

# George Miska observing sports

You hear sometimes that the folks who boss professional athletic teams are mercenary. That all they are out for is the mighty buck.

It's especially not so when you encounter a man like Louie D'Annunzio, who represents the Detroit Tigers and wanders around the area as one of their ace scouts.

D'Annunzio is past the retirement age. But he won't quit scouting, because that's all he knows.

And the Tigers don't want him to quit. He means too much to them . . . too much to baseball . . . too much to the boys who play on high school, college and sandlot teams.

We never have known a man who had a greater fondness or interest in young men. He was out at Ford Field the other evening when Livonia and Redford hooked up in their Class A tussle for first place.

D'ANNUNZIO DIDN'T look like a scout. He was there in shorts, a white T-shirt and high socks. Usually, scouts appear much more formal.

But, Louie isn't the formal type. He wore a stop watch around his neck to time the various performers.

As Louie, or any other scout, will tell you, they look for two things first in a potential professional candidate:

1—Can he run the 40-yard dash?  
2—How does he throw?

"If a kid can run and throw, we can teach him the rest," says D'Annunzio. "But, if he's slow and has no arm, well, forget it."

When the game started, Louie quickly spotted somebody who could throw—Livonia's Jay Schwalm.

He walked over to yours truly, umpiring behind the plate, and wanted to know if Schwalm's ball moved much.

An inning later, we reported "yes." But Louie also had taken a position behind the backstop to check for himself.

He agreed.

LOUIE WANTED to know more about Schwalm . . . information which he obtained from the young lady he'll marry in the fall. She told him Jay was 22, fresh out of Eastern Michigan and would teach in the fall.

D'Annunzio undoubtedly will make a good report to the front office . . . about Schwalm.

"The kids around this area are getting better 'n' better," Louie said afterward.

"You know we drafted eight Michigan boys this spring. Half of the eight were from this section of the suburbs. Not bad, eh?"

Louie talked on.

He told how one of his aides had "stolen a player" off the Livonia Cardinal Decorating-Free Press team for a team in Detroit.

"I don't go for such stuff," said D'Annunzio. "That man is through with me and through with the Tigers."

"We encourage the boys to play around their home areas. There is no place better for sandlot ball than right here at Ford Field. Believe me. It's great."

"And you have some fine teams out here. They are as good as the teams in Detroit; maybe even better."

"You have some great high school coaches and dandy sandlot coaches and managers."

"We keep telling the boys to stay put. Don't wander away. There's no sense to it."

D'ANNUNZIO DIDN'T pause in the hot night air.

He talked about how the Tigers were telling some of their prospects to attend Schoolcraft College.

"It's quite a place and hopefully one of these days they'll have a baseball team there."

Louie knows that at Schoolcraft classes dismiss before May 1. But he doesn't think that should bar the school from fielding a baseball team.

# Lions' Munson Deal Looks Good

There are some who insist the Detroit Lions didn't do too much to get quarterback Bill Munson from the Los Angeles Rams.

The price was three players, plus next year's No. 1 draft pick.

## Salem Hills Sets 2-Man Golf Meet

SALEM -- Salem Hills Golf Club will conduct its third amateur golf tournament of the season with a two-man best-ball event on Saturday and Sunday, July 27-28, pro-manager Robert Szilagyi announced.

The tournament, which will be 36 holes, both days. Entry fee is \$10 for the 36 holes of golf and \$4 that sum will be placed into a prize fund.

Up to 50 players will be accepted in the event on a first-come, first-serve basis. Teams will be flighted according to the size of the field.

Reservations may be made at the golf course, 8810 West Six Mile Road (three miles west of Napier Road), or by calling 437-2152. Entry fee will be accepted at the golf course up until one hour before tee time on opening day.

But after one week of drills at Cranbrook, Coach Joe Schmidt is more convinced than ever that what it cost for Munson was worth it—and then some.

Nobody will deny that the big item the Lions have needed to go places is a quarterback. Without an able passer, without a performer who can come close, at least, to matching a Bart Starr or Johnny Unitas, a team is stuck.

And the Lions were.

MUNSON'S ARRIVAL at Cranbrook seemingly has pepped up everybody, especially the coaches and the players.

"You have to like the way Bill does things out there," said Schmidt, as he ran the Lions through an offensive drill.

"He'll bolster our attack immeasurably," one of the Lions veterans said.

Munson has the size, the arm and the age, plus enough experience.

But, while he obviously already rates No. 1 among the team's QBs, he's going to have a lot of competition.

The Lions still have Karl Sweetan, who shared the starting job with the now-departed Milt Plum for the last couple of years.

GREG LANDY, the Lions' No. 1 draft pick, also is a quarterback. He presently is not in camp, since he's with the College All Stars who'll meet the Green Bay Packers in Chicago a week from Friday night.

Another rookie is Greg Dar-

ton, from Tulsa University, who could be the biggest surprise of all in camp. To round out the QB list, the Lions have Tim Jones, whom they farmed to the Pontiac Firebirds last season.

The five quarterbacks present a happy situation for Schmidt and his staff.

"It's been a long time since we have had so many good ones around at the same time," Schmidt said.

RUMORS HAVE circulated that the Lions may drop Sweetan, who has caused the club some discomfort on and off the field.

The feeling is that the team would rather go along with the younger QB's.

The Lions are working twice a day at Cranbrook, where the sessions are closed to the public.

The first chance their fans will get to see the team will be next Friday when the Lions hold their annual inter-squad scrimmage at U. of D. Stadium in a game to be sponsored by the Lions Alumni Association.



EXCHANGING YARNS are three new members of the Detroit Lions' squad as they take a break in a practice session. The trio includes (from left), Denny Moore (70), Bill Munson (19) and Dave Kroy (43).

## Pony Meet Starts On Wednesday

Teams from North Farmington, Farmington, and Garden City will engage starting Wednesday in the District No. 2 Pony League baseball tournament.

The tournament will be conducted on a two-deck-a-and-out basis at Dodge Park in Birmingham.

The winner will earn the right to advance into the state meet to be held in Bay City in August.

## Blue Lewis, Italian Box At Olympia

Big time boxing returns to Detroit and Olympia Saturday and Wednesday night.

Detroit Alvin (Blue) Lewis has been matched against Edoardo Coriotti of Italy, the No. 2 ranked among the world's contenders.

The bout shapes up as the toughest for Lewis in his two-year professional career. He has won 17 out of 18 starts, beating the only man who conquered him in a later go.

Coriotti has won 25, lost two and participated in five draws as a pro. He has knocked out 15 of his victims.

A victory for Lewis unquestionably would shoot him into a contending spot among the ranks.

The ring show will be the first at Olympia in eight years.

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