the maximum out of a training session. The idea is to keep the entire body in shape, not just the arm.

A good workout covers the shoulders, legs and back.

Walking, of course, is one way to keep in good shape, while swimming is considered a good all-round method for full-body conditioning.

There are a lot of bowlers who are fortunate to have membership in a local health club/s such as Vic Tanny's. For those, the availability of exercise machines is a big plus. Bowlers with health spa memberships or availability can use the off-season to greater advantage.

To find the best regimen, I consulted with the instructors at Vic Tanny's on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Ken Staps and Tim Cook of Canton, along with Libby Neis and Renee Heile of Plymouth, were most helpful in determining what a bowler could do to benefit from the spa.

The circuit-training program is recommended to build up muscle strength, endurance and flexibility, rather than bulking up, which is not necessarily beneficial.

To maximize your bowling ball control, it is best to condition all your muscles.



10-pin alley

Al Harrison

JUST BECAUSE you are right-handed does not mean you should neglect your left side. Balance is the key.

Before a workout, it's recommended to warm up with some stretching exercises.

The circuit-training machine will enable you to concentrate on a particular muscle group. The Stairmaster (simulates climbing stairs) is ideal for building up strength in the upper legs.

A rowing machine is excellent for the shoulders, as well as the entire body, while a few laps in the swimming pool afterwards could top off the workout.

That may be followed by a relaxation session in the hot sauna or whirlpool tub. The whirlpool is also good for easing the muscles that have been getting the benefit from all this exercise.

Vic Tanny's also has similar facilities in Redford, Troy and Southfield. Anyone can come in and ask for a one-day guest pass. This will enable you to see for yourself if a health spa can be the answer to your needs as a bowler.

Just remember, bring a gym bag (with towel, workout clothes, sneakers, swim suit and padlock).

In addition to Vic Tanny's, there are

many other excellent health clubs in the area. For those bowlers who have memberships, use it to get the most benefit for your body to improve your game.

If some bowling enthusiasts would like to take a ride out to the Flint area for the PBA Senior Open, it takes place Sunday, June 10, at Richland Bowl.

The Pro-Am event is also on June 16, and participants can bowl with a "legend" of the game.

Many of the guests from years past will be present for competition and autograph sessions. Expected to be on hand are former champions Earl Anthony, Dave Sotlar and Don McConne.

Those interested in bowling in the Pro-Am should take note of the following divisions: 1 p.m. (youth), 8 p.m. (seniors), 5 p.m. (women), 7 p.m. (men) and 9 p.m. (optional squad). Tickets are also available for spectators by calling Richland Bowl at 734-4480.

For those bowlers contemplating buying a new ball for the fall season, here is a practical suggestion: Shop now.

This is the best time of the year to get a better deal at a local pro shop. You also have the rest of the summer to practice with it and get used to the difference a new ball will make.

It's also much cheaper to practice in the summer, as open bowling rates are generally lower. You can also benefit from air-conditioned environment on some of these hot days and evenings.

The pro shop operator is not quite as busy these days, so he can spend more time with you to help obtain the right equipment to suit your particular needs.

Among the pro shops in the Observer & Eccentric coverage area:

Livonia: The Right Approach, located in Merritt Bowl on Five Mile; Pro-Am Bowling and Trophies, Six Mile and Farmington roads; Mike Samardzja's K&B Bowling and Trophies on Eight Mile (near Farmington Road); The Right Line Pro Shop, inside Cloverlane on Schoolcraft, between Middlebelt and Webster roads.

Westland: Ray's Bowling Pro Shop on Wayne Road near Cherry Hill; Strike Force Pro Shop on Middlebelt; Westland Bowling & Trophies on Wayne Road.

Redford: Redford Bowling and Trophies, Five Mile (east of Cherry Hill); Mayflower Lane on Plymouth Road.

Canton: Plaza Lanes on Ann Arbor Road.

