



Milo Karhu Slow Pitch Player

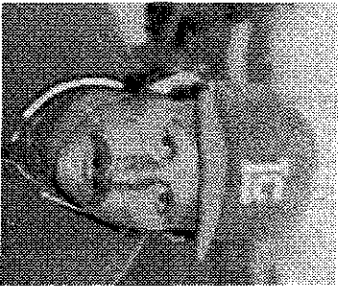
Milo Karhu's career in softball is not as well known nationally, but he sure was a dominant force in softball locally and throughout the state of Michigan.

Karhu was a shortstop and captain of the once nationally famous Snyder softball club from 1960-73 that captured many local and midwestern tournaments. He made all-tournament teams quite frequently. Karhu combined with Bob Green to form one of the most respected double play combinations in softball.

Karhu was also an infielder for state champion Rinaldo's and Miller Auto softball clubs from 1974-77. Most recently, Karhu was a pitcher and infielder for Gatsby's softball club (Novi) which captured two metro championships and finished third in the 1989 ASA men's masters 35 & over national championship.

1990 was a busy year for Karhu as he was a member of the 45 & over Nothdurft Tool & Die softball team when they finished in third place at the ASA national tournament. He was selected first team all-american in the tournament. He also was a member of the Nothdurft 50 & over squad in 1990 when they captured fifth place at the ASA national tournament in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Milo Karhu continues to be a dominant force in slow pitch softball.



Tony Mazza Slow Pitch Player

When one mentions the famed Little Caesar teams from the 1960's and 1970's, the name of infielder Tony Mazza comes to mind.

Mazza also participated on the world-class Snyder's softball club from 1966-68 before joining the Little Caesar squad in 1969 through the late 70's. Tony was an integral part of the great Little Caesar slow pitch dynasty that dominated Detroit softball from 1968-76. Mazza was a member of the 1970 world championship team that captured the national title in Southgate.

The right-handed throwing second baseman participated in national tournaments in just about every year during his softball career until he became a member of the Little Caesar professional team in 1977 through 1979.

The left-handed hitter was an excellent defensive player not only at second base, but later in his career he became a top quality pitcher. Mazza was selected to the all-world team as a second baseman in 1970 and as a pitcher in 1972.

The name of Tony Mazza is yet another name synonymous with slow pitch softball in metro Detroit.



Percy McConner Fast Pitch Player

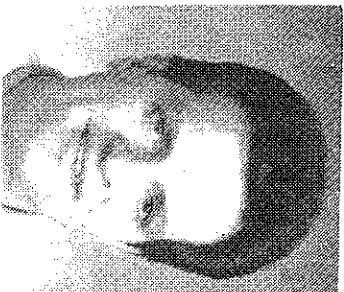
Percy McConner was an outstanding fast pitch player whose career began in 1938 in the City of Pontiac with a team called West Joy Shop. His career spanned the next 21 years playing with nine different teams from Detroit, Lansing, Flint, Toronto and Pontiac. He played on such teams as the Wizzers, Tip Tops, Shaws Jewelers and the Joe Louis Bombers.

One of McConner's most treasured moments occurred in 1950 in Austin, Texas while he was playing with the Toronto Tip Tops. It was then that he pitched the first perfect game in an ASA national tournament. McConner successfully retired 21 batters while his teammates struggled through for a 1-0 victory.

By 1965, McConner retired from the game of softball as a player, but his contributions to the game continued as a coach until 1976. In the spring of 1982, the City of Pontiac gave Percy its highest honor in resolution form and with its newest lighted softball facility, named and dedicated in his honor.

Percy E. McConner was a city of Pontiac employee for 26 years and now is an outstanding volunteer with senior citizens at a local center. He is also on hand each softball season to present awards to teams at "his" field.

McConner was also a personal friend of the late Charles Justice, also a member of the MDASA Hall of Fame. Truly, two champions in the arena of fast pitch softball.



Evans Telegadas Fast Pitch Player

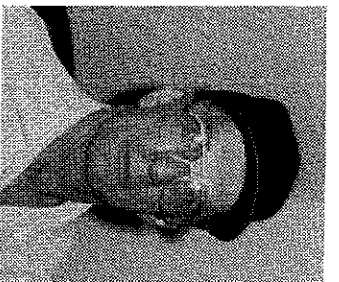
Evans Telegadas played on some of the finest fast pitch teams in the metro Detroit area during his softball career which spanned from 1969 to 1980.

The shortstop began his illustrious career with the famed Nothdurft Tool and Die squad in 1969 through 1975. In 1969, Telegadas helped guide the Nothdurft team to their first regional title. He also played on one of Nothdurft's finest teams in 1970 when they were national runner-ups.

Telegadas also played with Burch Gage in 1976 and 1977 before joining McAdies of Midland in 1978-80. He participated in nine ASA national tournaments and maintained a .347 batting average while being selected to the all-american team six times during his career.

Telegadas also played for the championship USA team during the men's world softball tournament competing against 15 other countries. He also holds a .336 lifetime batting average. Evans Telegadas, another fine addition to the metro Detroit ASA Hall of Fame and Honor.

Jack Tobias Umpire



Although Jack Tobias is entering the MDASA Hall of Fame as an umpire, his career also includes many years as a softball player.

Tobias played softball for 17 years from 1959 to 1977. He played for some of the well-known teams in metro Detroit - East Side Sporting Goods, Michael's Lounge, Sox Inn and Hofley Manufacturing. He also played for

Candellite Lounge and East Warren teams during the later years of his playing days. Tobias was a member of the 1966 Michael's Lounge national championship team.

His umpire career took off beginning in 1961 as he has umpired in more than 7000 games. One of the top honors an umpire can receive is to be selected to umpire in a national tournament. Tobias had that honor as he umpired in the 1970 national tournament in Southgate, coincidentally that was the last time MDASA hosted a national tournament. Tobias also umpired in many games in the infamous Greater Detroit ASA tournaments until 1975.

Currently, Tobias is still active as an umpire and is also umpire-in-chief of the metro Detroit Umpires Association.

The Metro Detroit Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame and Honor established its official residence in the City of Westland on January 25, 1989 at the Bailey Recreation Center, located at 36651 Ford Road - between Newburgh and Wayne Roads, just 2 miles east of I-275. There is no charge to view the exhibit.

Larry Paladino Media Person of the Year Award

Six years ago, Larry Paladino had an idea to write a weekly softball column. The Detroit News went along with Paladino's suggestion to publish a column during the summer months. That year, he received an award from the National Softball Media Association for having the best column in the country from newspapers with a circulation of more than 50,000.

A few years later, the News decided not to pursue the softball column and began to publish softball articles on a "hit and miss/on call basis". Hopefully they will pick up the idea again as softball is one of the top participating sports in the country.

Through his efforts and strong determination throughout the years, Larry Paladino has been selected as the Second Annual MDASA Media Person of the Year. Paladino, attended college at Wayne State and the University of Detroit majoring in Journalism. For the past 11 years he has been self-employed as a freelance writer and editor. He has also been editor of the Detroit Tigers Yearbook for the past nine years; bowling columnist for the News since 1985, a columnist for Faceoff Detroit magazine and a Detroit correspondent for Gannett News Service.

