

Andover's first team Observer & Eccentric all-area catcher prepares to make a difficult play at home plate in action during the high school softball Class A district tournament. Rosenbaum was equal to the task in this photo. She tagged the West Bloomfield runner out. Her team, however, lost in the 12th inning after playing 11 innings of scoreless softball. (Staff photo by Dick Kelley)

4 all-area hurlers cited

Pitchers dominate softball selections

By JOHN BOZZO

If the fate of a softball team rests with its pitching staff, then the Observer & Eccentric All-Area Softball team is slated for stardom.

Because of a tie in the voting, four pitchers tied for the three available spots. The teams were chosen by compiling votes mailed in by local coaches. All local coaches were sent ballots.

Heading up the pitchers is Seaholm senior Izzy Forester. She was also selected to the All-Southeastern Michigan Association team. Izzy was most valuable player at the Troy Athens Tournament which Seaholm won.

She pitched two no-hitters and one one-hitter this past season. She led her team to the league and district titles. It was mainly her pitching which sparked Seaholm's 16-0 game win streak which was halted by a 1-0 loss to East Detroit in the regional championship game.

West Bloomfield's Laura Reed also received the nod at pitcher. She posted a 14-0 record which included a 1.20 earned run average. Her pitching led the Lady Lakers to the Royal Oak Shrine and Pontiac Catholic tournament titles, in addition to a co-championship in the Greater Oakland Activities League.

DIANE KRAFT of Andover was one reason West Bloomfield had to settle for a co-championship. Kraft posted a 12-3 won-loss mark for Andover, including four no-hitters and four shutouts. She also batted well, hitting for a .348 average.

Rounding off the pitching staff is Motria Ryzj of Birmingham Groves. This is the first year Ryzj has ever pitched. She achieved a 3-3 record, averaging 10 strikeouts per game.

Ryzj also threw two no-hitters and three one-hitters. At bat, Ryzj posted a .500 averaging. She set a Groves record of 15 strikeouts in one game.

To handle such a pitching staff, we would need a good catcher. Fortunately, the voting saw another tie at the catching position, naming two of the best local signal callers for the first team honor—Barb Rosenbaum of Andover and Patty McDonald of Marian.

"Rosenbaum has excellent defense and good movement," said Andover coach Dave Balog.

The Andover catcher also posted a .447 batting average with a total of 31 hits and 34 runs scored.

McDonald received All-Central Division and All-Catholic League honors at Marian. She posted a .350 batting average with two homers and four triples. Equally as important, McDonald did not allow one passed ball all season. In addition she threw out seven of 11 base stealing attempts.

This is the second year that West Bloomfield's Barb Arnold has won the first team spot at first base. Arnold was most valuable player in the Shrine Tournament. She posted a .520 batting average, driving in 43 runs.

WEST BLOOMFIELD'S coach Bill Mason was chosen by his fellow coaches to receive the coach of the year honor.

Another Mason-coached player won first team honors at second base—Carolyn Barcewicz. Although only a sophomore, Barcewicz is in her second year as a varsity starter. She posted a .410 batting average, batting in 21 runs.

Karen Czarnecki of Troy Athens holds the first team short stop slot. She has been All-Metro Suburban

Activities Association the past two seasons. Czarnecki also has had a .400 batting average the past two years.

"Karen Czarnecki is the best all-around athlete I've ever coached," said Athens coach Dave Marr.

Another tie has placed two players at the third base position. Furthermore, both players are from the same Southfield-Lathrup team. They are Lynn Monohan and Missie Thomas.

Monohan walked 33 times as lead-off batter for Lathrup. She also hit for a .300 average. "She gets on base two out of three times," said coach Ed Kammer.

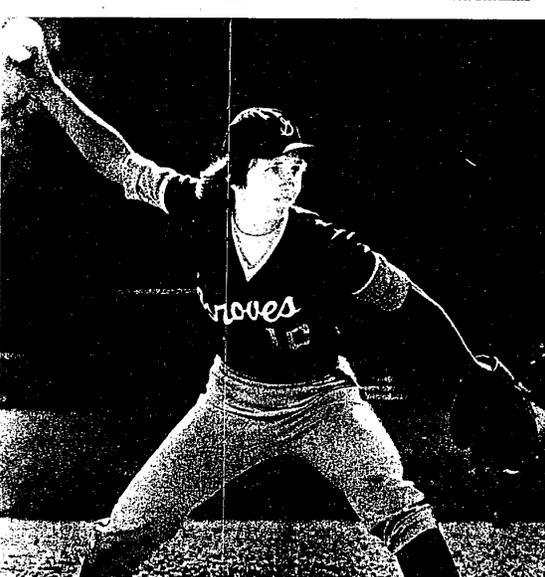
Thomas is a sophomore at Lathrup. Kammer had no statistical information about Thomas. "She'll be noticed next season," Kammer said. Apparently, she was noticed this season.

