

# Area lady bowlers have long-distance sponsor



**Ted Baer** came out to Livonia last Monday night to watch the All-Star Bowlerettes compete their season finale, the Scottish Doubles Team Tournament.

He particularly zeroed in on the Omaha Lancers, a team which he sponsors. Baer came in from Omaha, Neb. not only to watch, but enjoy the victory celebration as his team, which is comprised of captain Marilyn Luck, Darlene Morrow, Marianna DiRupo, Dina Mann-Jones, Jan Conner and Cherylann Gebbia.

Liak came through with flying colors to take the Clover Cup, symbolic of the victory in this event. The Omaha Lancers, a hockey team in the North American Hockey League, are in town to play the Detroit Red Wings.

Now if you were to ask: Why does a hockey team sponsor a ladies bowling team 1,000 miles away, it is due to the enthusiasm of club owner Baer for both sports. He was so impressed with Marianna DiRupo when she was bowling on the ladies tour in Omaha that he decided to sponsor her team.

The All-Star Bowlerettes league championship was won by Contour Power Grips, captained by Kathy Hoialp of West Bloomfield. Other members included Aleta Sill, Cheryl Daniela, Lisa Bishop, Carmen Allen and Jeanne Gebbia of Garden City.

The National Senior Bowling Association held their April event at Mayflower Lanes in Redford, and the "Canadian Kid," Scotty Loughland, took his second NSBA title. He came from behind to defeat Dave Karaska in the championship match.

Livonian Ed Dudek took third place money, Tom Speda of Birmingham came in fifth. Redford's Jack Treolar finished eighth and Ed Malinowski of Livonia was 16th overall. The next regular NSBA tournament will take place on June 3rd at Taylor Lanes.

The association has now grown to a membership of 154, which means more entrants and larger prizes along the way. For more information, call the NSBA at (810) 620-8880 or (313) 358-3740.

The Michigan Masters Wheelchair Singles No-Tap will be at noon Saturday, June 3 at Merri Bowl Lanes in Livonia. It's a fund-raiser for the wheelchair bowlers and open to all bowlers. The entry fee is only \$9 per bowler. Bob Calderon says "If you can't bowl with us, come in anyway as a spectator and join in the fun." For more information, call Bob at (313) 622-4574 or Merri Bowl at (313) 427-2900.

Entry forms are out now for the Greater Detroit Open Pro-

# Craziness overtakes baseball



C. J. RISAK

Well, what did it spring, after all. And this is still Michigan, where the weather is as certain as a major league baseball season.

If anyone was concerned about what possible trickle-down effect the pro baseball strike might have, well, now they know. Luntzky has taken command.

The last week in the life of Madonna University's team will illustrate just what disarray the sport seems to be in.

If the contract between pro players and owners was handed in the same offhanded way our institutions of higher learning handle theirs, players would require prompt and immediate payment on every pitch.

Figure this out. Madonna and Wayne State were originally slated to play a single game Wednesday at 2 p.m. at WSU. Because a doubleheader between the two schools scheduled the previous week for Madonna's field was rained out, the teams' coaches, Madonna's Mike George and WSU's Rodger George, agreed to alter the arrangement and play two games Wednesday at Madonna.

Then something happened.

Observer sports editor Steve Kowalski learned Mike George was considering bumping Stu Rose out as Henry Ford CC coach and taking that job next year. When Rodger George learned Kowalski's story would appear in last Thursday's Observer, he was on the phone to Madonna's Mike George early Wednesday morning.

According to Mike George, the WSU coach asked to postpone the game because he wanted to speak to his team about his possible departure before it came out in the paper. Mike George didn't like it, but he agreed.

It didn't take too long to find out what actually occurred. It was right there in one of the daily papers the next day.

So how could the Tartars find the time to play U-D, when they couldn't play their regularly scheduled game against Madonna?

According to sources at WSU, Rodger George had an explanation for this. He said in his call to Madonna's Mike George, he requested a delay so that he could, indeed, talk to his team. Mike George refused, so Rodger George canceled and then accepted the opportunity to play NCAA Division I-U-D.

Of course, sources have confirmed that Rodger George's explanation given to WSU officials is simply untrue.

Mike George said he never discussed a time change for Wednesday's games. And anyone who knows the Crusaders' coach — who spent all day Friday grooming Madonna's field in an attempt to make it playable that afternoon (more on that later) — knows he would do almost anything to get in a game.

Indeed, Mike George admitted he suggested to the WSU coach that he talk to his Tartars prior to the game, but still play. It just wouldn't be enough time.

