

Suburban Life

Lorraine McClish editor/477-5450

Thursday, July 10, 1984 O&E



(P15)



RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Jill Berlin begins a rigorous training schedule for Detroit area youth at the end of this month who will be competing in the Maccabiah Games against athletes from all over the world. She follows in her father's footsteps who has been a coach for adult competitors in the games for the past 25 years.

By Tom Baer
staff writer

Farmington Hills housewife Jill Berlin has no children of her own, but these days she's very much involved in the lives of about 40 youngsters who'll be representing Metropolitan Detroit in the upcoming Maccabiah Youth Games.

Berlin coaches the boys' and girls' track teams which will be competing against squads from 30 other United States metropolitan areas and five foreign countries in the second-annual Jewish youth games set for Aug. 19-26. More than 1,000 young athletes are expected to attend.

Most of the athletic competition will be held at West Bloomfield's Jewish Community Center and West Bloomfield High School. Track events will take place at the high school Aug. 20-21.

The games — often called the Maccabiah Youth Games when the social and cultural activities are included — offer athletic competition for 12- to 18-year-olds in basketball, volleyball, soccer, gymnastics, swimming, tennis, table tennis, racquetball and track.

Maccabiah Games

Youth rev up for international competition

All sports except soccer, which is for boys only, have male and female divisions. There are also age divisions (12, 13-14 and 15-16) for the individual sports.

Most of the Detroit-area athletes, who must be Jewish to participate, are from the northwest suburbs.

The track teams consist of about 40 youngsters "who've shown interest," according to Berlin, who plans to start workouts toward the end of July.

"Of that 40, I'd say about 25 are sure," she said. "The rest of them you hear from once or twice."

BUT BERLIN said she likes the enthusiasm shown by many of her charges:

"I'm anxious to see the kids get excited, and they're starting to," she said. "We want the kids to have a good time and enjoy the experience of competing on an international level," she said.

The Maccabiah Games have two purposes. One, of course, is the athletic competition. The other is more or less one of a social nature," she continued.

"We want these kids to have the opportunity to meet other Jewish kids from all over the world. Fortunately

for the kids from Detroit. It's right in their backyard this year."

Track events include the 100-, 200-, 400- and 800-meter runs, and 400- and 800-meter relays.

"The talent varies from kids who just want to be involved to kids who participated on (Detroit) Country Day's track team and were state champions in relays," the 37-year-old Berlin said. "We have no idea what our competition will be like, but I have a feeling we'll be really competitive in the half mile (800-meter) in the girls' 15-16 age group."

The youth games are an offshoot of the adult (18 and over) Maccabiah Games — described by one brochure as "the central sporting event of world Jewry" — which are held in Israel every four years on the year after the Olympics.

Berlin's father, Al Krauser of Delray Beach, Fla., is one of three track coaches of the U.S. team which will compete in the adult games next year.

BERLIN and her husband, Steven, a dentist, met while they were attending the 1981 Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Jill Berlin has a background in track, not as an athlete, but "in statistics, coaching and managing," she said. She was "accommodations manager" for the U.S. team at the 1981 games.

"That was giving out uniforms and making sure they were at the right locations for sleeping... all that kind of stuff," she said. "I've always been involved with track," she said. "My father's been a track coach for 25 years."

Berlin, who holds down a part-time job as public-relations director for her husband's dental office ("We do a lot of presentations at the public schools"), hopes some of her better athletes will graduate to the adult games. "I've seen some of these kids in practices and they're quality runners," she said. "There are the kind of kids who are looking for. We're looking for kids who can be pulled up and used on the adult team when they're eligible."

Other nations to be represented at the youth games include Israel, Mexico, Australia, Venezuela and Canada.

The inaugural Maccabiah Youth Games were held in Memphis, Tenn., in 1982.

When nobody's home

Celebrity tapes answer phone for an entertaining twist

By Richard Leach
staff writer

The next time you call a friend, don't be surprised if Richard Nixon answers.

"My fellow American, let me make this perfectly clear. I'm here today recording these phone calls in the interest of national security."

Or if Clint Eastwood snarls, "I can't answer the phone right now. I'm busy cleaning my 44 magnum... the most powerful handgun in the world."

Or Mr. Rogers coos, "Can you say beep?... Sure, I know you could."

The voices of these and other celebrities — actually the work of imitators — are being used on tape to bring an entertaining twist to telephone answering machines.

