

New Livonia Resident

Wings' Karlander On Move

By TOM DONOHUE
Observer Sports Editor

Hockey is booming in Livonia, and the city can now boast the residence of a Detroit Red Wing center in Michigan Tech All-American Al Karlander.

The 26-year-old native of Lac La Poudre, British Columbia, and Elizabeth, his wife of three months, have made the move to the suburbs, and Karlander couldn't be happier.

Well, he could be happier... the Red Wings are currently in the battle for the final playoff berth in the East Division of

the NHL with Toronto, and Karlander is one of the main reasons Detroit has surged forward in the closing weeks.

The Red Wing center is sixth on the squad in goals scored with 15 to his credit and 19 assists for a 34 point total. The 5 feet 8", 174 pounder is in his first complete year for the Detroit organization after playing portions of the 1969-70 and 1970-71 seasons.

KARLANDER PLAYED one year of freshman hockey and three years for the varsity squad at Michigan Tech in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association. In this senior

year (1969), he slipped in 31 goals in 32 games for a Michigan Tech scoring mark, and earned a berth on the All-American squad.

He was drafted by the Red Wings in his sophomore year at the age of 20 and obtained his bachelor degree in business administration.

The 1969-70 hockey season saw Karlander play 24 games for the Fort Worth club and 41 for the Red Wings. He was notching better than a point a game when called up to the Detroit club.

He impressed the Detroit critics with five goals and 10 assists while wearing the Red

Wing colors and was named Detroit's rookie of the year by the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association.

He was sent again to Fort Worth early last season and displayed scoring prowess and playmaking ability with 30 goals and 23 assists in 48 outings.

"MY BIGGEST thrill has been to be assisting on Gordie Howe's 30th goal in my rookie season (1970)," said Karlander. "He just about broke my head after the goal... he was so happy."

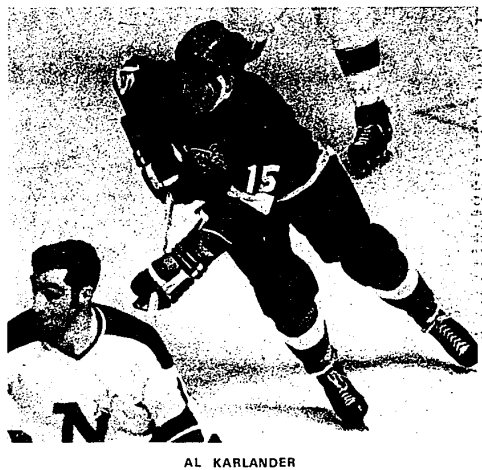
Karlander got married Dec. 27 and doesn't mind the set-

ting down adjustment after the Gary Unger party days.

"Elizabeth really worries when I am on the ice," added Karlander. "I don't even like to watch the game; it looks a lot rougher than it really is."

Karlander is a firm believer in wearing a helmet. "I really believe in them and hope they eventually make it mandatory," added the Red Wing star.

He has been watching the first growth of hockey in Livonia and is looking for an opportunity to help the younger set get off on the right skate.



AL KARLANDER



ALL CATHOLIC-ALL CITY - Our Lady of Mercy's Sue Roegner stands only 5 feet-6 and weighs 118 pounds, but this is about how she appeared to defenders with a 10.4 scoring average including a 25 burst against Bishop Borgess. (Observer photo)

Mercy High Has All-Star Cager

It's on to the basketball semifinals for Our Lady of Mercy High School of Farmington.

The Mercy girls basketball squad defeated Wilkes, 25 to 9, to advance into the semifinals of the Michigan Amateur Athletic Union on Monday against Finney at Lasky Recreation Center.

The Mercy girls, coached by Rose Swidzinski, concluded play in the Northwest AA Division with a 5-3 mark. They lost in the semifinals of the Rosary Invitational to immaculate and were runners-up in the Mercy holiday tournament.

"I am confident that we can capture the Greater Detroit basketball title at Lasky," said Coach Swidzinski.

THE MERCY SQUAD boasted a player on the All Catholic-All City squad in Sue Roegner. The junior basketball stands 5 feet-6 and weighs 118 pounds and paced Mercy with a 10.4 scoring average.

Miss Roegner lives with her parents at 17302 Norborne in Redford Township and was

voted the most valuable player in last year's St. Lawrence Invitational as a sophomore.

