

Karras Classic Monday at Great Oaks

By STEVE DOUGAN

The celebrity shenanigans from 1970 will be tamed down to a celebrity classic for 1974 when 240 players tee off Monday for the Alex Karras Celebrity Golf Classic at Rochester's Great Oaks Country Club.

Where there once were popping guns and firecrackers and much merriment and little concentration, the event has been toned down to become one of the most prestigious golf events on the celebrity "tour."

THE MERRIMENT, and largest money-making arm, comes at the night-before roast, where this year's main event will be WWJ TV weathercaster Sonny Elliott. The roast will be Sunday evening at the Ritz Hotel, 15 mile at Van Dyke, in Warren.

"You always want to press forward," said tournament chairman Gene Mitchell of Bloomfield Hills. "The first thing we thought, when we had the first tournament, was something of entertainment value. It took 50 dedicated people a lot of time to put everything together. We've taken our spoofing to the roast now," Mitchell continued. "Now we go out to have a lot of fun on the golf. I feel that our tournament is a prestigious tournament,

but it's also a fun day. It's where people communicate and get to know one another.

"IT'S A PLACE where everyday people can talk with celebrities. It gives them a strong attachment to many different areas of sports, and shows them that this guy puts his pants on one leg at a time like anybody else."

The charitable cause is also a "classic." This year's proceeds, expected to top \$20,000, will go to the Fairview Center at Clinton Valley State Hospital in Pontiac. The center deals with social-adjustment problems of children generally under age 17.

Children, indeed, hold a special twinkle in Karras' eye, and he's perhaps as well known as a family man as an actor, or football player. That's characterized somewhat in the first three tournaments, where the more modest receipts were donated to cystic fibrosis research.

LAST YEAR'S event, held on a rainy Father's Day, helped sponsor the Michigan Amateur Athletic Union.

Fairview is an extremely rewarding place to extend a helping hand, Mitchell says. His wife was

a volunteer there for two years and was so moved by her involvement that she returned to college and finished her undergraduate degree to better serve the children.

The star-studded cast is drawn from the sports world, local media, and other celebrities. M*A*S*H star McLean Stevenson was expected, but an actors' guild strike put that in the air. Massachusetts Sen. Edward Kennedy, a personal friend of guaranteed celebrity George Plimpton, was hoped for but seems unlikely at this time.

Playing positions on the tournament are sold out at this time. There are some tickets remaining for the roast by calling 352-0854—remembering that the roast is a must-only affair.

Celebrity tee-off times are listed below, with some spots still remaining to be filled:

8 a.m.—Detroit Lion Mickey Zofko; 8:07—WWJ TV's Jim Koury; 8:15—Detroit Wheel Seney Grandelius; 8:22—Detroit Lion Herb Orvis; 8:30—Minnesota North Star Gary Bergman; 8:37—WJBK.

Boy stars in defeat

Farmington Beechview Swim Club's Kevin Ortnor took two firsts and broke two of his own records, but Bloomfield Surf defeated Beechview, 238-258, last week in a Northwest Suburban Swim League meet.

Ortnor's record firsts came in the boys' 8-10 year 25-meter butterfly (22.4) and the 25-meter breaststroke (22.6). Other Beechview record breakers: Vicki Goodman (43.7 in the girls' 9-10 year 50-meter butterfly); Al Laforet (35.9 in the boys' 11-12 50-meter butterfly); and Mark Dudash (29.9 in the boys' 15-17 50-meter butterfly).

Beechview, now 0-2 in Division A dual meets, swims next on Thursday (July 11) at Village Swim Club in Lathrup. The meet begins at 6:30 p.m.

NFWB team stops Troy

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield (NFWB) freshman federation team took two games Sunday from a scrappy Troy team. Each of the starting nine for the NFWB garnered a hit in the 6-3 victory, leaving winning pitcher Mark Kochanski the job of cleaning up on the mound.

Kochanski allowed five hits and struck out nine while walking two. Relief pitcher Bill McKenna struck out one and gave up two hits.

Cliff Marriott led the NFWB offense with two hits. Strength came from Bet Patek's solid triple to right center and Tim Marsha's homerun.

IN THE second game of the double header, Troy fielding fluffs contributed to three runs for the NFWB stickmen, on just one hit. In the sixth inning, the NFWB sandloters picked up two more for a final 5-1 score.

Pitcher Paul Chatlin allowed only three hits, including a solo homerun, as he faced only 23 batters in the seven-inning game. Chatlin allowed no walks as he struck out 12.

The NFWB team travels to Clintondale school in Mount Clemens Sunday for another double header.

TV's Ray Lane, 8:45—Detroit Red Wings broadcaster Larry Lynch; 8:52—Detroit Lion Larry Head; 9 a.m.—Former Detroit Lion Sam Williams; 9:07—WXYZ TV's Bill Bonds; 8:15—Entertainer Larry Saito; 9:22—Former St. Louis Cardinals assistant football coach Tony Versani; 9:30—Detroit Lion Ed Flanagan; 9:37—Former Detroit Tiger Earl Wilson; 9:52—WXYZ radio's Dan Henderson; 10 a.m.—Detroit Pinston John Mengoli; 10:07—Former Lion Roger Shanks; 10:15—Detroit Lion Bill Munson; 10:22—Minnesota Viking Frank Gallagher; 10:30—Detroit Lion Greg Landolt; 10:37—WJR radio's Dave Dille; 10:45—WXYZ TV's Larry Adlerly; 10:52—Former Detroit Tiger Joe Ginsberg.

11 a.m.—Former Detroit Lion Paul Naimoff; 11:22—Former Detroit Lion Dennis McCord; 11:30—Detroit Red Wing Nick Libetti; 11:45—Former Detroit Lion Carl Bretschneider; 11:52—Detroit Lion Bob Kowalkowski; Noon—Detroit Free Press sportswriter Jack Taylor; 12:07—Filmscript writer Doug Graham; 12:15—12:22—Former Detroit Lion Nick Eddy; 12:30—Former Detroit Lion Mike Lucet; 12:45—Chicago Black Hawk Pit Martin; 12:59—Professional golfer Sheila Ohman; 1 p.m.—Author George Plimpton; 1:07—Detroit Lion Steve Owens; 1:15—Alex Karras; 1:22—Astronaut Jack Swigert; Great Oaks golf professional Jim Dewling; 1:30—WJR's Marc Avery; 1:57—WJR's J.P. McCarthy; 1:45—University of Michigan basketball coach John Orie; 1:52—University of Michigan associate athletic director Don Lund; 2 p.m.—Detroit Lion assistant coach Bob Hallway; 2:07—University of Michigan sportscaster Don Kremer; 2:15—Former Detroit Lion Bruce Mahar; 2:22—Former Detroit Tiger Jim Price; 2:30—Former Detroit Lion Mel Farr; 2:37—Detroit Red Wing broadcaster Bruce Martyn; 2:45—Hof professional Tom Horton; 2:50—Former Detroit Lion Tom Nowatzke; 3:07—Comedian Rube Weiss; 3:15—Former Detroit Tiger Billy Hoefs; 3:22—Detroit Free Press sports editor George Fusco; 3:30—WWJ disc jockey Morris Carlson; bowler Chuck Walsh.

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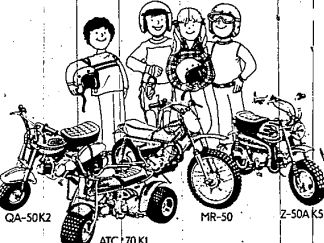
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