

Area racing buff realizes a driving ambition

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Whenever he finishes, Bohland will have fun doing it. As the top prize at each week's race is only \$105 — some time barely enough to pay for the wear and tear of one night's racing —

NF-WB earns Pigtail crown

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield girls' softball team won the recent Inter-Lakes Pigtail Tournament in Walled Lake.

The team was made up of the top players from the NF-WB seventh-through-ninth-grade regular-season teams. The locals went undefeated (4-0) in the 10-team tourney.

Kelly Geigers pitched every inning of all four games for the locals and came away with two shutouts.

NF-WB opened the tourney by beating Muskegon Walled Lake, 14-1, then shut out St. Clair Shores, 4-0.

Amy Austin cracked a two-run home

run in the 11-3 win against Romeo Crest, and she also teamed with Linda Remond to turn in an important double play.

In the tourney finale, Sharon Davis and Tracy Toccoalino made some good catches in the outfield to preserve another shutout win over St. Clair. Jores, this time by the score of 6-0. Toccoalino threw out a runner at the plate with catcher Patti Kozicki putting on the tag.

Coached by Carolyn Greenberg, Bob Toccoalino and Bill Greenberg, the NF-WB team will play in the Clinton Valley tournament on Aug. 14-16.

personal enjoyment is what makes Bohland race.

"It's a real turn on when that gray flag drops," Bohland said. "I never had an experience like that before."

Bohland first experienced that turn on in person when he watched the action at an Ohio track 10 years ago. But it wasn't until he visited Flat Rock 2½ years ago that he decided to switch from spectator to competitor.

"We went down there one Saturday night, a couple of neighbors and myself," Bohland said. "We had a couple of beers, watched the races, and said, 'That looks like a lot of fun.'"

"Just so happens a guy I knew was moving from his house to his apartment, and he had to sell his car. So all of us pitched in a couple of bucks and bought it."

BOHLAND and one of his neighbors partners raced the car that first year, the other partner content with his proprietary interest. But Bohland was involved in a conflict of interest of sorts. The car was a Pontiac. He works for Ford. Something had to go.

Not about to give up his vocation for his avocation, Bohland had a better idea and switched the next year to a

Ford, a 1968 Torino. After last year's hard racing mangled his car, Bohland decided to "move up in the world" to a newer Torino, his current vehicle.

One of his neighbors, Jerry Gentile, has stayed on to form his crew with Bohland's teen-age son, Tom.

And, as if to atone for his earlier misalliance with a Pontiac, Bohland has made his car a roaring advertisement for Ford. The car sports a Ford Carlite logo on its rear fender because its windshield, the only glass allowed in the car, is an experimental Carlite glass. The firm has been experimenting with lighter glasses to reduce vehicle weight and thereby improve fuel economy.

Putting the glass in the car really doesn't constitute a scientific test, he stressed. Elsewhere, the glass is undergoing the usual extensive laboratory tests.

"It was just the kind of thing where we said, 'By the way, wouldn't it be fun if we...'" Bohland said.

The entire car, he said, cost \$1,500 and three months' work during the winter. Two auto parts stores, J & D Auto Parts of Wayne and Frank's Auto Parts of Plymouth, have helped out by giving Bohland parts.

A lot of the car's expense comes from the required safety items. Those safety precautions are the reason why the potential dangers of taking turns at 50 mph don't particularly faze him.

"I thought I would get hurt, I probably wouldn't do it," Bohland said.

"You have to have a four-post roll cage, a complete seatbelt and harness system. All the glass is out except the windshield. And you're pretty much strapped in there."

"You really don't see people getting hurt badly, not on a quarter-mile track.

At larger speeds, the risks are greater. But I don't think anybody in our class has had to go to the hospital with an injury, this year or last."

Even though life in the fast lane may be more hazardous, Bohland still has his eyes on moving up in the world of racing. He hopes to start competing at the Toledo Speedway later this year, while continuing to race at Flat Rock.

At Toledo, the laps are longer, the speeds faster and the prizes bigger, Bohland said.

"At Toledo you can get the car going 120 miles per hour, and the wall gets pretty hard at that speed."

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31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48018
August 5, 1981

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AND CRACK SEALING PROGRAM**

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Farmington Hills at the Clerk's Office at 31555 Eleven Mile Road until 10:00 A.M., August 20, 1981, at which time and place all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The City of Farmington Hills seeks proposals for the following:

The cleaning and resealing of approximately 320,000 linear feet of joints and cracks along with related work and material in residential areas.

Plans, specifications, and proposal forms may be obtained at the Clerk's Office at the above address on or after August 12, 1981, upon deposit of \$20.00, which is non-refundable. Proposals must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the undersigned.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check of Bid Bond by a recognized surety company in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid, payable to the City of Farmington Hills, as security for acceptance of the Contract.

The City reserves the right to waive any or all proposals, to waive irregularities and/or informality, and to make the award, that in the opinion of the City Council is in the best interest, and to the advantage of the City of Farmington Hills.

FLOYD A. CAIRNS,
City Clerk

Published August 10, 1981

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1981 CONCRETE PAVEMENT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM**

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, at the Clerk's Office at 31555 Eleven Mile Road until 10:30 A.M., August 20, 1981, at which time and place all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The work consists of furnishing all labor, materials and equipment necessary to remove and replace approximately 1700 square yards of concrete pavement on a 6" compacted slag base and to perform other associated work as itemized in the proposal.

Plans, specifications, and proposal forms may be obtained at the Clerk's Office at the above address on or after August 12, 1981, upon deposit of \$20.00, which is non-refundable. Proposals must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the undersigned.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check or Bid Bond by a recognized surety company in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid, payable to the City of Farmington Hills, as security for acceptance of the Contract.

The City reserves the right to waive any or all proposals, to waive irregularities and/or informality, and to make the award, that in the opinion of the City Council is in the best interest, and to the advantage of the City of Farmington Hills.

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