But apparently there was enough time to play U-D. Oh, by the way: When Kowalski was researching his story on Rodger George replacing Stu Rose at Henry Ford, he spoke with U-D coach Bob Miller. Miller mentioned to Kowalski his team was playing WSU Wednesday.

That was Tuesday night — long before any call was made to Madonna.

Certainly, Wednesday's scheduled game was no big deal to WSU. After all, Madonna is in the NAIA, a smaller school with less financial support, yet one that certainly would have given WSU all it could handle.

Clearly, the Tartars had nothing to gain by playing and everything to lose. A loss to U-D, as lopsided as it was, was far more palatable for NCAA II WSU than an embarrassing defeat to Madonna would have been.

One more thing: Don't expect to see this game rescheduled. Mike George vowed not to.

It proved not to be the only disappointment on Madonna's schedule. The Crusaders were supposed to play Concordia Friday, a game originally scheduled for April 6 but bumped by Concordia so it could reschedule a conference game for that date.

On Friday, the Cardinals showed up for their date, but didn't stay. Rain had drenched the field, it's true; the outfield was soggy. Mike George and all the players he could muster had been on the field "since 9 this morning," he said.

Their efforts weren't enough for Concordia coach Jay Bisenal. He said the field was unplayable and took his team home.

I won't say Bisenal was wrong. Parts of Madonna's field were puddled, no question, but in Michigan, that's part of the game. There was no threat of more rain Friday afternoon; temperatures were in the mid-60s. As Madonna's George said, "We've played in worse."

I have to believe the Cardinals had, too. But they refused to do this day.

So that game was called off as well, adding fuel to the belief that craziness has indeed taken over in baseball — a sport that near-perfect weather or signed contracts cannot govern.

# Rice grad receives honor

BY JANIE KELLY STAFF WRITER

A half an hour before the start of Friday's Northwood University lacrosse game against Wittenberg (Ohio), David Morrow — the best lacrosse player in state history — was one of three people in the Bloomfield Hills Andover stands watching a middle school game.

Morrow, 23, a 1989 Birmingham Brother Rice and 1993 Princeton graduate, was selected to the National Collegiate Athletic Association 25th anniversary lacrosse team and was the only player on the 25-man team chosen from the 1990s.

But at halftime Friday, more than half of the 400 fans were rushing to leave because of the cold, and Morrow, who was honored by the Michigan Lacrosse Foundation as the first inductee to the newly created Michigan Lacrosse Hall of Fame, was left virtually alone to accept his award.

"This is where it all started, with no one in the stands, so it doesn't bother me," said Morrow, who played last July on the U.S. national team which won its third straight World Lacrosse Championship, 21-7 over Australia in Manchester, England. "This is exactly how it started."

The Michigan Lacrosse Foundation also presented Michigan Collegiate Player of the Year Awards to Marcus Pillion (Warren De La Salle, Wooster College), Aaron Sims (Detroit Country Day, Rosnoke College) and David Rivers (Birmingham Brother Rice, Michigan State University). Sims, a midfielder and 1994

graduate, had 28 goals, 13 assists and won 453 faceoffs in three seasons, including 1992 when Rosnoke finished second in Division III. Rivers, a defender and 1994 graduate, started his last two seasons when Michigan State finished second in the Great Western Lacrosse League and was the captain of the 1994 team.

"I think it's important to the sport and important for Michigan athletics," said Rivers, 24.

Dave White, of Birmingham, who helped start the Birmingham and Bloomfield high school-level programs and Stan Orzel of the Eastern Michigan Lacrosse Association were given "If You Start It, They Will Play," Awards, and Parent Awards were given to Frank Sullivan of Bloomfield Hills and Christine Paluch of Lansing Waverly. Steve Schleicher of L'Anse Creuse was given the Athletic Director Award, and Steve Klein, the sports editor of the Lansing State Journal, was given the Michigan Press Award.

Morrow, now the owner and president of a company he started to manufacture sticks he and his father created, was awarded the 1993 Lt. Raymond J. Emers Award as the top Division I player in the nation and twice was awarded the William C. Schmeisser Award as the top defender. In four seasons, Morrow's Princeton teams played in the NCAA tournament four times in a clubbing back-to-back berth in the Final Four and winning the 1992 national championship. A two-time first-team All-America, Morrow was first-team All-Ivy League for three straight seasons.

# Madonna splits softball games

The bottom-line results may have seemed a bit lacking — splitting a doubleheader with a sub-500 team — but the performance by Madonna University's softball team Wednesday against visiting Saginaw Valley State could not have pleased Lady Crusader coach Jerry Abraham more.

"We played very sound for the first time in a while," said Abraham after his team and the Cardinals battled through a pair of 2-1 games. "That was probably the best we've played all year long."

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