"The thing about these tapes is that someone with an answering machine sometimes has trouble making up a message. They feel uncomfortable. They don't know what to say. This eliminates the problems," said Bob

Shonce of Westland, who sells a brand of celebrity answering tapes, Celebrity Answeralls.

INSTEAD OF clumsily saying "I'm talking into one of those damn answering machines and, uh, I guess you should, uh, leave a message after the beep" the machine's owner can have Humphrey Bogart:

"OK, sweetheart. So you've called and nobody's home. And now you're going to hang up without leaving a

message. Take my advice, kid. Don't. You'll live to regret it. Maybe not today. Maybe tomorrow. But soon and forever. So wait for the tone. Here's looking atcha, kid."

Celebrity Answeralls offers 64 celebrities on eight different cassette tapes, including political figures Jimmy Carter and Henry Kissinger, old-time stars W.C. Fields and Mae West, and currently popular entertainers Sylvester Stallone and Rodney Dangerfield.

Machine owners use a cassette machine to transfer the voices onto their recorders.

Dialing a number and getting Ethel Merman singing a message to the tune of "We Got Rhythm" can be disconcerting to say the least.

"A lot of times they call the first time, and they can't believe it so they call back a second time," Shonce said. "I had one guy tell me he must have gotten 50 calls in two days."

THE TAPES also feature sound effects and music. For instance, a wolf howls in the distance on the Boris Karloff tape, and the "Rocky" theme plays in the background on the Stallone tape.

Celebrity Answeralls produces the tapes in its Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., office. President Bojo Brozovic employs 13 professional impersonators, most of whom have worked as standup comedians in New York City.

Comedian Rick Topper does most of the voices, including George C. Scott as George Patton, Ed Sullivan, Jimmy Cagney and Dean Martin.

"George Burns commented on his imitation of him being the best in the country," Brozovic said of Topper. "His range is immense."

Ron Hersey, a disc jockey for a Ft. Lauderdale radio station, does Mimi, Mr. Rogers, Carter, and Stallone. He is working on imitations of Michael Jackson and Mr. T.

Lillian Lloyd does most of the female voices, including Merman, Carol Channing, Katherine Hepburn and her newest, Joan Rivers.

BROZOVIC maintained Celebrity Answeralls' officials won't release a tape until they feel the voice sounds like the real McCoy.

"We don't have Ronald Reagan because we haven't quite reproduced the exact voice," he said.

Fame is fleeting, and not all the celebrity voices are equally as popular. Bullwinkle the Moose and Morris the Cat, for instance, are two personalities whose lines have been cut, Shonce said.

"We have to replace Tatoo (Herve Villachaise) because he's losing popularity," Brozovic said. "He'll be replaced by amore popular character."

But if Shonce isn't home, don't expect Betty Davis, John Wayne, or Andy Rooney to answer. Shonce's own answering machine is on the Fritz.

Sisters of Mercy have new consultant

Jeann M. Lambert, the first woman to hold a senior position in a Roman Catholic academic dean in the U.S., leaves her position at Provincial Seminary in Plymouth to become a consultant for the Sisters of Mercy Health System in Farmington Hills.

As dean-registrar Lambert initiated the adoption of a new curriculum, a summer session and a second degree. During her tenure enrollment was doubled and 10-year accreditations were received from the North Central Association and the Association of Theological Schools in the U.S. and Canada.

Lambert also taught homiletics and was instrumental in developing St. John's Employee Advisory Committee, a compensation package, an employee handbook and on-going communication for that committee with the institution. She has extensive experience in education, communication and administration.

She served as consultant for curriculum development and strategic planning for St. Paul Seminary in Minnesota for two years and as a panelist in a dean's workshop in St. Louis in 1979. Last year she was elected to the Executive Committee of the Midwest Association of Theological Schools.

LAMBERT was also a consultant for St. Joseph Hospital, Mt. Clemens, in human resources, organizational development, productivity and participative management, and for the Sisters of Mercy Health System in pastoral care.

