

In The Pocket



By W.W. EDGAR

The tremendous growth of mixed leagues has changed the entire complexion of summer bowling throughout the metropolitan area.

No longer is there an array of "trick" events to lure the bowler. Instead, there is a steady growth of such leagues as the husband-and-wife league, which usually provides a great deal of fun. The advantage of the husband-and-wife combination is the mixed league that reached its height this summer with the formation of the all-star mixed group.

This new circuit pairs teams composed of two men and two women from the all-star leagues, and already it is attracting attention for its keen competition.

In former years we were treated to such events as the 100 Pin competition, in which a roll pin was placed in the rack. If you knocked it over, there was a prize. Prior to that an event devised by the late Eddie Cox at Whittier Recreation was called the 3-6-9 tournament, because the bowler was given a strike in each of these frames. There also was the No Tap event in which you were given a strike any time the No. 7 or No. 10 pin stood.

This type of competition now has passed into history, and we are being treated to mixed competition that is soon to be the most popular of all in landscaping planning.

THIS HAS BEEN one of the better years for high scoring in the metropolitan district area.

Evidence of this came from Tom Hickey, secretary of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association. He said 47 perfect games have been reported thus far. The fiscal year for the ABC doesn't end until July 31, and there is the possibility that the number will surpass 50 by then.

Compared to the high number of perfect games, there has been a falling off in 20s and 20s. There have been only 18 cases where the bowler missed perfection by a single pin and 15 cases where two pins have been knocked the way.

TERESA DUTY was the top scorer in the Champion of Champions tournament at Westland Bowl last weekend. She put together games of 191, 222 and 185 for 598.

THE SOUTHWEST JUNIORS won the championship in two divisions of the state title tournament sponsored by the Michigan Youth Bowling Association.

In the major girls division, the Spirit of '78 team, captained by Laura Yackman took top honors with a 2,851 score. The other title came in the prep girls section where Laurie Nitchie's team paced the field with a 2,829 that included the 1,062 handicap.

DALE SEAVOY, whose team won the all-star classic titles along with the metropolitan city championship and then defended its title by defeating the loss of his club, but like all champions, he is confident that his new club will make through the classics to win again next year.

Up and down season ends for Trojans

Claremont last week closed out its 1976 baseball campaign by splitting a non-league doubleheader with Non, dropping the first 2-1 in eight innings and taking the second, 4-0.

The Trojans scored their only run in the first game in the fourth inning. Rick Canady, who was safe on an error, stole second, went in third on a fly out and came home on a single by Tim Jeffery.

Claremont spread its four losses over two innings in the second encounter. Tim McLamant blasted a solo home run in the third frame and in the fifth inning, Canady singled Jim Hill and Bart Van Dike walked, and after a fielder's choice, Jeffery cleared the bases with a three-run double.

McLamant was the winning hurler in the second game.

The Trojans concluded their season with an overall 9-10 mark.

Three Claremont diamondmen—Nal Sherris, Van Dike and McLamant—earned all Metro West League honors for their play this season. Hill and Canady received honorable mention accolades.

Patriots win

LIVONIA FRANKLIN-CANTON

Livonia Franklin outscored Canton, 5-3, in a pre-district baseball qualifying game this week.

Winning pitcher for the Patriots was Mike Flood who went the distance. Bill Parson was the losing pitcher for Canton.

Ken Scarpace took top batting honors for the Patriots. He blasted a three-run homer in the sixth inning.

Nelson Kanak and Steve Tresik both had a pair of hits.

Franklin scored in the second, fifth and sixth innings on 10 hits. Canton scored in the first and seventh frames.

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