

Area baseball player drafted by Giants

By KEN VOYLES

When a young man says that being drafted by a major league baseball team is "no big deal," he must have higher goals in mind for his future.

That young man is Jim Wilson, a graduate of Livonia Franklin. Baseball has been his love and dream for over 10 years.

And yes he does have higher goals in mind. Wilson was drafted by the San Francisco Giants in the 20th round of the major league summer draft, but decided against signing.

Instead, Wilson has received a full baseball scholarship to one of the South's perennial baseball powers, Jacksonville State University in Jack-

sonville, Ala.

"I really hope to make the big leagues someday. I'll have a good shot if I play down there," Wilson said. "Being drafted in the 20th round isn't that fantastic to me and, besides, I'd like to finish my education."

Wilson has been a steady hitter and a solid catcher for the past four years and he'd like to continue that.

"I might have signed if I was drafted higher or if I didn't have a good school to go to," said Wilson.

The young Livonian started his baseball career like many would-be superstars. He was introduced to the game through his softball-playing father. Then he started playing himself and hasn't stopped.

"I really enjoyed watching my dad play so I started to play. When I got to high school I thought I had a chance to star so I went out for the team," said Wilson.

But Heller was in command of the Patriots' baseball team at the time. He took a personal interest in Wilson and worked with him intensely.

"I used to be a pitcher but I didn't like playing every few days. I wanted to play all the time. I started catching when I went to Franklin," said Wilson.

"Mr. Heller knew a lot about catching and he worked with me. If he hadn't been at Franklin at the time I might not have developed as much as I did."

As a catcher Wilson was voted to the Northwest Suburban all-league team in

his junior and senior years. He also made the all-Observer squad in those seasons.

Wilson's best hitting year at Franklin was his senior season when he turned in a .310 average.

Not only did Wilson play for Franklin's baseball team and basketball team but he also played and continues to play summer baseball.

The Connie Mack and Livonia Adray leagues have produced a lot of good players over the years. Wilson has played for Berry Blue, Wendy's and Livonia Adray in the two leagues.

Wilson's best hitting average during the summer came when he was in the Connie Mack League where he clubbed

.330 for a season.

"Adray baseball is tougher than Connie Mack. There are a lot of college players in the Adray League," Wilson said. "I really liked playing in high school the best. The teams are more competitive and it's a win-for-the-school thing. There's more pride in high school."

Rudy Abbott is the man behind the baseball squad at Jacksonville. He first heard about Wilson when Wilson was playing high school ball.

"The catcher they have is really an infielder so coach Abbott was looking for another catcher. I'll have to work hard for the position but I think I have a good chance. It's a good team and you can stay year round."

Jacksonville is a school of 8,000 students. The team plays in the Gulf South Conference in the NCAA Division II. Last year the Gamecocks were 42-5

in regular-season action. Jack State (as they are also called) then won the South Central Region tournament and advanced to the Division II World Series. The team was then knocked out in two games.

Jack State may be a small school, but it does take on some powerful universities such as University of Alabama, Auburn University and Georgia Tech.

The team has also won three conference baseball titles in the past five years and has been in six post-season tournaments in seven years.

"I have a full scholarship and that alone must say something about the way they feel about my abilities. I hope I can contribute to the school's success," said Wilson. "Baseball has been my love and I want to play in the major leagues."

"Baseball is what I want to do," he concluded.

Golf pro likes nomadic nature

By BOB GROSS

Touring professional golfers are the nomads of sport.

They hit a city one week, practice for a day, play the tournament, and sometimes collect prize money. Then it's goodbye.

But at least one of the wanderers with this part of Michigan, D.A. Weibring, winner of

the recent Ed McMahon Quad Cities Open, was once an assistant pro at Red Run Golf Club in Royal Oak.

"It's been a fun week," said Weibring on Friday at Oakland Hills. "It's been nice to see my sponsors and all the people over at Red Run I used to work for."

"I just wish I could have played better."

Weibring carded a three-over-par 73 in Friday's second round of the 1979 PGA. His 76 on Thursday gave him a two-day total of 149.

"I didn't play very well," said Weibring, "but I thought I was going to get away with it until the last two holes."

WEIBRING STARTED his round badly with a

birdie on the par-four first hole. But he bogied the second, fourth and fifth holes. He settled down after that streak and ran off a string of 10 pars.

Weibring saved par on the 14th hole after hitting his second shot into the right-hand bunker. He made a nice wedge shot to within 10 feet of the pin and putted home.

Weibring looked good on the 16th. He pushed his drive to the right side of the fairway, leaving him-

self a clear shot at the green over the water. He put his second shot about five feet from the cup

and sank his putt for a birdie.

But Weibring's putter deserted him on the last two holes. He three-putted the 17th green and took a bogie on the 18th.

Weibring came to Red Run from Quincy, Ill., in 1975 on the recommendation of Lynn Rosely, head pro at a golf course in Quincy and brother to Red Run pro Gary Rosely.

"I came up sight unseen," said Weibring. Weibring went from Red Run to the tour in 1972. He made \$1,651 his first year and \$41,052 in 1978.

"Being a touring pro is what I always wanted to do," he admitted. "I'm very happy — I've got a chance to play, and I'm happy with what I'm doing."

WEIBRING FIGURES the life of a touring pro beats being a club pro. He likes being his own boss. "You get to put in your own hours. It's like being able to play on your own schedule."

The only problem, Weibring said, is "one week you're up and the next week you're down."

CITY OF FARMINGTON

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the provisions of Act 62 of the Public Acts of 1956, State of Michigan, Emergency Rules and Amendments to the Uniform Traffic Code for Michigan Cities, Townships and Villages, filed with the Secretary of State, effective July 27, 1979, were adopted by reference by the Farmington City Council on August 6, 1979.

The purpose of such Code is to regulate the operation of vehicles, to provide for the regulation and use of streets, highways and alleys and other public and semi-public places within the City of Farmington, and to provide penalties for the violation of said Code.

Complete copies of the Uniform Traffic Code are available at the office of the City Clerk for inspection by and distribution to the public at all times.

No further or additional publication of the Uniform Traffic Code is required or contemplated.

NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk
City of Farmington

Published August 13, 1979

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NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL MEETING

OAKLAND COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

PROPOSED RECONSTRUCTION TO FIVE (5) LANES

ORCHARD LAKE ROAD- GRAND RIVER AVENUE TO I-696

IN THE CITIES OF FARMINGTON AND FARMINGTON HILLS

WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

Your Board of Oakland County Road Commissioners

Invites Your Comments On The Proposed

RECONSTRUCTION OF

ORCHARD LAKE ROAD FROM GRAND RIVER AVENUE TO I-696

IN THE CITIES OF FARMINGTON AND FARMINGTON HILLS

We invite all interested citizens and elected officials to express their views on this proposal prior to project design and selection of a preferred alignment.

For this purpose, we have scheduled a

PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, August 15, 1979

TIME: 4:00 - 8:00 P.M.

PLACE: Farmington Hills City Hall

3155 Eleven Mile Road

Farmington Hills, Michigan

LOCATION MAP

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED

Your attendance will allow the best opportunity for discussing the project objectives, presenting your views, and gaining desired information. Staff of the Oakland County Road Commission will be available from 4:00 - 8:00 P.M. to receive your comments and to answer questions.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Fred D. Houghton, Chairman
John R. Quinn, Jr., Chairman
Richard V. Vogt, Commissioner
By John L. Grubb, Managing Director

Published August 6 and 13, 1979

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