

50-year fixture

Western's manager sees 3 generations of golfers

BY SYDNEY KOWALESKI
STAFF WRITER

Members of Western Golf & Country Club in Redford Township address locker room manager Jim Seller differently, depending on when they first met him.

The 63-year-old Seller has come to know three generations of golfers in 50 years at Western, starting in 1945 when he became a caddy.

"Some call me 'Jim,' some call me 'Mr. Seller' and some call me 'Red,'" said Seller, whose once-red hair turned gray years ago. "The old timers worked for me, their fathers worked for me. When I get to grandchildren, I quit."

Seller's friendly demeanor is as much his trademark as the unlit cigar that usually rests on his lips. Seller doesn't light them anymore because as busy as he is around the locker room, it doesn't make sense.

He never has to worry about running out of cigars, or burning holes in members' towels, for that matter.

"I don't even buy the damn things, people give them to me," Seller said. "I used to smoke them, then I quit. It's like a pacifier."

Who better to ask about Seller's reputation than Bud Erickson, 72, a longtime Western member who publishes the club's newsletter?

"When you come in the club, the first person you meet is Red, and he's a very positive image for Western," said Erickson, a former public relations director of the Detroit Lions. "He's certainly well-liked. The fact he's been there 50 years is a good indication."

Seller, who lives in Redford Township with his wife of 42 years, Rose Marie, grew up in the family of caddies. His brothers Chester, Bob (deceased), Louis and Rick also were caddies at Western.

He stayed with the longest, eventually being named the club's Caddy Master. The Detroit Redford High School graduate remembers golf balls being scarce back when he started during World War II.

"You couldn't get good golf balls; they used synthetic balls that were recovered," Seller remembers. "Over by the bridges on (holes) 2, 4 and 7, they had fences to keep the balls from going in the river. Balls were hard to get."

What's and nowadays, according to Seller, caddies are becoming scarce. The drop in demand for caddies was the

PROFILE

main reason Seller moved from his job as Caddy Superintendent to his current position in 1979.

Seller remembers summers when up to 300 caddies signed up at the start of the year, and he regularly scheduled at least 100 to work. Today, Western is lucky to have 100 sign up and 30 work regularly, he said.

"Caddies are almost extinct, carts have pushed them out," Seller said. "Carts used to extend the season in the spring or fall when the kids were in school, now it's getting to the point where they ride them all summer. You got guys in their 30s who every time they play golf, they get a cart. Do you know how to spell rally?"

Seller doesn't know the meaning of the word, working seven days a week in the summer at Western, starting at 7 a.m. and leaving at 5 p.m. He's usually home by dusk.

"If you're organized, you never have to stay that late," said Seller, who once had a 6-handicap and won the Michigan Caddy Superintendent Championship.

The last major tournament Western hosted was in 1960 when all the big names on the Professional Golf Association Tour came to play in the Western Open. Seller said he wasn't overwhelmed, because "the only celebrities I know are the ones who sign my check."

New caddies would get labeled "B" caddies, which stood for beginner. It was an apprentice-like experience for new caddies under Seller.

"He'd call us 'Bugs' if you were a 'B' caddy," remembers one of his former caddies, Jim Gibbons, now the Redford Union athletic director. "He'd sometimes say, 'Get me a Bug, I need this place every day.' Every new caddy was terrified of him, wouldn't let you know he was a real good guy right away. He's the best."

There are some fringe benefits, of course, to taking care of a club of wealthy golfers. One of the members, Don Fegert, appreciates Seller's work so much, he lets him use his condominium in Las Vegas for a week each year.

"Nobody here does anything other than like him," said Fegert of Livonia. "He takes care of everybody. He does a better job than any locker room attendant in the country."

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 9, 1995

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Smith at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Bates, Grant, Lichtman, Oliverio, Sever, Smith and Vagstad. Members Absent: None. Others Present: City Manager Costick, City Clerk Dorman, Assistant City Manager Brock, Directors Bissell and Lasley, and Attorney Donohue.

