

The Court Jester

Our congratulations go this week to Janice Martin, of Livonia, who won the Women's division of the DeWitt Park and Recreation open tennis tournament.

Janice will be playing in the City of Livonia tournament, sponsored by the Livonia Park and Recreation Department, this weekend at Stevenson High School.

Yours truly will also be entered in the men's 40 and over division (Thank goodness for intelligent tournament directors) I am surprised they don't have a women's over 30 division. We have a few gals who will lose to that age.

Keep your head down. That's great advice for a golfer but poor advice for a tennis player. It is so easy to lose your concentration. Are you looking at the ball as you begin your stroke on the serve? Are you looking at the ball or the spot you're attempting to hit on your groundstrokes? Are you watching the ball on your volley or at your opponent? Are you thinking about the lost shot you missed instead of concentrating on the next shot? It happens to all of us.

There are several problems you can solve immediately to help your concentration: 1) Remove any balls

that are laying on your court before you play a point. It is amazing how often your eyes will wander to that loose ball; 2) If people are walking by the ends of the court, wait until they have passed before you start play; 3) Don't talk during a point (are you paying attention Roseanne) unless it is to yourself; 4) Don't think of the last error you made and 5) Watch the ball at all times.

The above points should help your concentration. If you are a male and you have an attractive young lady playing on the next court, you're in trouble. It then becomes a challenge to keep your eyes on the ball. You could wear dark glasses and a floppy hat, or carry an umbrella, and if that doesn't work, ask her to move several courts away, she may understand.

One of the objectives of your stroke is to hit the ball smack in the middle of the strings on your racket. It only takes a split second to take your eyes off the ball and miss-hit it.

Of course judgment, timing and reflexes play an important role, but once you have mastered the basics and play regularly, you will find that concentration becomes the critical part of your game. Keep your eye on the ball.

Festival Softball Tourney Opening

The Farmington Founders Festival softball tournament is set to kick off 13 team competition Friday night.

The Observer Newspaper sponsored event has 12 teams in action Friday under the lights at the Drake diamond and City Park.

The complete bracketing of the three-day tourney is featured in today's Festival tab on page 25.

Withdrawal of the Farmington Knights of Columbus squad sliced the field to 13 with the championship contest slated for 2:30 p.m. Sunday (July 29) in the Drake diamond.

There will be a powderpuff baseball battle following the finale between the Park Place waitresses and the Roman Terrace waitresses with all proceeds going to the cancer foundation.

Adray Baseball

THIRD ROUND STANDINGS

WESTLAND BURGER	W	L
KING	6	0
GARDEN CITY	5	1
REDFORD ADRAY	4	1
BIRMINGHAM VARSITY	4	2
LIVONIA GRIFIN	3	2
PLYMOUTH BIDWELL	3	3
HF KOEBEL	2	4
SOUTHFIELD LATHROP	1	5
FARMINGTON SINACOLA	0	5
DEARBORN ADRAY	0	6

SCORES

Westland 4, Varsity Shop 2
Redford 2, Plymouth 1
Livonia 2, Plymouth 1
Burger King 2, Farmington 0
Garden City 4, Redford 1
Garden City 1, Plymouth 0
Burger King 2, Dearborn Varsity Shop 0
Varsity Shop 0, Livonia 5
Plymouth 4, HF Koebel 2

OVERALL STANDINGS

REDFORD ADRAY	18	3	2
WESTLAND BURGER			
KING	16	7	0
PLYMOUTH BIDWELL	14	9	2
BIRMINGHAM VARSITY	13	8	2
LIVONIA GRIFIN	12	7	3
GARDEN CITY	10	12	1
SOUTHFIELD LATHROP	9	13	1
FARMINGTON SINACOLA	7	18	1
DEARBORN ADRAY	6	15	0
NF KOEBEL	3	16	1

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

AT GARDEN CITY PARK
Plymouth vs Burger King, 8 p.m.
Livonia vs Garden City, 8:30 p.m.
AT HORTONVILLE AP
Southfield vs Dearborn, 8 p.m.
AT THORNTON HIGH
HF Koebel vs Redford, 8 p.m.
AT BIRMINGHAM GROVES
Farmington vs Varsity, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAME

