

Schelke sees pitching as key to Hawk title chances

Coach Don Schelke will get his first real look at the candidates for the Hawk baseball team this week as the school's success in basketball curtailed the start of spring sports.

Although he hasn't seen them in practice this year, many of the players who will see plenty of action are familiar. They are veterans of last year's squad that posted a 10-6 overall and a 9-5 Thumb B Conference record last year. That was good for second place.

While veterans man most of the positions there will be some big shoes to fill. Start with Tony Doerr, the portside swinger who was one of the best hitters in the league last season. He posted a .404 record and was a long ball threat every time he stepped to the plate. Tim Severance hit .421 and was a defensive standout at third.

He also was one of the big two on the mound for the Hawks.

Last year's lead-off man, Todd Alexander, a left fielder who hit .319 and was adept at working opposing pitchers for walks, is gone and so is Ray Piaskowski who filled in wherever needed.

That's the bad news. The good news starts with Earney Stoutenburg, a fireballing pitcher who also plays the outfield. He's a two-year letter winner. His battery-mate is Ken Martin.

Martin is a fine defensive catcher and is capable of hitting the ball out of sight. He needs to work on consistency with the stick. He also has a cannon arm and will see duty on the mound. His development on the mound will be one of the keys to the Hawks' success this spring.

The keystone sack will be well cared for by Tim Johnson. A two-year letterman, he is a fine fielder and has one of the sweetest strokes in the Thumb at the plate.

Tim Fahrner can play either at shortstop or first base. If he's at first it's likely that Trent Gunther will take over at shortstop.

There's experience in the outfield. Jack Groombridge, Mike Stee and Randy Ferris are returning lettermen.

A junior, Todd Comment could help take up some of the slack on the pitching mound.

The remainder of the squad will be picked from among candidates up from the Junior Varsity. All juniors, they include: Randy Severance, Randy Stine, Brad Hartel, Scott Stine, Craig Tonti, Phil Zawilinski and Doug Sowden.

Schelke sees the Lakers, Vassar and Marlette, traditionally strong baseball schools, as the teams to beat in the Thumb B this season. Development of pitching will be the key to Cass City's chances for the crown, Schelke feels.



POSTHUMOUS HONOR - Shirley Doerr accepted the most valuable offensive player award Saturday in behalf of her late son, Joe, who was the leading scorer in the Deford Community Church Basketball League at the time of his death. Presenting the trophy was Roy Hull, the league president. Looking on were some of Joe's teammates on the Argyle Catholic team, from left, Bill Izydorek, Rick Doerr and Ed Izydorek.

Michigan Mirror

State's loan to Chrysler averts economic disaster

By Warren M. Hoyt
Mich. Press Association

With more than 80,000 jobs and much future state revenue at stake, the Michigan Legislature has cleared the way for a \$150 million loan to the ailing Chrysler Corp.

The troubled automaker, as part of the federal government's \$1.5 billion loan guarantee, must raise an additional \$1.43 billion from other sources to qualify for the federal funds.

Michigan, where a majority of Chrysler plants and workers are located, is chipping in the lion's share of a total of \$250 million to be raised from state and local governments. Other states and cities where individual facilities are located will make up the additional \$100

million.

A major portion of the funds are coming from members of the United Auto Workers who would have the most to lose with loss of jobs if the automaker should fold.

The UAW has made over \$800 million in concessions of negotiated wage rollbacks and delays of deposits in their retirement accounts.

THERE WAS NEVER any question whether Michigan would provide the money. The question was where the state, with budgetary problems of its own, would find the funds.

Without the loan, Chrysler would certainly fail, throwing those 80,000 employees out of work and putting them on unemployment rolls. Those unable to be absorbed into the workforce would

ultimately end up on the welfare rolls.

Additionally, those 80,000 people would not be paying state income taxes, the corporation would not be paying the state's single business tax or property taxes to local governments and satellite businesses serving Chrysler would suffer or even fail themselves.

Conservatively, the failure of Chrysler could cost the state revenue coffers more than \$600 million per year making the \$150 million a small price to pay.

THE LEGISLATURE APPROVED a two-bill package providing up to \$75 million from state employee pension funds and as much as the entire \$150 million from state surplus funds which are constantly being invested on a short-term basis.

The second bill providing the full amount was necessary in the event the Investment Advisory Committee -- a five-member panel judging investments of pension funds -- prohibits making the loan from the pension money.

The loan to Chrysler would be a major departure in the type of "prudent" investments where pension money is being placed.

Such a loan would not otherwise be considered from state surplus funds as they are normally placed in safe, short-term, high yield investments. The Chrysler loan would be a departure from these loans as it would be for a long term -- 15 years -- and less safe.

MANY LEGISLATORS expressed concern over the loan but realized the importance of keeping Chrysler going for the good of the state. Calling it a "social loan" rather than a "prudent loan," they questioned the safety of the loan, especially when it came to authorizing the use of pension funds.

The Deford Community Church Basketball League season ended last Thursday with the Deford Community I team winning the single-elimination playoffs.

The team defeated the Deford II and Cass City Lutheran teams to win the playoff title. The Lutherans finished second; Kingston Methodist, third, Argyle Catholic, fourth, and Deford II, fifth.

Cass City Lutheran took the season title. Final standings for the season are given below.

The two-game-a-week schedule began Nov. 27. Last games of the regular season were played March 11. Games were played at a

school gym in Kingston.

The trophy for most valuable offensive player was presented posthumously to Joe Doerr, who was killed Feb. 23 in a traffic accident. The trophy was presented to his mother, Shirley Doerr, Saturday.

Her son, 17 at the time of his death, played for the Argyle Catholic team (though he was a Methodist). In the 20 games he played, he scored a total of 408 points, an average of 20.4 per game. The next highest

scoring player didn't come close to scoring that many points in all 24 regular season games.

Most valuable defensive player was Ed Lowe of the Cass City Lutherans, described as a man hard to keep away from the boards.

Final standings:

Team	W	L
Cass City Lutheran	23	1
Deford Community I	19	5
Argyle Catholic	11	13
Kingston Methodist	10	14
Deford II	2	22

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9-Manistee	US-131	LAKE NURON	
10-Betsie	Kurik Rd	26-Carp	Mud Lake
11-Platte	US-31	27-Cheboygan	Cheboygan Dam
12-Boardman	Cass St. Dam	28-Oscoda	Barnhart Lake
13-Jordan	Webster Bridge	29-Thunder Bay	9th St. Dam
14-Bayne	P.H. Dam	30-Au Sable	Teele Dam
15-Black	Peter's Truck Trail Bridge	31-Au Gres, E. Br. M-35	
16-Thompson	Creek Mouth	32-Pigeon	
17-Whitfish	USFS Rd. 2736		
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		33-St. Clair	
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Northwood Institute signs Vatter

Michael Vatter, a 6-0, 200-pound senior from Cass City High School, has signed a letter of intent to attend Northwood Institute next fall, according to head football coach, Jack Finn.

"We are extremely happy to have Michael coming to Northwood," said Finn. "He will probably be a linebacker for us."

Michael is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Vatter of 4273 Sherman.

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