

# Dodgers' scout eyes talent from Michigan diamonds

Phil Sahara's day is reddened from spending summer days outside watching baseball games. His prized possession is a bleacher seat pad. "It stops splinters and saves pants from wearing out," he explained. For 18 years, Sahara has been scout-

ing Michigan high school and youth baseball leagues for the Los Angeles Dodgers. During most of spring and summer he'll watch two games each day. Right now, with post-season tournaments going on, Sahara and other pro scouts try to watch four games per day.

He was watching the Birmingham Lynch and Sons team win the Connie Mack District Tournament in Pontiac last week. "I have to kick Floyd (Lasser, the Lynch team manager) to get rosters," Sahara said. "He comes to a game with one roster. I said, 'Great. Now

give me a knife and I'll cut it up between the five of us scouts.'" Sahara had added some information to his roster, including each player's position, school, year in school, batting order and which hand each player throws and bats with. "WHAT WERE LOOKING FOR now

is someone who has another year of high school," Sahara said, "and we'll put a follow on him." "Here's a player," Sahara explained. "Scott Dawson, first base. He has another year at Canton High School and he also pitches. I am going to put a follow on him."

"This is a lean year," Sahara said. "It seems like kids get out of school and don't play as much, or not as much as I would like to see. It hurts me when I go by a ball diamond and no one is playing then. I know that kids are neglecting their national pastime."

## Erb qualifies for national tourney

By BRAD EMONS  
Brother Rice High School golf stand-out Chuck Erb is one of six Michigan golfers to qualify for the 10th annual Insurance Youth Golf Classic, Aug. 12-15, at Silver Lake Golf Club in Orland Park, Ill. Erb, who led Rice to the state championship last fall, earned the berth by winning the state title, July 21, at Lake Michigan Hills Golf Club in Benton Harbor. Erb fired rounds of 72 and 76 in gaining the crown by six strokes. Prior to the state championship, Erb won a local qualifying tournament at El Dorado Golf Club by three strokes. "This is my first national tourney and I'm excited and ready to go," Erb said. The classic will run four days and includes a 36-hole cut limiting the field to 60. Starting with the third round, junior players will be paired with a member of the Professional Golfers Association (PGA).

Erb, who graduated from Rice last June, is headed for the University of Alabama. "I wanted to go to a school where they play golf at least 10 months a year," Erb said. "I'm going there as a walk-on and I've talked to the coach already about playing for the team." "Alabama is a place where I'll have a chance to improve." Erb said Alabama finished in the middle of the Southeastern Conference last spring. "They take a lot of good trips and have a program where I'll have a chance to make it," Erb said. "The coach told me that if I work hard I can do it." Erb caddies out of Tam O'Shanter Country Club in West Bloomfield and gets in his practice rounds by playing during twilight hours. "I usually play a couple holes each

night and as much as possible on weekends," Erb said. The Brother Rice graduate missed qualifying for the U.S. Junior Amateur Golf Championship in June. RAY POINTE Golf Club in West Bloomfield concluded its Senior Mens' Tournament, Sunday, Aug. 6. Bud Tallan took home low gross honors. Wes Webb won low net award while Harold Grant captured the 65 and over title. LINCOLN HILLS and Springdale Golf Courses in Birmingham will be the sites of the Youth City Championship, Monday and Tuesday. It will be an 18-hole event, with nine holes played at each course. On Sept. 9-10, Lincoln Hills and Springdale will host a 36-hole Mens' City Championship. Lincoln Hills will also entertain a four-man scramble tourney, Sunday, Sept. 24.

