

Harris lived American success story



AL HARRISON

Nathan Harris passed away suddenly on May 27. He was the proprietor of Drakeville Lanes in Farmington Hills and Novi, Mich.

Though short in stature, Nate was a quiet, unassuming bowling center proprietor. Both of his houses exemplified how the business should be run. Harris was living proof that dedication and hard work can make the impossible reality.

There are days when you reminisce over the events of 50 years ago, during World War II, and it was during that era that a different story of Nathan Harris evolved — as a survivor of the Nazi Holocaust.

It was a time and place that few of us could comprehend. He went through a hell that exceeds imagination. Of the 20,000 people who lived in his home town in Poland, only 200 survived the war. Nate's entire family was wiped out by the Holocaust.

He managed to get to America after five years in post-war displaced persons camps. Harris worked different jobs, including owning a grocery store, and the opportunity to get into the bowling business.

He had good business sense, but it was hard work that made him successful.

He took special pride in the many fine young bowlers who were developed through his youth league, and he liked to teach the youngsters.

Harris was living proof that the Holocaust was real. He wanted people to realize what it was and why it happened, so they could make certain it would never recur.

■ The final chapter of the Nathan Harris story, As he might say, "Only in America."

■ The WIBC Championship Tournament is currently in progress in Salt Lake City, and through May 26 several locals were up there in the standings.

Cheryl Daniels of Pro Bowling fame had a try on first place in the classic division singles event with a 703 series. Carol Schmeers/Alta Still are fourth in doubles with 1,286, while Betty Tomper/Terry Grant (West Bloomfield) are ninth with 1,241.

Still is also fourth in all events at 1,922. In Division II, Monica Dilgus (West Bloomfield) is third in singles with 663.

■ The Greater Detroit Bowling Association has named the Campbell as Bowling's Man of the Year, and Dan Ottman of Troy along with Mike Callaway have been selected for Merit-Award Service in 1994. Ottman organized the Michigan Junior Masters Association, a monthly scratch tournament for top level junior bowlers.

How would your kids like to bowl with Fred Flintstone?

Anything's possible, and Fred will be making a personal appearance on the lanes at Merril Bowl 1 p.m. Saturday, June 25. Cost is \$5 (must be prepaid).

Merril Bowl also announces a short season "FunTime" mixed trio league at 7:30 p.m. Sundays, ending Aug. 7. The \$7 per bowler charge includes bowling, shoe rental, banquet, trophies and prize money. For details, call 427-2900.

Marian adds another district trophy

BY MARTY BUDNER
STAFF WRITER

The Class A district softball tournament played Saturday at Royal Oak Memorial Field had everything — tension, plenty of runs scored and even a legitimate home run.

And, in the end, it even had a familiar champion.

Birmingham Marian captured its fifth consecutive district title by defeating Birmingham Seaholm in a wild championship game, 15-12.

The neighborhood rivals combined for 27 runs, 24 hits, 17 walks and one big inning in which each team went through its batting order.

In the district semifinal games, Marian eliminated Royal Oak Kimball 6-5 and Seaholm stopped Birmingham Groves 13-8. In the Seaholm/Groves game, Falcons infielder Julie Warren smacked a line-drive home run on the second pitch of the game.

The Mustangs (19-17) play a regional game 10 a.m. Saturday against Wall Lake Central (19-11).

Marian coach Dave Falkenberg said this year's district title was a real credit to his hard-working squad, which came into the game

SOFTBALL

with limited tournament experience.

"This was sweeter than any of the others because I didn't think, when the season started, that we'd be this good," Falkenberg said. "We had 10 new girls on the team and only two seniors. My problem is that we had only four girls who ever played in the districts before."

That tournament inexperience showed in the first three innings of the championship game as Marian did not have a hit — and didn't show signs of getting a hit — off Seaholm ace Garrett Gholston.

Meanwhile, Seaholm pushed across four runs in the first inning to take a quick lead. Amanda Marinelli, Julie Blegen and Amy Warren opened the inning in that productive opening inning.