Miss Roegner's selection on the city all-star squad was from a crop of 320 girls from 24 teams in the Greater Detroit area.

She played varsity ball as a freshman and was captain in her sophomore year as well as this season. Miss Roegner was also chosen most valuable player in the holiday tourney held at Mercy High School.

Her season high is 25 points against Bishop Borgess and she has been hitting at a rate of 35 per cent from the line, 55 per cent from the free throw line and 10.4 rebounds per clutch.

OTHER MEMBERS of the championship bound squad are: Donna Sass (Detroit); Mary Anne Thompson (Orchard Lake); Terry Weber (Detroit); Clara Amelotte (Southfield); Paula Chernside (Plymouth); Vicki Polyn (Farmington); Sara Shaw (Livonia); and Mary Fox (Detroit).



This Could Almost Be The Year For Lathrup Baseball

Baseball appears to be on the upswing at Southfield Lathrup with Charger Coach Don Rylander boasting seven returning lettermen.

"We have been low on baseball talent in our first three years," said Coach Rylander. "But this could be our turnaround year and we should be all set to meet in the Inter-Lakes conference."

Lathrup fielded a senior-lacking squad in its first year (1969), and salvaged a 1-10 mark. The second year saw the Chargers fight to a 3-8 record, and last year's 9-12 finish pushed the overall statistics to 12-30.

Lathrup finished third in the Inter-Lakes last year behind front-running Farmington and Pontiac Northern.

"Up to this year we have had only one feeder school in Birney Junior High," added Rylander. "This season has been a remarkable change with 100 candidates out for the team."

Of the seven returning lettermen, four are juniors and Rylander admits that Lathrup is going to be solid as a rock next season.

AREA COACHES see Lathrup as a strong contender this year, but Rylander pictures a lot of question marks making or breaking the outcome.

"We will only be a good as our pitching," admits Rylander.

Lathrup has one returning hurler in senior Paul Jacobs. The Charger right-hander stands only 5 feet 10 and checks in at 150 pounds, but Rylander holds extreme confidence in Jacobs, who scored a 5-3 mark last year. The other two returning

seniors are catcher MIT Thackaberry, who batted .178, and outfielder Doug Dunn who saw limited action in the Charger attack.

Jeff Kessler heads the list of junior pitchers with a returning showing of 6-3.

JUNIOR SHORTSTOP Bruce Ruhl is best known to carry the heavy bat for Lathrup. Ruhl tipped a .281 mark last season as a sophomore. Barry Brodsky nailed down the second baseman slot in his sophomore stint with a .245 average.

Outfielder Jeff Goldberg rounds out the returning lineup with a mark of .156.

Key prospects to look for in the upcoming season are juniors Rick Franks (3B), Mike Piper (OF) and Dave Kay (1B).

New additions have been made to the Lathrup coaching staff with Bob Filar in charge of the junior varsity and Lionel Blogg the No. 1 mentor for the freshman squad.

The Chargers open with Birmingham Groves on April 10 and meet Livonia's Stevenson in the opening league clash on April 17.

MERCY JUMPER - Sue Roegner goes through the motions of another Our Lady of Mercy High School two pointer. (Observer photo).

Annual Boat-Sport Show In Wyandotte

An estimated 50,000 persons will visit the annual boat and sport show during its nine day stand at Wyandotte's Benjamin F. Yack Recreation Center April 8-16.

Everything of interest to the outdoor family will be featured. Displays will include watercraft, ranging from canoes to house boats, camping equipment and outdoor accessories.

The admission fee goes toward charitable endeavors of the Wyandotte Kiwanis Club. A limited number of half price admission tickets are available with Downriver merchants. Children under 10 get in free with parents.

The Yack Recreation Center is located at Maple and Third Street in Wyandotte.

Woman Lands 32 Lb. Dolphin

Helene B. Acton, 16684 Comstock, Livonia, won angling recognition in the Metropolitan Miami fishing tournament when she landed a 32 lb. dolphin in the general division. She fished out of Marathon with Capt. Charles Wheeler on the Sandiana. She will be awarded a citation at the close of the tournament.

