

out of sports

By BRUNO L. KEARNS
Sports Editor

Organized and supervised sports activities for the boys eight years old and up since 1917. He has been "just a fan" like many people committed several years ago.

WHAT STARTED as the result of the untiring efforts of earnest men and women to communicate such as Birmingham has now mushroomed across the country under the common term "Little League."

"When the founders of Little League baseball fostered the idea in Williamsport, Penna., in 1939, how popular did they think it would become?" They probably never imagined it would become as widespread in baseball and move into other sports as well.

LITTLE LEAGUE baseball and football, basketball and still other sports are into the field of horsemanship, the trend is for wholesome and well-organized sports are being become more popular in growing.

Birmingham was one of the first communities in Michigan to start Little League baseball. Now the city will get into the "A" in a good time, and should it continue into every competitive sport.

ONE OBSERVER answered this question, "Why do we let the kids alone, let them have fun, and let them play the various games of their own way?"

That may be the attitude of many others, but it sure must have been created mentally by these people without even the slightest amount of simple reason.

Look at the situation only five years ago in Michigan. Kids eight, nine and ten years old playing in vacant lots and in unsupervised fields. Playing football and basketball in junk-up games, without proper equipment, and without a fundamental lesson on the proper play position was the typical playground situation.

MANY parents were concerned about their children's broken bones or with the company he was keeping on the playground, while others never even cared. Today those same boys are playing football and basketball in the care, they have become problems.

By no means have the Little Leagues proven to be the supreme salvation for putting that 10-year-old today on the right path and keeping him there, but on the same level they haven't been the ingredients for doing wrong.

Parents are more concerned with the batting averages of their boys, and you can find as many mothers in the stands as there are boys on the field.

Is this taking the fun out of the playing time? What kid doesn't like to have himself associated with the Pirates or the Yankees while learning to play the game the right way under the safest conditions?

And how often in the past did Mom and Dad and brother get together and talk about their son's hit that won the ball game?

THE ANSWERS to all of these questions are self-evident.

How about more Little Leagues? Why not Little League basketball next for Birmingham?

Heap Big Indian Is This Mosher

The Indians broke through with 11 runs in the first three innings to go on to beat the Red Sox 14-1 Tuesday evening.

Bill Mosher, the pitcher and shortstop, stopped the hard hitting Sox with only two hits, while his team collected 10 base knocks. Mosher himself scored four runs and had three hits in four trips to the plate.

It was the first loss for the Red Sox in the second half of the schedule.

Want a good used car? Look in the Classified columns under "For Sale—Automobiles."

Merchants Win Three In a Row

The Birmingham Merchants, sporting the colors of Electronics, won the Bob Adams Service and Mortimer's Men's Store, won its third consecutive game of the season and moved into third place in the Birmingham YMCA Softball League standings ahead of Reeves Service with an 8 to 2 win over Michigan Bell Telephone.

Duane Wurgazer gave up but six scattered hits and struck out eight as he netted his third win.

WILLARD WALKER gave up one infield hit as he pitched Birmingham National Bank to a 5 to 1 win over Michigan Bell Telephone. This was garnered by Paul Westerly and came in the third inning.

McTraw with three hits in four trips to the platter took batting honors.

In its second game of the week, Birmingham National Bank defeated Reeves Service 6 to 3 by hitting four hits, an error, and a hit batsman for five runs.

REEVES' Pete Kunz got the two hits given up to Reeves Service as they went down to their fourth defeat in their last six games.

Babe Ruth Stars To Appear on TV

All-star players from the Birmingham and Southfield Babe Ruth leagues will appear on Al Nagler's television program, "Tomorrow's Tigers," on channel two Saturday, July 16.

Drawings for team pairings in the state tournament to be held in Birmingham will be made on the program.

The two players will be selected by the managers and board of directors of the respective leagues.

Teeing Off
by Sally Sharp

SETTING a new district 54th medal play record, Mrs. K. H. Leclair scored a 232 total, 78-78, at Detroit Lakes Country Club. This is the best showing in the 20-year history of the event.

Mrs. Leclair also finished second place winner Sally Sharp and Mrs. C. L. Wilson at 226. Mrs. Leclair's record, which also equalled the course record which was set there in 1950 by Irene Westlund.

The mixed two-ball tournament at Pine Lake Country Club was very successful with 58 teams entering. Mr. Bill Nettle and Betsy Arnoldi shot a 48-35 to tie with Tom Crook and Sally Sharp 38-37 for best low gross honors, but low net winners were Mrs. William Hogan and Mr. Lou Conroy with a 67.

Mr. Robert Sauer and Mrs. George Boyd shared one-and-one place position with Mr. William Hogan and Mrs. Lou Conroy with a 68.