KNOLLWOOD COUNTRY CLUB head pro John Molenda and partner Tony Greiner shot a two-man best ball score of 66 to win the Michigan PGA Pro-Pro Golf title held at Knollwood, Aug. 7. Molenda and Geiner then combined with Bill Marx and Knollwood assistant pro Glenn Hall to win the four-man best ball crown. The foursome tallied a 64. PINE LAKE COUNTRY CLUB will hold its annual President's Day, Tuesday, starting with a shotgun start at 7:30 a.m. Also planned for President's Day is a 6:30 p.m. dinner and golf clinic featuring television commentator and former PGA touring pro Dave Marr. ORCHARD LAKE Country Club will hold its annual Blue Coat Invitational for members, Aug. 17-20.

Sahara has found some good talent for the Dodgers in Michigan. Top among his finds is Steve Garvey, who has gone on to be a most valuable player with the Dodgers. Other Sahara finds are Ted Sizemore of the St. Louis Cardinals and Tom Paciorek, now with the Seattle Mariners. From his roster, Sahara will rate each player on the teams he scouts. He grades prospects in four categories: arm (throwing); speed (running quickness); batting and fielding. "Whenever a kid excels in one category it's a plus," Sahara said. "If the kid follows on him, it's a plus, and if not fully developed we recommend him to a college and put a follow on him," Sahara said. "If we sign a kid too early and he gets cut, then he's ineligible for college baseball and ends up pumping gas."

"Then we asked him how much money it would take to let him to forget about football," Sahara said. "Off the top of his head he figured \$10,000. When he was told that figure was not out of the question, his eyes lit up." Sahara smiled as he recalled that story. Then he climbed up into the bleachers and began looking for future Kirk Gibsons in the Birmingham lineup. "We were talking to him," Sahara said. "He said he liked baseball, but loved football. We pointed out that even if he hurt his knee, which is a freak accident in baseball, but commonplace in football, he could pinch hit or play first base. "Then we asked him how much money it would take to let him to forget about football," Sahara said. "Off the top of his head he figured \$10,000. When he was told that figure was not out of the question, his eyes lit up."

# In The Pocket



By W.W. EDGAR

For years, the writer of this column refused to join in the practice of selecting all-star teams. It always was felt that he never had the chance to see the top competitors in all of their top flight battles. So he was satisfied to let their records speak for themselves. Now, after all these years, he is going to break with the long-standing refusal.

Because of his many seasons of watching the action he has been asked to name the best bowlers he has seen in the various leagues and tournaments in the area. It is a difficult assignment and may cause considerable debate, but here is his personal choice of an all-time Detroit area men's team: Joe Norris, Johnny Crimmins

Buzz Fazio Eddie Lubanski Bob Strampe Norris, first captain of the Stroh team, deserves top ranking because he was one of the most studious of all bowlers. He not only had plenty of skill, but he could "find" an alley quicker than any bowler the city has ever seen. And he was tops in match play.

Crinmins, a mechanical bowler, won the first all-star in 1941 and was at his best in match play. In Fazio the game had one of its fiercest competitors. Small in stature, he had a knack for finding the pocket and never gave up until the last pin fell.

**CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS**  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48018  
474-6115

- TO: The following property owners in the City of Farmington Hills:
- SID SCHWARTZ - 2881 Inkster
  - RALPH POLANT - 3070 Orchard Lake Road
  - LOUIS C. BISCO, JR. - 3169 1/2 Mile Road
  - NEIL J. BENJAMIN - 2875 Orchard Lake Road
  - NEIL J. BENJAMIN - 2860 Orchard Lake Road
  - HARVEY L. CARRIVEAU - 2845 Park Hill
  - PHILIP HECK - 2920 Park Hill
  - HANK SIMONOVIC - 2852 Orchard Lake Road
  - E.E. MARKOVICH JR. - 3015 13 Mile Road
  - CHARLES BARLOW - 3005 13 Mile Road
  - EDWARD KRONINGER - 2915 13 Mile Road
  - WM. NEIL CROFT - 2905 13 Mile Road
  - JAMES TOLMAN - 2801 12 Mile Road
  - EVA MYRTON - 2941 12 Mile Road
  - BASIL FLORA JR. - 3110 11 Mile Road
  - ROY F. HORNING - 2801 10 Mile Road
  - ARTHUR R. POLLENZ - 2871 9 Mile Road
  - WILLIAM HARTWELL - 2744 9 Mile Road
  - ANDREW DIDDA - 2750 9 Mile Road
  - GILBERT E. PARKER - 2760 9 Mile Road
  - J.L. FENDY - 3449 Bridgman
  - JOSEPH M. ADRAJ - 2825 Truck
  - HAROLD E. HENKEL - 2224 Averhill
  - E.R. BAKER & ASSOCIATES - 2877 Orchard Lake Road

