

Rains Foul Up Area Baseball, Softball Games

Outside the rain was coming down in buckets.

Inside, in the offices of the Livonia Recreation department, things were kind of damp, too.

Athletic Director Bob Green was shedding some tears because of what was happening to his baseball and softball coaches.

"We'll do the best we can," said Green, "but I can visualize only some headaches."

Baseball and softball are enjoying banner years—teamwise—in the Livonia area this season.

"Here we have more teams than ever playing and this rain is just killing us," Green declared.

"By the looks of things we'll have to use every available day to make up games. Some teams probably will play five and six games in a row. It's their pitchers."

The elements complicate Green's life because there are only so many diamonds and so many umpires available.

6 Qualify In State Amateur

CHARLEVOIX — Six Observerland area golfers were among the qualifiers for match play in the 1968 Michigan Amateur which is scheduled to wind up Sunday.

The 36-hole qualifying test had to be reduced to only 18 holes because of the rain that turned the Belvedere Country Club into an ocean.

Four players shot 73s with John O'Donovan winning in a playoff to take medalist honors. He's from Grand Rapids.

He tied with Pete Green of Franklin, O.W. Ellstrom Jr. of Dearborn Heights and Bob McMasters of Royal Oak.

In a group deadlocked at 74 were Rocky Pozza of Livonia and Jim St. Germain of Northville.

Ralph Ellstrom of Garden City shot a 76 while Del McAllister of Plymouth had a 77. At 78, the final qualifying score, were Melvin (Bud) Stevens of Livonia, a three-time state champ; and Mike Basford of Farmington.

Pozza, 19, a member of the University of Michigan team this past spring, had eight one-putt greens to highlight his round.

Those failing to qualify included Bill Lockerman of Livonia, Bill Curtis of Farmington and Ed Flowers of Farmington, all at 79; Gary Robinson at Plymouth at 81 and Doug Lam of Farmington at 88.

'Mr. Soccer' Ousted From Cougar Job

Gordon Preston of Redford Township, long Mr. Soccer in the Detroit area, no longer is connected with the Detroit Cougars.

Preston this past week was asked to resign as the Cougars' public relations director following a run-in with his superiors.

Preston had worked tirelessly for the last decade to promote soccer in the Detroit area. Much of his efforts were devoted to building up soccer as a schoolboy sport.

He visited numerous schools in Observerland and helped to stage soccer clinics.

Whether Preston's ouster could help the Cougars was something else again. The team has lost five straight and dropped into last place in the Lakes Division with a 4-9 record.

A scheduled game last Tuesday with Atlanta was rained out. The Cougars were to play in Cleveland Saturday night and at Toronto next Friday before returning home to face Kansas City on July 10.

Redford Girl Joins Netters In Tourney

Barbara Trapnell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Buel Trapnell, 8887 Saratoga, Redford Township, is a member of the Southeastern Michigan tennis team competing in the Junior Wightman Cup round robin series. The tourney is sponsored by the Western Tennis Association with headquarters in Chicago.

Barbara, a student at Thurston High, was selected by Coach Jean Hoste along with five other girls from the Detroit area.

Matches will be played in River Forest, Ill.; Grand Rapids, Wisconsin; Metropolitan Chicago, Illinois; Northern Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia.

THERE ARE now 140 Little League teams operating, not counting the 15 teams in the Class F loop, for "better play" in the 13 and under age category.

In Class E for boys 15 and

under, there are 11 teams, while 14 teams from the Observerland district make up Class D for boys 10-15, five play in the Free Press League and six in the unlimited Class A loop. Over on the softball front, there are 65 teams operating.

Four are in men's leagues, the other three are open to women. In the major circuit for the girls, eight teams from Livonia, Southfield, Garden City and Allen Park make up the field. One of them represents the Detroit House of Correction

which plays "home" games only on Friday.

THE GIRLS teams are locked in a tight race. Latest standings showed the Livonia Royals on top with a 6-1 mark while the Livonia Daily Drive In, Allen

Park Presbyterian and Southfield M.C. Macs were tied for second with 5-2 marks.

Farmington Center was next at 4-3, followed by Garden City Michigan Ball at 3-5. House of Correction at 1-6 and Livonia 7 Up which was 0-7.

The Major women play Friday with three games at Ford Field in Livonia and the other at the House of Correction. In the other girls' circuit, one is limited to classes 14-16 years of age, the other to girls 13 and under.

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8.50-13	\$28*	\$14*	1.81	9.00/8.20-15	\$31*	\$15.50*	2.58
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9.50-13	\$32*	\$16*	1.81	9.50/8.20-17	\$31*	\$15.50*	2.58
10.00-13	\$34*	\$17*	1.81	10.00/8.20-18	\$31*	\$15.50*	2.58
10.50-13	\$36*	\$18*	1.81	10.50/8.20-19	\$31*	\$15.50*	2.58
11.00-13	\$38*	\$19*	1.81	11.00/8.20-20	\$31*	\$15.50*	2.58
11.50-13	\$40*	\$20*	1.81	11.50/8.20-21	\$31*	\$15.50*	2.58
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