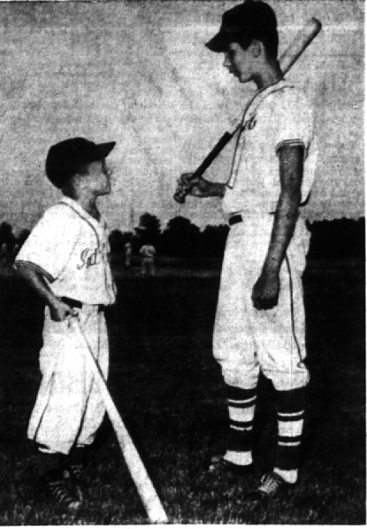
THE NEXT event to be played in the Women's District is the "Pro-Ladies" tournament at Forest Lake. Each club pro teams up with the three lowest handicap women from its club in the District. It proves to be a day full of excitement and a free lesson for the women as they play along with their club pro learning the little "do's and don'ts" of the game.

Megan Butler Given Scholarship

Megan Haupt Butler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald H. Butler, 372 Harmon street, has been awarded a MacMurray scholarship of \$1200 for a term of four years at MacMurray college, Jacksonville, Ill.

The scholarship is awarded on the bases of the general academic promise of the recipient as a college candidate.

Megan attended Jacksonville high school in Jacksonville, Ill., and graduated this year from Birmingham high school.



LOOKS LIKE the Giants and the Midgets rather than a couple Little League players. Ken Savage, 2360 Fairway drive, the smallest player in the American Little League, has a few words with Chuck Angell, 16174 Lauderdale, the tallest in the loop. Savage who is the only eight-year-old player in the American League, stands 4 feet 2 inches and plays for the Indians. Angell 12 years old and is the 5-9 first baseman for the Yankees.

Plans Molding for Little Grid Entry

Plans for Birmingham's entry in the Jack Lowther Little Football League were progressing rapidly with the acceptance of the franchise into the loop last weekend.

Only three other teams in the league sponsor junior varsity teams and a total of 419 boys played football in the loop last year.

BILL GUAY and Bud Gaezer were named to coach the Birmingham team.

Guay who lives at 3965 York drive, Beverly Hills, the Commissioner and founder of the league, said that the Little League is growing so rapidly that it might be necessary to divide the teams into sections.

An eight-man board is being formed to govern the Birmingham entry, headed by George Cavasough, 215, one of the 30 men who spearheaded the raising of \$3,000 for organizing the team.

A VARSITY team of 35 players, ages 11-12 with a 125 pound weight limit, and a junior varsity with 35 boys 9-10 will be outfitted.

No colors have as yet been selected, however a group, with Earl "Dutch" Clark and Vince Secon as consulting members, is making up the complete order list of equipment to be purchased.

ONLY helmets furnished by the boys themselves are the shoes, which must be tennis shoes or rubber-cleated shoes.

Proposed name for the team has been "Tigers," however this has not been finally decided.

Cavanaugh said that the board of directors to be named within the next week would make arrangements to meet with the city commission and the recreation board and the school board in quest of a playing site for the little league games.

PRESENTLY the Jack Lowther Little Football League is made up of teams from Grosse Pointe Woods, Lincoln Park, Grosse Pointe, East Detroit, Hazel Park, Dearborn, and four Detroit teams.

A couple of the communities mentioned are planning to field more than one team next fall, with three expected in Grosse Pointe.

"One team will probably not be enough for this area," said Cavanaugh, "but along with a junior varsity it gives Birmingham a

Birmingham to Host State Babe Ruth Championships



16 Teams Will Compete in League's Largest Tourney

Birmingham will again be the site of the State Tournament for the Babe Ruth Baseball Leagues of Michigan, according to State Director Albert W. Bates.

This will be the third time in five years that Birmingham will host the tournament, and this year to teams, the largest field ever to participate, will be entered for the two weekend "youth" July 22-24 and July 30-31.

GAMES will be played at Birmingham high school and Southfield high school fields. Winner of the Michigan tournament will have the right to compete in the Regional August 1-3 at Terra Haute, Indiana, with the winner there going on to the World Series at Austin, Texas.

Birmingham won the title in 1952 and continued into the World Series at Trenton, N.J. that year. Last year the State meet was held at Union Valley with Detroit the winner.

AN ALL-STAR team will be selected from the five team Birmingham teams with other entries coming from all over the state.

Teams from the upper peninsula, Peninsula and Rossmore, nearly one mile away, are entered, plus Albion, Berkley, Farmington, Huron, Union Valley, Robinsons, Lincoln Park, Northwest, Detroit, Fort Harrison, Port Huron Township, Southfield, Township and Walled Lake.

TEAMS with 15 player rosters will be eliminated on a single game basis under official Babe Ruth League rules. The finals are slated for Sunday, July 31.

In addition to the tournament committee are James L. O'Connor, District commissioner of the Babe Ruth League, Lewis E. Barry and Monte Christie from Birmingham and Southfield high schools respectively, as the administrators; William L. Barrett, general chairman for Birmingham and Jack Rulley, Southfield general chairman, and Al Bates, tournament director.

