

# Redford Seeks Tourney Spot



LET'S TALK — Manager Lucky Birkett of the Phillippi Giants has a few words for Dave Paden as team prepares for the state Class D playoffs.

It's said that a team playing around .500 ball can win a major league pennant.

Redford Township's Class A club won its flag in the Greater Dearborn League this season with an as-

tounding .800 mark.

The Townshippers captured 20 games while losing four and having one stopped because of darkness with the score tied.

As a reward for such a showing, Redford this

week is contending with River Rouge in a best-of-three series to determine which qualifies for the State American Baseball Congress championships.

The teams are to play at River Rouge Wednesday in

the second game and clash Friday at Livonia's Ford Field if a third and deciding contest is required.

Redford boasted all the ingredients that make a winning team: Strong hitting, classy pitching and

excellent fielding.

Rick Fisher, Don Paige and Tom Tanner handled the bulk of the pitching. Fisher won 10 and lost two, Paige had four victories and Tanner three.

When it came to kil-

ing, consider these winning percentages:

Gary Shafer, a product of the University of Detroit, was picked up late in the season and in the last eight games knocked the ball around at a .464 clip. He has played first base and the outfield.

Rick Harlow from Michigan State belted the ball at a .361 clip and led the team with 22 runs batted in. He also drilled three homers.

## It's Short—but Not Sweet

**Social to Observer**

ALTOONA, Pa. — The bid for national baseball honors by Redford Township's Dependable HardChrome team again failed.

For the second straight year, the Townshippers were eliminated in the first two days of the All-America Boys tournament regional.

This time it was New Orleans which dented the Michiganders first by an 8-1, then Milford, Mass., who sent Dependable back home by rallying for a 6-4 verdict.

Its sixth and finally tally an inning later.

Then came the dramatic ninth inning. Paul Santangelo got aboard for Redford and the next three men walked to force over one run.

The bases remained jammed. There were two out.

The hitter was Ruthwell, who responded with a towering smash to deep center. For a moment, it appeared that it might be a grand slam, or certainly would clude the

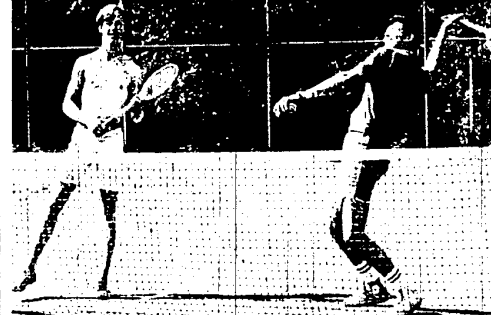
centerfielder to permit two or three runs to score.

That wasn't to be. The outfielder leaped against the fence, hauled down the fly and for Dependable it meant pick up and start the long ride back to Michigan.

## Observer Sports News

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KEEPING IN SHAPE: Duncan Graham (left) and Horace Bruff sharpen up their tennis game at Plymouth High's courts.

## Junior Bowlers Voted 'All-State'

Larry Ruzsas is a versatile young athlete.

He's starred at Franklin high school and now has been bestowed with new honors—a place on the Michigan Youth Bowling Association's All-State team.

Ruzsas, whose strong sport suit in high school and this summer was pitching baseball, was one of six prep named on the Major Boys All-State pin team.

He carries a mifty 188 average, which was fourth best in the state. Dick Lang, 18, of East Detroit had compiled an even 200 average.

In second was Mark Surridge of Detroit, 191, with Frank Gadaleto, Lansing, fourth at 187.

Livonia's Wes Hoffman, meantime, topped the state in the prep boys class (1314 years old) with a fancy 162 average.

Another first in the area was turned in by Kevin Anderson of Farmington with a 158 average in the Junior girls (15-16 years old). Linda Hansen of Farmington was third in the class with 151, while Livonia's Jill Hoffman was fifth with 146.

Sue Wilson of Livonia averaged 134 to finish fourth in the prep girls category.

Other state champs: Junior boys—Doug Ivens, Kalamazoo, 185; Major Girls—Carol Freeman, Kalamazoo, 153, and Prep Girls—Sue Kallie, Kalamazoo, 132.

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## Grid Exams Announced

### At Thurston

Thurston High School football players will be called for physical examinations next Thursday at the high school.

The sessions will begin at 1 p.m.

