

PAL tourney set for July 22

By SUZIE ROLLINS

An investment in kids is what local WJR radio celebrity J.P. McCarthy says the Police Athletic League (PAL) is all about.

PAL provides many underprivileged boys with basketball, gloves, baseballs and other equipment. All PAL staffers are volunteers and spend their summers trying to help youngsters enjoy themselves and have fun.

"It's an opportunity for kids to understand policemen as people," McCarthy said, "not as guys who push them around and arrest them but as guys who teach them to play sports as 'dutch uncles' or Big Brothers."

PAL ALSO brings boys and girls to suburban tennis clubs each week for tennis instruction, a sports dimension they're not likely to be exposed to in their inner-city environment. McCarthy thinks that PAL, on a national level, is a program that men in

sports can take interest in while helping someone.

Because of this overriding interest in both sport and youth, McCarthy is serving as chairman of the Third Annual J.P. McCarthy-Wabeek PAL Invitational Golf Tournament being held July 21 at the West Week Country Club in Bloomfield Hills.

He started working with PAL three years ago when he and Robert McCurry, past president of the organization, decided a golf tournament would be a good way to raise funds and lift the exposure of the group.

McCurry, vice president of U.S. Automotive Sales and Service for Chrysler Corp., is a very close friend of many golf professionals, and as a favor to him, more than a score have agreed to participate in the tournament at no cost.

THE FIRST year of the golf tournament, PAL raised \$12,000, a figure they hope to at least triple this year. Relaxing in his Bloomfield Hills home last week, McCarthy appeared

happy and pleased when he spoke of the tournament.

"Volunteers have been working on this tournament for the last six months, so this fundraiser will be a success," he said. He outlined the fact that many of the youth that PAL is involved with will take an active part as runners, messengers, "and everything else they can do."

"Everyone is deeply involved," McCarthy said.

AS A radio personality with WJR since 1956, McCarthy has been involved with just plain people and stars of the sports world for many years.

When Billy Martin managed the Detroit Tigers, McCarthy did a show with him that recapped the previous day's game. "The show was just super because Billy just loves to talk," he said.

It wasn't continued when Ralph Houk started his reign because Houk didn't want to do the show every day.

Other media criticized the show with Martin "because he tended to talk only to me and excluded other media," McCarthy added.

An avid sports fan, McCarthy will also be doing color for the Detroit Lions broadcasts with Bob Reynolds. "Hopefully I will be a well informed, objective reporter," he said.

AS THE 1975 American Cancer Society Crusade Chairman for Michigan, he recently organized a benefit polo match with a Cleveland team that may become one of the most novel home-and-home benefit series in existence.

McCarthy seems to be just the kind of man who takes an active interest in organizations that help other people. Since he has such a great interest in sports, especially golf, he's very excited about the Wabeek tournament and is certain of its success.

When asked how long he has been playing golf, a huge smile spread

across his face as he said, "I started playing as a caddy when I was 12, and have been playing long enough so I should be better than I am."

Golf fans who want to see touring professionals the calibre of Tom Watson, recent winner of the British Open; Lee Trevino, Johnny Miller, Sam and J.C. Snead, Doug Sanders, Chi-Chi Rodriguez, and many others playing with Detroit Tiger and Lion stars may purchase tickets at the gate tomorrow for \$10. The one-day, rain or shine event begins with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

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To replace Utica Eisenhower

Troy Athens may join MSA

By RICHARD GOLD

Troy Athens High School will join the Metropolitan Suburban Association (MSA) beginning with the 1976-77 school year if the Oakland A allows Athens to leave.

On Tuesday, July 16, Boyd R. Larson, assistant superintendent for secondary education, sent a letter to the MSA asking for admission into the league, beginning in the fall of 1976.

At the same time, he wrote to Frank Crowell, athletic director at Madison Heights and head of the Oakland A, requesting Athens be allowed to withdraw from the league following the upcoming school year.

LARSON SAID a vote on the matter will be taken by the athletic directors of the member schools of the Oakland A in August. He said a vote was required because Athens did not give two year notice, as specified by the Oakland A guidelines.