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public sanitary system is available for your property. Section 14.050(3) of the City Code of the City of Farmington Hills requires that all structures be connected to the public sanitary sewer system within twelve (12) months after publication of this notice. Failure to comply will subject you to a judicial mandate to connect and/or misdemeanor penalties. If you have any questions, contact the City Clerk's office at 474-6115.

**CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS**  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48018  
474-6115

- To: All property owners in the following Subdivisions:
- Franklin Forest
  - Clim Oaks
  - Westgate Franklin Village
  - Mar Cove Estates
  - Woodbrook
  - Park Hill
  - Glenbrook
  - Holly Hill Farms
  - Oakland Hills Orchards
  - Supervisor's Plat No. 9
  - Brookhill Estates
  - Greenacres
  - Springland
  - LaMura Estates
  - Farmington Hills Sub.
  - Stamun Acres
  - Springbrook
  - Woodbine
  - Old Farm Colony
  - Noble Brook Farms No. 2
  - Elm Grove Valley
  - Farmington Gardens
  - Westhill Woods
  - Hollywood
  - Regal Orchards
  - Tarabusi Grand River Gardens
  - Gamberton Park
  - Heather Hill
  - Meadowbrook Hills
  - Roseland Park
  - Hillside
  - Fendi Farms
  - Supervisor's Plat No. 15
  - Supervisor's Plat No. 12
  - Roseland Gardens
  - Farmington Acres
  - Regal Orchards
  - Supervisors Sub. No. 4
  - Kenington Gardens
  - Cox Estates
  - Grand River Crest No. 1
  - Farmington Gardens
  - Richland Gardens
  - Solita
  - Meadowbrook Heights
  - Sunnyvale
  - Grand River Crest No. 2
  - Noble Brook Farms

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public sanitary system is available for your property. Section 14.050(3) of the City Code of the City of Farmington Hills requires that all structures be connected to the public sanitary sewer system within twelve (12) months after publication of this notice. Failure to comply will subject you to a judicial mandate to connect and/or misdemeanor penalties. If you have any questions, contact the City Clerk's office at 474-6115.

**FLOYD A. CAIRNS, City Clerk**  
City of Farmington Hills

Lubanski, one of the stubborn traditionalists who still uses a two-finger ball, was a star of the Stroh team. Starting on the big time as a partner with the late Sarge Easter and winning the national doubles, Lubanski soared to the heights and for some time topped the 10-year averages in the ABC.

Strampe, the quiet one, is another fierce competitor though his expression never changes. Winner of the national all-star, he, too, has been a 10-year leader in ABC tournament averages.

They are here. Pick them to pieces. The writer didn't choose any bowler for the honorable mention list. It would run too long. Let the top five choices stand. While he was at it, the writer

decided to stick his neck out a bit further and select a women's all-star team. Here it is: Elvira Toepfer Mary Mohacsi Agnes Ekstrom Connie Powers Stella Hartwick Over the years Mary Mohacsi and Elvira Toepfer have been multiple winners of the Queen's title. They have topped the averages and paced their teams in the strongest leagues in the land. Surely, they deserve top rating.

Mrs. Ekstrom, captain of the famed Girls by Enterprise team, years ago was the best spare bowler in the women's ranks. Connie Powers, the pace setter of the old Colonial Broach team, held the record for top series in Michigan. Stella Hartwick was the keystone of the famed Olympic team that dominated women's bowling in the area for years. Likewise, there is no honorable mention list.