COUNCIL TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

- Proclaimed: October 8-14, 1995 as Fire Prevention Week; month of October, 1995 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- Approved consideration of Cluster Site Plan for single-family housing at Nice Mile, east of Green Hill to October 1995.
- Rescheduled the October 23rd City Council meeting to October 30, 1995.
- Received update on marketing program for teen skate.
- Received Attorney's report for October.
- Made recommendation to the Oakland County Drain Commissioner to exchange property located at Grand River and Halsted in order to receive dedicated right-of-way for future road improvements.

APPROVED:

- Various appointments to Boards and Commissions.
- Appointments of additional alternate members to the Ice Arena Advisory Committee.
- Contract with Information Access Strategies consultant services to conduct computer application study.
- Agreement with Department of Social Services for grant to establish a Decentralized Youth Program.
- Contract with Michigan Department of Transportation for Grand River Corridor Improvement Project.
- Public hearing date of November 20, 1995, for consideration of water main installation for Canfield Drive from Eldon Avenue to 1,165 feet north.
- Traffic Control Orders for turn restrictions at various locations and prohibiting parking along Colwell and Bedalia between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily.
- Employment in accordance with Section 10.01A of the City Code.
- Special event license for Kendallwood Halloween Parade on October 29, 1995.
- City Council minutes of September 11 and 18, 1995.

AWARDED BIDS FOR:

- Full 1995 Tree Planting Program to Tom's Landscaping and Nursery in the amount of \$11,650.
- Rock salt and sand chloride for snow and ice control to North American Salt Company in the amount of \$47,700; Morton International, Inc. in the amount of \$31,263; and Construction Materials in the amount of \$53,125.
- Ice melting materials to Clark Food Service in the amount of \$1,414.40.
- Lower Harrow in the amount of \$4,380.
- Golf course utility vehicle to WP Miller in the amount of \$11,600.

JOANNE SMITH, Mayor
KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

FOOTBALL

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL PLAYOFF COMPUTER RANKINGS (as of Oct. 11)

CLASS A

Region 1: 1. Monroe (5-0), 102,067; 2. Belleville (5-0), 102,000; 3. Cassopolis (5-1), 87,500; 4. Frit, Carmel-Arrowood (5-1), 76,833; 5. Ann Arbor Pioneer (4-2), 71,800; 6. Washtenaw Central (4-2), 68,600; 7. Plymouth North Central (4-2), 68,500; 8. Battle Creek Central (4-2), 62,333; 9. Ann Arbor Huron (4-2), 61,833; 10. Howell (3-3), 61,200.

Region 2: 1. Troy (4-0), 108,000; 2. Redford Catholic Central (4-0), 104,000; 3. Detroit Henry Ford (4-0), 98,667; 4. Dearborn Fordson (5-1), 87,167; 5. Westland John Glenn (5-1), 80,500; 6. Livonia Stevenson (5-1), 78,667; 7. Detroit Northern (5-1), 75,500; 8. Detroit Cozy (4-2), 64,000; 9. Taylor East Catholic (4-2), 60,167; 10. Detroit Central (3-3), 49,833.

SWIMMING

WESTERN YOUTH SCUBA SWIMMING RANKINGS Oct. 7 at Wayne State

TEAM STANDINGS

1. Wyandotte Roosevelt, 310 points; 2. Wayne Memorial, 237; 3. Livonia Lakewood, 231; 4. Westland John Glenn, 227; 5. Livonia Stevenson, 120; 6. Redford North, 120; 7. Grosse Pointe, 14.

200-yard medley relay:

1. Roosevelt, 1:59.53; 2. Ann Arbor, 2:02.72; 3. Wayne, 2:04.54; 4. Lakewood, 2:14.33; 5. Franklin, 2:14.36; 6. Thurston, 2:24.23.

200 freestyle:

1. Ann Arbor DeLaMonche (4), 2:09.29; 2. Stephanie Karmali (WV), 2:15.75; 3. Teresa York (MA), 2:17.47; 4. Lindsay Rye (CA), 2:20.17; 5. Janea McArthur (CA), 2:20.72; 6. McArthur (CA), 2:23.38.