AT REDFORD UNION
Redford vs Livonia, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES (Season wrap-up)

AT HENRY FORD FIELD
Varsity Shop vs Garden City, 8 p.m.
Livonia vs HF Koebel, 8:30 p.m.
AT LEXINGTON PARK
Farmington vs Dearborn, 8 p.m.
AT SOUTHFIELD CIVIC
Plymouth vs Southfield, 8:30 p.m.
AT THORNTON HIGH
Burger King vs Redford, 8 p.m.

Borgess' Sopko

Heading For

Aquinas College

Mark Sopko, a 6-3 180-pound Bishop Borgess graduate has indicated he will attend Aquinas College, Grand Rapids on an athletic grant-in-aid.

Sopko averaged 15.5 points in the 1972-73 basketball season along with 14 rebounds per contest in an 11-9 season.

Sopko was selected to the All-Catholic League team three successive years as well as the all-league all-star squad and was All-Observer third team this past season.

He was also a hurdler on the track team and was All-Area his senior season.



MARK SOPKO
Bishop Borgess

Livonian Aces

Oasis' 9th

James Caruso, 55, of 15396 Ingram in Livonia, scored a hole-in-one on the 185-yard ninth hole at the Oasis Golf Center.

Crowe Bombs W. Bloomfield Twice

Bentley Crowe wrapped up his Berry baseball campaign with back-to-back 7-3 victories over West Bloomfield.

The two wins topped Crowe's overall showing to 10-6, good enough for a third place tie in the League.

The first of two identical wins had Steve Marlow on the 'C' mound. Marlow allowed six hits, walked two and struck out six. Rick Edelen and Dave Mooradian hurried for West Bloomfield with Crowe collecting six hits.

West Bloomfield opened with two runs in the first. Chris Reynolds walked, moved up on a passed ball and was sacrificed to second by Bob Deacon. Doug Macklin singled to score Roshirt and then came three straight Bloomfield errors followed by a single by Bob Cross and Crowe had itself a 5-2 lead.

Crowe bounced back with

five runs in the fourth. Brent Boegler started it off with a walk and stole second. Paul Roshirt singled home and was sacrificed to second by Bob Deacon. Doug Macklin singled to score Roshirt and then came three straight Bloomfield errors followed

by a single by Bob Cross and Crowe had itself a 5-2 lead. The Bentley crew pushed it to 7-2 in the seventh when Cross walked, stole second and third and scored when Mark Newell hit into a fielder's choice with the toss to the plate late. Boegler followed with a two-bagger and Newell scored run No. 7.

Bloomfield could just come up with one run in the last of the seventh. With two out, Dave Mooradian tripled and Reynolds doubled him in.

Position night pitted the two against each other again with the identical results. West Bloomfield jumped to another 2-0 first inning lead. Crowe exploded for five runs in the third and it was easy sailing.

Joe Zamboldi started Bloomfield off with a first inning single and Dan Rowley was safe when his bunt was booted. A passed ball advanced the runners. Dave Gass then sacrificed in Zamboldi and Mutnick was safe on an error.

Crowe came up with another five inning burst in the third. Cross opened with a base on balls, Newell singled,

Boegler was safe on an error by Bob Rowley and it was then a walk-a-thon.

Bob Deacon, Roshirt and Macklin all drew walks and Waldoock finished the rally with a single and Crowe had a 5-2 lead. It was upped to 8-2 in the fifth with a single by Boegler, walk to Dan Venzia aided by an error.

Walks to Deacon and Cross and a single by Boegler accounted for the sixth run in inning No. 6.

Unbeaten Redford Wins Berry National Crown

The Redford "baseball machine" has done it again.

Bob Atkins' Redford Adray Appliance crew has captured its sixth Connie Mack baseball championship in 11 years, sporting an unmarred 15-0 record in the Berry National League.

Redford now will be one of four Berry Mack teams traveling to post-season tourney play. Redford will go to the Saginaw district on Aug. 2 to start its two-game knockout.