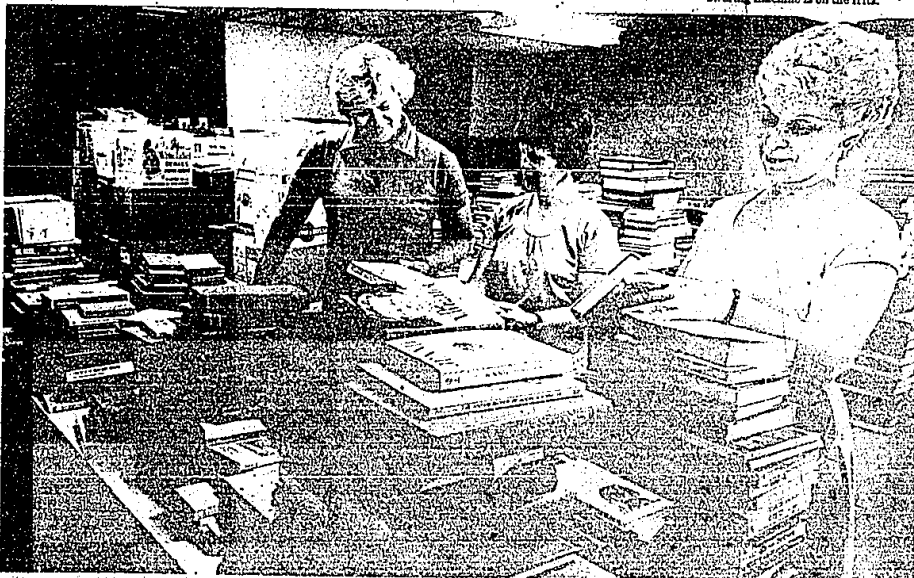
Prior to her appointment to St. John's she was associate director of planning for the Intermedia Foundation, Santa Monica, Calif., editing 12 publications; evaluation supervisor and research adviser for the Detroit Archdiocesan Education Office in 1975-77; writer and hostess for WKZY-TV's "Daedal Doors," small group facilitator for the Detroit Archdiocese and the National Project on Adult Education for 13 years.

A native of Kawkawin, Mich., Lambert attended Sacred Heart School there and the Felician Academy, Detroit. After graduating from Madonna College, she earned her master's degree in communications arts from Wayne State University and another master's in communication psychology from Eastern Michigan.

"In some ways I am sorry to be leaving St. John's because it has been personally growthful for me.

Besides her consultant role for the

Mercy Health System, she will continue teaching homiletics at St. John's during the '84-'85 winter and spring term.



Getting ready for the sale

Sorting used books into their proper classification, and there is almost no room for classification in a library, is a year around task for members of Farmington Branch, American University Women. Nancy Davis, at left, Jo Ann Cline and Vileen Henderson make up one of the teams of workers who work out of a rented building on the grounds of Dunbar Middle School, which is also where the books are stored until they are moved to Livonia High for the sale that is the group's own fund-raiser of the year. Each day this fall are

Thursday through Sunday, Sept. 13-15. Meanwhile used books are still welcomed, donated late donations will be accepted. The group is occupying area underneath Sheddman at 11 1/2 and 12 1/2 and 13 1/2 A & P in downtown Farmington, between of Grand River and Livonia, and Great South at 13 1/2 and 14 1/2 and Grand River and Livonia. All proceeds from the annual sale are applied to scholarships, local community projects and national fund-raising.

100 invited artists at Meadow Brook

Art at Meadow Brook, the 8th annual invitational exhibit and sale of fine arts and crafts, will take place Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 18-19, in the courtyard of Majestic Meadow Brook Hall on the east campus of Oakland University. Show hours will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Admission is free.

Frank Yank, the Farmington Hills jeweler who won the show's prestigious "Jewelry Choice Award" will be among the 100 artists lining the circle drive and the courtyard of the 190 room Tudor mansion in Rochester.

Three other artists are among those who received invitations to the show. Andrew Brownson and Ted Brownson, both of Farmington, will display their "Home Portraits." Con-

stance Powell-Beggs, an award-winning artist from Farmington Hills, will show realistic works in pen and ink and abstract works done in acrylics. Artists from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, and New York will exhibit their work in such diverse media as fiber, quilting, photography, sculpture, glass, soft and hard sculpture, pottery, jewelry and more.

Refreshments will be available and Meadow Brook Hall's 3rd floor will be open to those attending the show. The group was founded in 1966 to encourage and interest artists in art.

Returned to "Art at Meadow Brook" is an old adage. The group of artists who returned to the show in 1979 to exhibit their work were the same group who returned to the show in 1979 to exhibit their work.