Canton Township: Randy Pierce's K&B Bowling Shop, located inside Super Bowl on Ford Road; Canton Bowling & Trophies, at Ford and Canton Center roads.

Farmington: John Fallow's Pro-Pit, inside Country Lanes on Nine Mile near Grand River.

Farmington Hills: The Pro Shoppe in Oakdale Lanes on Grand River.

Searsville: John Bennett's Pro-Balance, inside Pine Hollow Lanes on Nine Mile and Leland.

Troy: Leo Wolke's Pro Shop in Bowl One on 10 Mile; Emerald Lanes Pro Shop, 10 Mile and Leland.

Southfield: Bill Brock's Pro Shop, inside North Hill Lanes on Ten Mile Road (near Rochester Road).

Note: Many of the pro shop operators are fully qualified instructors. If a bowler wants to get the maximum out of his/her abilities, a few balls is also, but good professional instruction can also go a long way in improving one's game.

Trojans fall in final

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(17-7) scored five times in the first inning, aided by four Trojan errors.

"It was a scary first inning," Saunders said. "We've had such a long season and we were a little nervous and maybe a little overconfident."

Clarencville countered when Michelle Torres doubled home Jodi Graham, but Center extended its lead to 7-1 entering the third inning.

The Trojans scored once in the third when Graham singled home Mary Gould and took the lead with a six-run fourth inning. Shortstop Leandra Hoffman sparked the rally with a two-run triple, knocking in Saunders and Melissa Ulford.

After both teams scored once in the fifth inning, Clarencville took control of the game crossing the plate five times in the sixth inning. The big blow was a three-run triple by Saunders. Graham led the 16-hit attack with four hits and Hoffman added three.

"The first game took a lot out of Rhonda," said Kellehan, who added her team was playing in adrenalin. Saunders pitched every game for the Trojans this season.

"It's been 12 years since our school has won a district championship and we had some big shoes to fill," Saunders said.

Unfortunately for Saunders and the rest of her team, the shoes were not the glass slippers.

Marauders get revenge

The bragging rights this time belong to, drum roll, please: The Marauders.

The Redford-based team beat their rivals from neighboring Livonia, Paragon, 5-0, Sunday in a Great Lakes Men's Soccer League game played at Henry Ford Community College.

Brian O'Shea, who made a brilliant save off a shot by Paragon's Bobby Paul in the first half, shared the shoutout with teammate Colin Jex.

Nick Hotchkiss scored two goals for the winning team, while Gary Mexicotte, Steve McCaul and Steve Morrell scored one apiece.

The Marauders lost two to Paragon, but this time used to their advantage all the youth on their team. Several players were unable to play earlier games because they were away at college or involved in other commitments.

"It was the first time we had our full team there this year and we were running on all cylinders," the Marauders coach Nick O'Shea said. "The guys were ready for this game after losing twice to them. We all wanted to get our bragging rights back. We knew that if we got the ball to our forwards early we'd be able to take advantage of our speed up front. When we have our full team we're tough."

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Notification is hereby given that the Madison National Bank, 1800 East Twelve Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan 48071 has filed an application with the Comptroller of the Currency on June 10, 1991, as specified in 12 CFR 5 in the Comptroller's Manual for National Banks, for permission to establish a domestic branch at 31300 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Deputy Comptroller, Central District, One Financial Place, Suite 2700, 440 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60605 within 30 days of the date of this public notice. The nonconfidential portion of the application or file with the Deputy Comptroller as part of the public file. This file is available for public inspection during regular business hours.

Public: June 19, 1991

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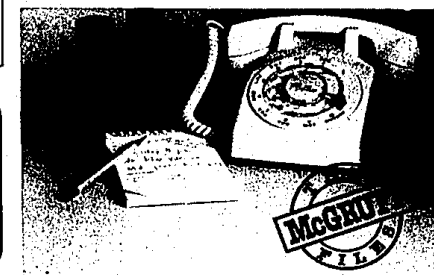
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