The National title was wrapped up with Redford topping Francher, 7-2.

Tom Nippa went the full seven innings, allowing four hits, walking five and striking out eight. It was win No.

5 for the lanky lefthander, an All-Observer prep hurler for 72.

Don Finn suffered the loss for Franchers with Mark Kiefer coming in to relieve and Redford collecting seven hits.

Franchers drew first blood in the third when Bob Hope walked, was singled to third by Price and scored on a sacrifice by Scott Perarolis.

Redford bounced back in the fourth to take a 3-1 lead. With one out, Tom Miller singled and moved to third on an error. With two down, Ted Musto walked and stole second. Tom Nippa then delivered a two-bagger to score both Miller and Musto. Mike

Kalli singled to score Nippa.

Franchers came back in the last of the inning to score one run and still trailed, 3-2.

Mark Kiefer and Bob Ganz walked. Tom Zallagaris lofted a fly to right that was dropped, allowing Kiefer to score and putting runners on first and third.

What followed was a double play that broke Francher's back.

Tom Centers banged a hard grounder to Mike Kalli at short who quickly flipped the ball to Dan Baron for a force out at second. Baron

nailed attempting to vault over the Redford catcher and the inning ended.

Redford pulled away in the fifth with three runs on two hits. Mark Yourchok singled and Steve Friedman was hit by a pitch but quickly erased on a pickoff play. Lupe Bravo singled to score Yourchok. Tom Miller was safe on an error with another run scoring. Musto walked and Redford pulled off a double steal with Miller scoring and Musto out at second after the run had scored.

The sixth saw Redford add a run when Nippa was safe on an error. Baron was hit by a pitch and Friedman singled in Nippa.

Plymouth Elks Win American Berry Title

The Plymouth Elks clinched the Berry American League championship with a 5-0 blanking of the Clarenceville Bankers.

It was Plymouth's 12th victory against four defeats with Churchill Berry finishing second at 11-4-1.

Tom Willette went the distance for the Elks allowing three hits, walking two and striking out five for his second triumph against no setbacks.

Taking the loss for Clarenceville was Tim McCammon. The Banker pitcher gave up eight hits, walked two and struck out six.

Plymouth tallied twice in the first when Tony Rossi was hit by a pitch. Mark Stephens sacrificed him to second and Steve Robb delivered a homerun.

The fourth stanza saw Plymouth make it 3-0 on a single by Robb Willette, sacrifice by Larry Davis and double by Tom Willette. Singles by Rossi and Stephens and an error increased it to 4-0 in the fifth.

Bidwell added the final score in the sixth. Stephens singled, Robb forced Stephens and Robb dashed around on a wild pickoff throw.

Legion All-Stars Playing Saturday

It will be the 18th District American Legion baseball all-stars pitted against the seventh district all-stars Saturday, July 28, at the Pontiac Jaycee Park (8 p.m.) with the second place club Farmington having a fair share of the talent at hand.

Farmington Legion Coach Wally Christenson will be heading the 18th crew against the squad coming down from the thumb area along with Neil Walton from Waterford and Claie Wein of Walled Lake.

The 18th District infield consists of Waterford's Allen Kebabagh at first, Troy's Paul McElrea at second, Walled Lake's Garnet Peel

ing at short and Mike Grace of Waterford at third.

Rochester's Rick Ron, Troy's Jim Vavraska and Waterford's Tom Earl make up the outfield with Birmingham's John Davidson behind the plate.

Farmington's Rich Stringer at 6-0 and Rochester's Marty Smith at 5-0 will handle the pitching chores.

Also making the squad from Farmington are outfielder Mitch Thomas and shortstop Jeff Herman with honorable mention going to Rob Hottin, Randy Stringer and Dennis Hagen.

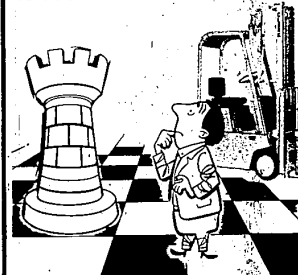
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