Marian tied the score in the fourth inning as Cathie Goodman and Megan Malda worked Gholston for walks. Center fielder Sully Michalski finally produced Marian's first hit — a bloop single to left field that knocked in Goodman with her team's second run. Elizabeth Mazzola followed with

a two-run single that tied the game.

The Mustangs went through their order and seemingly put the game away with a 10-run sixth inning highlighted by triples from both Malda and Mazzola. Carina Castellano and Shannon Spengler also had run-producing base hits.

Marian enjoyed a 16-6 lead at that point.

However, Seaholm battled back and caused some anxious moments for Marian in the last inning. The Maples sent 11 girls to the plate and scored five runs. The bases were loaded when Castellano, in relief of starter Erin Bussa, struck out the final two batters. Weber, Anne Sheckell and Gholston each had run-scoring base hits in that valiant Seaholm rally.

SPORTS SHORTS

Items for the Sports Roundup should be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday (for Thursday issue) and 5 p.m. Friday (for Monday issue).

MODIFIED SOFTBALL

Portland Building deflected Lakepointe Yacht Club 7-2 Monday in the Livonia Men's Modified Fast-Pitch Softball League.

Portland Building is 5-1 and one game behind first-place All-American Sports Center of Farmington Hills.

Ron Schueneman had two doubles and two RBI for the winners. Rob MacDonald of Farmington Hills and Richard Dinsmore had two hits and one RBI apiece.

Winning pitcher Pete Lind tossed a three-hit victory and helped his cause with two hits, which included a triple.

MERCY COACH

Farmington Hills Mercy is looking for a freshman girls basketball coach. For information call athletic director Nancy Malinowski at 810-476-2836.

SOCCER TRYOUTS

The Farmington Fury premier soccer team will have open tryouts for under-16 boys from 7-9 p.m. June 27-28 and July 11-12 at Founders Park in Farmington Hills. The head coach is Tom Fato.

SOCCER

The Farmington Soccer Club will have tryouts for its boys select program according to the following dates and times. Coaches are listed below.

- Under 15's, noon to 2 p.m. June 19, Craig Barton (476-7537).
 - Under 14's, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. June 15, John Lee (553-7633).
 - Under 13's, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. June 21, Ron Meyer (559-3138).
 - Under 12's, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. June 20, Gary Boonbrun (486-6632).
 - Under 11's, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. June 16, Mike Warren (553-4336).
 - Under 10's, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. June 16, Dave Morel and Craig Barton (478-4642).
- All tryouts will take place at Cassens Park on the southwest corner of 12 Mile and Drake roads. Access to the park is off Drake.
- Contact the respective age group coach or coordinator at Craig Barton at 476-7537 regarding questions about the program.

FARMINGTON GIRLS

The Farmington Soccer Club will have tryouts for its girls select program according to the following schedule:

- Under 10's, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. June 17, 10 a.m. to noon June 18.
- Under 12's, 10 a.m. to noon June 18.
- Under 14's, 2 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 18.
- Under 15's, noon to 2 p.m. June 18.

All tryouts will take place at Cassens Park 12 p.m. Call Barry Dury (442-0781) regarding questions about the program.

ing the under-10's team and Joe Pawelko (478-7893) for all other age groups.

VARDAR BOYS

The Vardar Soccer Club will hold 1994 boys tryouts from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 15, and Friday, June 17, at 6:30 p.m. (southwest corner of John R and Huron roads) for the following age groups (age classifications run from Aug. 1 through July 31):

- Under 9 (born 1985 through 1986); under 10 (1984-85); under 11 (1983-84); under 12 (1982-83); under 13 (1981-82); under 14 (1980-81).

The following tryouts will be announced for under-15 (1979-80); under-16 (1978-79); under 17 (1977-78); under 18 (1976-77); under 19 (1975-76).

For more information, call Bruce Thomas at 810-473-5650.

VARDAR GIRLS

The Vardar Soccer Club will hold 1994 girls tryouts from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 15, and Friday, June 17, at 6:30 p.m. (southwest corner of John R and Huron roads) for the following age groups (age classifications run from Aug. 1 through July 31):

- Under 11 (born 1983 through 1984); under 13 (1981-82); under 14 (1980-81).

For more information, call Bruce Thomas at 810-473-5650.

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