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Tractmen Tie

Michigan State trackmen tied for second place with 18 points in the 1972 NCAA indoor championships in Detroit, their highest finish ever in the meet.

observerland
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U-M Grid Coach Says 'We'll Be Quick Team'

By W.W. EDGAR

There's only one thing certain about the University of Michigan football team as it starts its second week of spring drills - it will be what Coach Bo Schembechler refers to as a "quick" team.

There is more potential speed in the squad of 97 candidates than the Wolverines have known in years, according to the coaches, and this year's team has all the ear-marks of an interesting combination.

The fact that 13 starters from last year's squad have graduated has heightened interest among the candidates, and there will be a great battle to gain berths before the fall schedule begins.

"We had so many candidates reporting," explained George Mans, one of the coaches, "that we ran out of numbered jerseys. We didn't go any higher than 85, and it presented a bit of a problem for the first few days."

FROM ALL indications, after one full week of practice, most of the battles for starting positions will be in the offensive line where such stalwarts as All-America Guard Reggie McKenzie, All-Big Ten center Guy Murdoch, tackle Jim Goode, tackle Tom Beckman and tackle Jim Brandstatter have been lost.

The loss of Billy Taylor, Glenn Doughty and Fritz Seyferth from the starting backfield has left a large gap. But from what was shown in the first week of drills, "Bo" will concentrate on a backfield that will include Tom Slade at quarterback, Alan (Cowboy) Walker, of Cincinnati, and Harry Banks, a speedster from Cleveland, at halfbacks, with Ed Shuttlesworth, the pileriver from Cincinnati at fullback.

Slade and Shuttlesworth saw considerable service as first stringers on the way to the Big Ten title last season, while Walker and Banks were used only sparingly.

Those who have watched the spring drills claim both Walker and Banks are faster than Taylor and Doughty, with Clint Haslerig, a junior from Cincinnati, being the "dark horse" of the backfield candidates. He is the speediest of the lot.

AMONG THOSE being watched closely, too, is Bob Thornblad, former Plymouth High School star, who served as third string fullback last season.

Bob is improving as a blocker and is being counted upon to be the back-up man for Shuttlesworth who reached stardom as a sophomore last fall.

Aside from Thornblad there are five other observerland candidates on the squad. Among them are Craig Mutch, of Thurston, who was handicapped by injuries all of last season; David Brandon, a former quarterback at South Lyon who is being shifted to a defensive end; Jon Cederberg, of Plymouth High who saw limited service at quarterback last season; Mike Day, a junior back from Livonia Bentley and Art Fedick, a tight end from Divine Child.

One of the biggest shifts in positions made during the practice sessions has moved Paul Seymour, the tight end from Berkley, to a tackle spot. Considerable attention again will be placed on the quarterbacks where Coach

Schembechler will have to choose from Slade, Kevin Casey, last year's starter, Larry Cipa, and Jack McBride, returning lettermen.

IT IS NO SECRET that an effort will be made to develop a passer, and "Bo" hopes to have this accomplished by the time the annual spring game rolls around on Saturday, April 22.

In the role of defending champion, Michigan opens its Big Ten season against Northwestern on Sept. 16.

While Coach Schembechler faces a great rebuilding job through the loss of 19 lettermen, he is planning for a slightly different offense.

"I think we will look for more ways to move the ball," he said. "Still our running and speed - will be the essential feature of our attack along with an emphasis on defense."

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Hawks	W	L
Blue	4	0
Green	4	0
A-Two's	1	4
Benson's Boys	0	7

RESULTS

Bullets 30, Benson's 12
Hawks 24, Green 23

DIVISION B

Bucks	W	L
Celtics	6	0
Pistons	6	0
Lakers	4	5
Rockets	2	7
Titans	0	9

RESULTS

Bucks 2, Titans 0 (Forfeit)
Pistons 30, Rockets 23
Celtics 24, Lakers 23

DIVISION C

Spartans	W	L
Bulls	5	4
Warriors	5	4
Kings	1	8

RESULTS

Warriors 27, Kings 21
Spartans 27, Bulls 23

Clarenceville Hosts Meet

The Clarenceville swimmers splashed to a ninth place finish in the Class B meets at East Lansing with a 41 point total. Milan walked away with first place with 206 points.

The Trojan 200 medley relay placed sixth with a time of 1:52.18. Making up the squad was Donn Redford, Darryl Turek, Chuck Kirsche, and Tom Sydor.

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