Equipment will be issued the following day, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Coach Bill McDonald urges that all candidates for the varsity and junior varsity teams report.

Practice for the Thurston team starts on Aug. 24.

## Calls Out To Report For Hockey

Time is nearing for Livonia boys to enroll for a tryouts to play hockey in the Tri County League.

The U.S. Crane Wings, for boys 12-14 years of age, will assemble at Winter Wonderland skating arena on Tuesday, Sept. 5, from 8-9 p.m.

Those wishing to play on the Oval Tool and Die for boys 9-10, should report on Thursday, Sept. 7, at 6 p.m. at Winter Wonderland.

Henry Mullholand of Livonia, phone GA 1-0475, will handle the older boys; George Finn, 425-1715, the younger team.

Keith Spicer, a University of Michigan Star, finished the regular Redford campaign with a .384 average, 20 RBIs and three homers.

Bob Green, a brilliant glove man, was just as spectacular with the bat. He had a .398 mark.

Dave Woloch, who started the season down on the farm for the Detroit Tigers, hit only .238 for Redford, but he had a knack for delivering. Say his hits in seven of the team's victories.

Robby Mason did a nifty job, too, hitting .280.

Schafer (first), Woloch (second), Mason (short) and Green (third) made up the regular Redford infield. Spicer and Harlow were regulars in the outfield. The third spot was shared by Paige, Schafer and Doug Schreyer. Gary Maher and Rick Mikiel helped out in the infield while Jim Pobulsky and Claude McTaggart did the catching.

Those wishing to play on the Oval Tool and Die for boys 9-10, should report on Thursday, Sept. 7, at 6 p.m. at Winter Wonderland.

The Livonians rallied for three runs in the sixth inning after Shafer had put Redford in front, 5-3. Spicer was the losing pitcher in relief of Fisher.

## Observing SPORTS

By George Maskin

It was a great way to start the day.

Gliding into the Pistons' offices (late as usual), the very efficient Kathleen Roberts said she had a call for us . . . from Detective Bill Duncan of the Garden City Police Department.

Any time the law is looking for a person, you have to quiver.

Thoughts like:

"Son Richard may have tried some dragging in Garden City." or—

"Did they detect us speeding through town the other evening?" or—

"Could other son Doug pulled off something which might have landed him in the jailhouse?"

Post haste we dialed off the police department number. Busy . . . busy again.

We quivered some more.

The call finally went through and Detective Duncan answered the phone.

He eased our mind instantly. All he wanted was for us to mention the fact that the Garden City Little League football registration takes place next Saturday from 9-12 a.m. at the Log Cabin in the City Park at Cherry Hill and Merriman Roads.

"Tell the boys," said Duncan, "that they must weigh between 65-125 pounds, that they'll need a \$5 registration and the doctors will be present to examine them. And, say, can you get the item on page one?"

We listened . . . then mentioned to the detective that we're not the greatest booster of little league activities . . . pointing out that there are 50 to 20 teams for boys from 9-12, but by the time you get up to around the 18-20-year-old bracket, you have only a team or two left for the same community.

The detective didn't argue our point. Fact is, he had the figures to show that we weren't harping on a subject without sound reason.

"But, wait a moment, could it be that the number of participants shrinks as the boys become more diversified?"

Big word that "diversified."

"What we, who work on little league programs, strive to do is give the boys a chance to find out what they really might like to do. And, we think, that's exactly what is happening.

"By the time boys become 13 or 14, they can see for themselves they don't have the aptitudes for sports, or maybe the skills required.

"Or, they may have discovered that they care more for working on race cars, or they like mathematics . . . or girls . . . or they'd rather make paper hats.

"Most important, it's better for these boys to be playing sports under organized conditions than to be wandering around and maybe playing baseball or football on the streets. Agree?"

Who could disagree when the law was speaking?

Garden City, we might add, is one of several local communities that now promotes junior-type football for boys. In most areas, Garden City included, they rightfully feel that games involving such boys should not be publicized.

U/M Coach, Brother Won 20 Variety Awards

ANN ARBOR—Michigan football coach Bump Elliott and his brother Pete, earned 20 letters in four Big Ten sports. Bump lettered twice in both football and basketball at Michigan; twice on the grid and once in basketball and baseball at Purdue. Pete earned 12 letters at Michigan in football, basketball and golf.

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