Our all-star outfielder crew includes Ellen Miller of Lahser, Linda Ban of Rochester Adams and Lisa Schmidt of West Bloomfield.

MILLER WAS co-captain of the Lahser team. She posted a .371 batting average, while only committing one error in the field all season.

Adams' Linda Ban had an overall batting average of .544. As lead-off hitter for the Adams club, she scored 35 runs and drove in another 33. She stole 20 bases of a possible 40 attempts, in 89 trips to the plate she only struck out three times.

Other local players mentioned



Groves Pitcher Motria Ryzj drew first team honors even though she had never pitched before. (Staff photo by Charlie Kidd)

SECOND TEAM: Pitchers—Ann O'Callaghan, Marian; Kim Lorenz, Andover; Shelli Whitman, Rochester; Catcher—Mo Murphy, Seaholm; First Base—Lynn Mondt, Rochester Adams; Second Base—Betsy Temmerman, Marian; Barb Cook, Andover; Peggy Gordon, Seaholm; Third Base—Kathy Hasse, Andover; Shortstop—Jan Egan, Andover; Outfield—Stephanie Smith, West Bloomfield; Lisa Zolner, Andover; Sandy Harbin, Rochester Adams.

HONORABLE MENTION: Pitchers—Lori Webb, Farmington Harrison; Barber, West Bloomfield; Carges, Mercy; Kim Lorenz, Andover; Molly Menesly, Lahser; Linda Ban, Adams; Karen Czarnecki, Troy Athens; Ann Kisor, Kingswood; Catcher—Judy Keck, Farmington Harrison; Patton, Farmington; Renee Groves, Culbertson, West Bloomfield; Miller Groves; Emily Ware, Rochester; Michelle Ulrich, Adams; Margie Klix, Lahser; First Base—Laura Arnoldy, Farmington Harrison; Sue McDowell, Marian; Ann Heppner, Andover; Laurie Thorsen, Groves; Leanne Daddie, Groves; Rita Love, Troy Athens; Tina John, Kingswood; Kelly Miller, Rochester;

Second Base— Barb Erickson, Katie McNamara, Mercy; Marie Lachowicz, Troy Athens; Marianne Chelovich, Kingswood; Rita Love, Lynette Laprat, Rochester; Patty King, Rochester Adams; Outfield—Linda Bache, Farmington Harrison; Louis, Farmington; Mary Hursley, Marian; Diane Jones, Mercy; Owens, Lathrup; Carol Patrick, Seaholm; Sarah Lowell, Sacred Heart; Michelle Rachmaninoff, Sacred Heart; Diane Demuyt, Rochester; Third Base—

Nancy Bowden, Farmington Harrison; Sue Brown, Mercy; Marie Best, Marian; Jean Gilbert, Kingswood; Ann Roman, Andover; Laurie Winner, Andover; Jackie Ghirla, Kingswood; Heather Hannon, Rochester; Sue Owens, Lathrup; Helen Laskaris, Harrison; Diane Dietz, Mercy; Krista Richey, Groves; Karen Kenyon, Seaholm; Fitz Jelliffe, Kingswood; Judy Kisor, Seaholm; Sandy McElreath, Athens; Kelly Miller, Rochester; DeSilvio, West Bloomfield; Dierkes, Farmington; Marguerite McKully, Marian; Jan Boman, Andover; Laurie Winner, Andover; Jackie Ghirla, Kingswood; Heather Hannon, Rochester; Sue Owens, Lathrup; Helen Laskaris, Harrison; Diane Dietz, Mercy; Krista Richey, Groves; Karen Kenyon, Seaholm; Fitz Jelliffe, Kingswood; Judy Kisor, Seaholm; Sandy

FREE SUMMER MEMBERSHIP*

AT FRANKLIN RACQUET CLUB

*If you join now for the 1978-79 season

20 Air Conditioned Racquetball Courts
20 Air Conditioned Tennis Courts
and Outdoor Clay Courts

LOW SUMMER COURT RATES

starting at **\$3⁵⁰** per ct. per hr. for Racquetball

\$6⁰⁰ per ct. per hr. for Tennis

CALL 352-8000 TODAY!

Franklin Racquet Club
29350 Northwestern Hwy. Southfield, MI 48034



Linda Ban Adams; Ellen Miller Lahser