200 individual medley:

1. Janet Fisher (UT), 2:25.39; 2. Cassi Burrows (WV), 2:37.78; 3. Andrea Schuler (WV), 2:41.08; 4. Rochester Karmali (WV), 2:44.07; 5. Lane Basciowski (CA), 2:44.38; 6. Cathy Hermann (CA), 2:48.98.

50 freestyle:

1. Elizabeth Kruger (WV), 26.49; 2. Erin Warden (CA), 26.61; 3. Kriston Stone (CA), 26.71; 4. Kristi Douglas (WV), 27.05; 5. Jackie Burton (WV), 27.99; 6. Andrea McArthur (CA), 28.53.

100 yard:

1. Sarah Corcoran (CA), 36.81; 2. Kelley Hoy (CA), 37.95; 3. Jackie Karmali (CA), 39.55; 4. Sabrina Karmali (WV), 41.55; 5. Terry Peaty (WV), 42.55; 6. Jerry McArthur (CA), 44.25.

Busy Madonna rolling

Playing some of his best volleyball the season, Madonna University proved quite well that being real busy doesn't necessarily lead to disaster.

The Lady Crusaders were busy. But there was no disaster.

Indeed, the longer they labored the better the results. On Saturday, at the St. Mary's College (South Bend, Ind.) Tournament, Madonna came out a winner, beating Bethel College (Ind.) 16-9, 16-10, 16-18, 16-14 and host St. Mary's 16-13, 16-5, 16-5.

"It's always nice to win a tournament," said Madonna coach Jerry Abraham. "The only bad game we played was during the Bethel match. We had a chance to win the third game, but could not put them away. But we came back strong in the fourth game to beat them."

"After St. Mary's defeated Elmhurst (Ill.) in a tough five-game match, we came out and dominated them. We had pin-point passing and played our best serve-receive game of the year. It all came together against St. Mary's."

The tourney victory gave the Crusaders four match wins in three days, and six wins during the course of the week. Last Thursday, at Madonna's yearly tripped Spring Arbor College 16-9, 16-4, 16-3, then on Friday they traveled to Tri-State University and won in three-straight games.

Kelly McCausland (from Redford Union) led Madonna in the tournament victory, collecting 28 kills and 27 digs. Julie Martin (Livonia Stevenson) contributed 27 kills and 16 digs. Erin Comment had 13 kills and 24 digs, and Erin Gregoire clipped in with 28 digs.

Meg Paris finished with 72 assists-to-kills, capping a week that saw her earn NAIA Great Lakes Region player of the week honors.

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Your Attic of Farmington Hills, located at 2875 Grand River, Farmington Hills, MI, 48331, will hold a public sale on November 4, 1995 at 1:00 p.m. to satisfy the tax lien against the following items within the

items are included below the sale date:

NAME: JAMES A. FRICK

ADDRESS: 2875

CONTENTS: household

AND: household

The contents of these items will be available for public sale to the highest bidder and will be sold to the highest bidder. Sale will be held at Your Attic of Farmington Hills, 2875 Grand River, Farmington Hills, MI, 48331.

CALL: & BETTY FINCHER, Manager

Public Sale, October 27, 1995

OUTDOORS CALENDAR

Caribou hunting trip successful; fishermen proud



OUTDOOR INSIGHTS

PARKEER

A 28-hour trip into Labrador, Newfoundland, proved to be time well spent for Mike Willis.

The "Troy hunter" headed north with Jim Robinson, host of the outdoor show entitled "Troy Hunter."

"Adventures with Ole Gris" which airs locally on the PASS cable channel, in search of migrating caribou. They were hunting with Labrador Hunting Safari outfitters.

"It was almost tundra where we were," explained Willis. "The herd is really growing up there, but it hasn't started migrating through yet. We saw 30 or 40 each day, but when they're migrating you see 200 or 300 a day."

Hunting with a 50 caliber muzzleloader, Willis had the fortune to fill both of his tags. He took a young bull "for meat" and a much larger trophy bull with a rack with a 36-inch spread.

"It was a long trip, but we really had a good time," Willis said. "Overall, it was a great hunt."