The move to accept the MSA's offer to join followed a lengthy meeting between Larson, John McGregor, Principal of Athens, and Peyton Goodwin, Athens athletic director. In that meeting, McGregor and Larson voted in favor of the league transfer while Goodwin voted against it, presumably on the ground that it was premature move from an athletic standpoint.

Goodwin was unavailable for comment after the decision to go ahead with the switch, but had said earlier that Athens athletic programs might suffer from the stiffer competition. He said he wanted to get the athletic programs off the ground before transferring to a tougher league, a move he envisioned in another two or three years.

Larson commented, "Personally, I think it is wise to have Troy and Athens in different leagues. The rivalry will be less intense and the schools will be able to shoot for more championships. The MSA offers activities to the entire student body. Those are my two main reasons."

He added, "I liked the A. I helped organize it 25 years ago and I have nothing but praise for it. I just think the MSA is a better situation for Athens."

ATHENS WAS offered a spot in the MSA, a six-team league, when Utica

Eisenhower notified MSA officials that it intended to leave. Originally it was thought that Eisenhower would join a Utica league, but it has since decided to take Rochester High's spot in the Oakland A when Rochester leaves in the fall of 1976. Rochester will go the Wayne-Oakland conference for the 1976-77 school year.

Larson said, "If Troy had been offered the same choice, I think we would have followed the same route. But Troy has always been in the Oakland A. It's a charter member."

Some observers of the A thought North Farmington would be offered Eisenhower's spot, but according to one MSA athletic director, the idea was squelched.

According to Larson, the MSA costs more to join but offers more activities. He said the difference in cost dues are \$250 in the A and \$400 in MSA) was insignificant and not a factor in the decision.

The MSA offers table tennis, bridge, forensics, debate, chess, drama, music, industrial arts, and student exchange days, but has no junior high or middle school competition, a program Goodwin would like to see continued.

SEVERAL YEARS ago, Rochester Adams High went through a similar transfer, from A to the MSA. It, like Athens, was a new school. "We were the smallest and the youngest when we joined," said Adams AD Reynolds White. "The competition was a little tougher, but we survived. Besides, Athens is supposed to be larger school."

He added, "Everybody goes by football, but there are 18 sports in the MSA. Everybody wins something. We are just trying to stay competitive in everything. Of course, in swimming against Birmingham Groves, that's not too easy."

"I think Athens should be competitive in some areas like gymnastics when they enter it, and in a few years it will all blow over."

One of the biggest areas of concern Troy officials had concerned the cross-town rivalry between Troy and Athens. While faced a similar situation between Rochester High and Adams.

He said, "The intensity of play hinges on the coaches and the administration. The coaches to a great extent

determine that sort of thing. Of course we like to win, but we tell our kids to go out and play clean above all."

The other schools in the MSA are Birmingham Groves, Royal Oak Dendro, Bloomfield Laher, Southfield Lathrup and Adams.

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South Farmington wins softball title

Back-to-back homers by Wendy Dierkers and Jan Dorach helped South Farmington's Crickets defeat North Farmington-West Bloomfield, 6-3, in the finals of the first annual Joan Wagner Novice Girls' Softball Tournament last weekend.

Miss Dierkers also displayed her pitching skills by allowing NFWB just six hits. Earlier in the tournament, she was the winning pitcher in the Crickets' 14-1 victory over Novi.

In the championship game, the Cricket home runs settled the tournament with a four-run fourth inning. Base hits by Jean Zuhorski and Jan

Former combined with a NFWB error to give the Crickets an insurance run.

Earlier, NFWB defeated South Farmington, 9-4, in the double-elimination tourney. NFWB's Shelly Bill homered, while Kay Dierker, Jill Rankin, Tracy Williams, Teri Dixon and Sue Grisdale each had one hit.

South Farmington, managed by Sue Green, opened the tournament with a victory over Novi. NFWB countered with a 4-2 decision over Walled Lake.

That set up the first meeting between South Farmington and NFWB.

In the loser's bracket, Walled Lake stopped Novi, 6-4.

happy birthday, farmington!

In order to allow our patients and staff an opportunity to participate in the Farmington Founders Festival, our office will close at 5:30 on Thursday and Friday, July 24 & July 25 and will be closed Saturday, July 26.

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