HERE'S SOMETHING new in the way of creating interest in a bowling league. It is a trip to Las Vegas at the close of the season for the distribution of prizes. The new twist is being tried at Super Bowl in Canton with a league of 14 teams. Each bowler is asked to pay \$10 each week for the season. Then, instead of a banquet at some local hostelry for the distribution of prizes, the entire league-70 persons-will fly to Las Vegas for the big finale.

### Livonia Building Materials

**FORMICA** Aluminum Chimney Covers

- 30 x 96
- 36 x 96
- WHITE & OTHER COLORS & PATTERNS

70¢ sq. ft. CASH & CARRY

With Bird Guards IN STOCK \$7.99 \$9.15 \$11.75 \$14.15 OTHER SIZES AVAILABLE

Mon.-Fri. 8-5 32770 Farmington Rd. at Schoolcraft 937-0478 Sat. 8-12 421-1170

### ENDS SAT.

# SKI EQUIPMENT SALE

DON'T MISS OUT.

Oakman Village SKI SHOPS

### Give the garage back to your car!

## Store it in Arrows new dynamic storage shed

- SOLID YEAR-ROUND PROTECTION
- EASY ASSEMBLY

**NORTHPORT**  
Model NP6x5  
**\$99 88**  
C&C  
6'x5' Nominal Size

Also in Stock  
10' x 6' Nominal  
10' x 9' Nominal  
10' x 14' Nominal

**SALEM LUMBER CENTER**  
30650 PLYMOUTH ROAD  
SMITH HILLS, GA. 2-1000  
Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Short open hours - Thurs. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Your Neighbor Shops Here

### TELEVISION SERVICE SPECIAL ONLY \$5

We will pick up your television set, bring it to our shop and have it checked by our TV experts. You will then be notified by telephone of the cost of repair. If you decide not to have it repaired we will return it to your home. All for only \$5.

### USED COLOR TV'S FOR SALE

**STAR-RITE TV**

28915 JOY RD. WESTLAND  
PHONE 525-5450

OFTEN A SHORT leg on a chair or table can be brought level by gluing a garden hose washer to the shorter leg. Short on change? Try selling 30 items with an Observer & Eccentric Classified Ad.

## Who can you call in Detroit for \$1500?

Call us. For the money you need to solve the money problems we all face. We lend millions to business everyday. And we lend even more to help people.

We find ways to help.

### COMMERCIAL CREDIT

A financial service of  
**CONTRACOR** CORPORATION

Detroit • 21659 W. 8 Mile Road • 538-7000  
Plymouth • 6064 Sheldon Road • 459-2400

Credit Life Insurance Available to Eligible Borrowers

## 1st ANNUAL BASKETBALL CLINIC

**Session One**  
AUGUST 21-25  
Ages 8-12 9 am-Noon  
Ages 13-16 1 pm-4 pm

**Session Two**  
AUGUST 28-SEPT 1  
Ages 8-12 1 pm-4 pm  
Ages 13-16 9 am-Noon

**\$45 Member \$60 Non-member**

CLINIC SUPERVISOR: Greg Kelsner - Leading Forward, Michigan State University, Big Ten Champs, NCAA Semi-Finalists

CLINIC STAFF: Alan Hardy - 66' Forward from University of Mich. Dedrick Refleege - 6'11" Guard from Northwood Inst. Sam Washington - 6' Guard from University of Alaska Earl Curton 6'8" Forward, U of D.

MEADOW GUEST APPEARANCES BY: Phil Hubbard, University of Michigan and other area players.

Certificates Awarded T-Shirts Included  
Trophies Given for Excellence and Improvement

LIMITED OPENINGS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ NON-MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

SESSION ONE \_\_\_\_\_ SESSION TWO \_\_\_\_\_ T-SHIRT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the JCC Basketball Clinic  
Make checks payable to Jewish Community Center