COLLEGES

Paris averaged 9.64 assists-to-kills and 4.07 digs per game. She also had 18 kills, 14 block assists and 11 service aces during the week.

Paris is the second Madonna player to be so honored. McCausland was singled out for the week ending Sept. 17 after averaging 4.33 kills, 2.17 blocks and 4.67 digs while averaging .421 on attacks.

In the Crusaders' win over Tri-State, McCausland had 13 kills and 13 digs; Martin had 16 kills and six digs; Gregoire had 14 digs; and Paris totaled 37 assists.

Against Spring Arbor, McCausland collected 12 kills and 13 digs; Gregoire had 15 digs; Comment had six kills and 12 digs; and Paris finished with 30 assists and 11 digs.

On Tuesday, the Crusaders kept their streak going, defeating visiting Alma 16-9, 16-3, 16-3. McCausland again was the offensive catalyst, collecting 18 kills; she also had four blocks. Next best was Comment with seven kills; Martin with six kills and six blocks; Heather Steinhilber with five kills and four service aces; and Paris with 31 assists.

The seven wins bumped Madonna's overall record to 20-8. The Crusaders host Siena Heights at 7 p.m. tonight, then compete in the University of Michigan-Dearborn Tournament Friday and Saturday.

Madonna soccer

The Emert brothers each notched a goal in the first half of Monday's match against visiting Siena Heights, but Madonna couldn't protect its lead and lost 3-2.

Christian Emert opened the scoring for the Crusaders, assisted by Charlie Bell. Younger brother Scott Emert added a second goal to give the Crusaders a 2-1 halftime lead.

Successful elk hunt

Jerry O'Dean and his son Jeff have taken their share of hunting trips together. They've hunted pheasant in South Dakota, bear in Montana, elk in Colorado, Montana and Idaho and of course, whitetail deer right here in Michigan, just to name a few. The Lake Orion duo has experienced some outstanding success over the past 20 years as well and they're pretty excited.

Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (810) 901-2573.

memories to prove it.

"We've been hunting together since I was a kid," said Jeff. "I started out hunting fox and I can remember sitting in the (booby) blind with my dad before I was even old enough to hunt."

The success of those previous trips, however, pales in comparison to the success they enjoyed on an autumn hunting trip earlier this year.

Optimism was running high as Jerry, Jeff and their friend Ken Ellis, of Williams, Arizona, headed into the elk range of northern Arizona in late September. Although the success rate for archers in the area they were hunting was just 17 percent, the possibility of encountering a trophy bull elk kept the Adrenaline pumping through the trip.

"Arizona has the best game management going," explained Jerry. "They have the biggest bulls (elk) in Arizona, the greatest antelope in Arizona. They really do a great job out there."

Having scouted for four days prior to the start of the season the trio had located a few areas holding a fair share of elk.

By the end of the weeklong hunt they had shattered the success rate as each of the three hunters harvested a record-book-caliber bull.

Jerry and Jeff each took their biggest bull ever and Ellis, who ended up with the biggest bull of the three, took his very first elk with a bow.

"Anytime you can go three-for-three, with all trophies, is pretty good," said Jeff. "To come out of there with 100-percent success is hard to believe. It was just a great hunt."

The rack on Jeff's 6x6 potential Pope & Young bull green-scored 310. The Pope & Young minimum for a typical elk antler is 250, but the rack can't be officially scored until after a 90-day drying period. Jeff's rack has a 42-inch spread and 64-inch main beams.

Jerry took a 6x7 that green-scored 270 despite a broken tine. It has a 37 1/2-inch spread and 48-inch main beams. Ellis took a 6x6 which green-scored a whopping 345. It has a 39-inch spread and 57-inch main beams.

Jerry has been bow hunting since 1970 and Jeff took up the sport around 1975. They prefer to hunt elk exclusively with a bow and arrow.

"Weather-wise the bow seasons are better," said Jerry. "It's nice to be out in the fall rather than in the cold weather. Plus it's more of a challenge. When you call a big bull and he comes storming in expecting to find a fight, and you're standing behind a bush with a bow and arrow, it gets pretty exciting."

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