All star teams from Birmingham and Southfield have not been selected as yet.

Big Bob Carroll Wields a Big Bat

Outfitting players with uniforms wasn't too much of a problem for Little League officials until this year when the Federal league came up with a lad with a frame that called for special measurements.

Fortunately the Federal League starting area started the season with all new uniforms, enabling 12 year old Bob Carroll to get an outfit of the right size.

CARROLL, who stands 5 ft. 7 in. and tips the scales at a husky 160 pounds, is blasting the ball at an average of 500 with five homers, the best output in the three leagues.

Athletic manager Bliss Bowman would certainly have found a uniform to fit Carroll by hook or crook if it were necessary, because the slugging of the third baseman

has pushed the A's into the league title race.

In one game, Carroll drove in eight runs, with two homers including a grand slam, and during the A's recent four-game winning streak he was responsible for 16 RBIs.



BOB CARROLL

Rain Nullifies Win for Juniors

Rain nullified three runs and helped Clawson to a 7-5 win over Birmingham in the 18th district Junior Legion league.

Tom Raikes, Clawson pitcher, held the local juniors in close check until the seventh, when Birmingham pushed across three runs and had another on third with one out when the rains came. The score was 8-7 at the time and thus the game went back to the preceding inning.

HARRY HOWER started on the mound for Birmingham and was relieved by Ivan Picmann in the third.

Picmann held Clawson without a hit.

R H E
Birmingham 2 8 6
Clawson 7 5 1
Hower, Picmann and Podulka; Raikes and Malchowski.

Gun Club to Host State Trap Shoot

The Birmingham Gun Club, with one of the finest trap shooting layouts in Michigan will host the 1955 State Trap Invitational Championships, Friday through Sunday July 8-10.

A cash purse of \$2,300 will be added to the program which gets underway Friday at 9:00 a.m. with 100 targets at 10 yards and 145 target events.

ADDED money of \$130 with trophy to champion and runnerup will start the Friday morning program.

Friday afternoon the Michigan State Doubles championships will take place on 60 pair doubles in four events.

Saturday's activities will get underway at 10:00 a.m. with contestants competing in four classes

for an added purse of \$600 plus \$10.00 of each amateur purse entry. The four classes will divide the purse on the basis of 40:30:20:10 percent, with the Amateur Trapshooting Association trophy for the Michigan State Champion and the Birmingham Gun Club trophy to the runnerup, non-resident champion and non-resident runner-up.

THE CLASSIFICATIONS in accordance with the handicaps as recorded by the PTA rules are class A-94's and over, class B—under

94's to 91, class C—under 91's to 86, and class D—below 86's.

Added purse money of \$105 will go into the Michigan State Handicap championship Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. with \$55 added money to the all-around champions and \$400 added to the amateur shooter's events. In conjunction with the shoot, the annual meeting of the Michigan State Trapshooting Association will be held at 8:00 p.m.

THE CLUB site of the shoot is at 2300 Richardson road near Hagerly road.

The championships are under the jurisdiction of the State Trapshooters' association.

ONE OF the highlights in the trap schedule next season is the Bonito Red Feather game with Kansas State to be played September 10 in Saginaw.

Rolph, a graduate of BHS in 1952, is pursuing studies for a teaching certificate at Central Michigan.

Chips Better Says Ex-Maple

Look for Central Michigan to be one of the football powers in the country's small colleges next season.

This is the observation of Ron Rolph, 1159 Chapin, one of the veteran members of the Chippewa grid team which won the MAC league title last year.

ROLPH, a 200 pound guard, is one of the best of seniors on the team who will be back next season.

"We only lose our two fullbacks, and so things look pretty good for us," said Rolph, who left last week for a six-week summer training course at Camp Campbell, Kentucky.

A heralded member of the Central Michigan squad is Jim Bodley, one of the top centers and a member of the small college All-American team, who is also in line for an Olympic bid as a decathlon athlete.

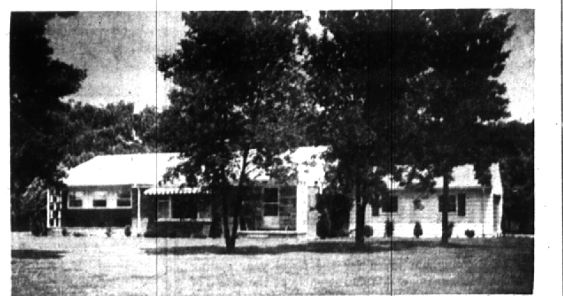
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JACK ADAMS, General Manager of the Detroit Red Wings, will speak before the Southfield fireworks at the Southfield Methodist Church July 11. The program will include film highlights of the Red Wings Stanley Cup Play-off games. Chairman for sports program is E. Hanford, 26300 Telegraph road.

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