

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1988

Guppy not part of professional bowling's mainstream

Guppy Troup went to the Rose Bowl Lanes Monday dressed in basic black. Very funeral.

Very un-Guppy. The wardrobe turned out to be a small window into Guppy's rather gloomy feelings about the state of his game.

"I'm bowling so bad I didn't want anybody to know who I am."

Normally, Guppy is Mr. Blackwell's worst fashion nightmare.

Slacks the color of strawberry shortcake. Shirts that would save all that electricity they use to light the Ambassador Bridge.

It was still not tough to pick him out of the crowd.

The sunglasses. The gold chains around his neck. The gold watch. The gold ring.

The mood darkens on occasion but it never stays that way for long.



LOYD McLACHLAN

Like when golden Guppy fantasizes about unleashing the Boy Scout Troup, the one beneath his flamboyant exterior.

"I was listening to a radio show driving up here from Columbus. It was about Elton John using his real name — I forget what it is now — on his new album.

"I COULD get rid of the sunglasses, get rid of the wild clothes. I could cut my hair real short, get rid of my gold."

"I could get wear conventional stuff and put J.D. Troup on my back.

"I could be a normal bowler." J.D. Troup?

"John Douglas. No, my momma didn't name me Guppy when I popped out into the world." A normal bowler? Nah. Guppy was born to be Guppy.

"I'm at the point of my career where I'm more of a showman than a bowler," he admits, not unhappily.

The showman is not bringing the house down these days. His legions don't seem to mind.

With Troup not making anybody forget Earl Anthony, the legions in Windsor consisted of Grant Tansel, who drove from Bowling Green, Ohio in time to watch a couple of games late Monday morning.

Tansel is a founding member of Guppy's Troup, an amateur bowling team. Troup is the team's official sponsor.

"Our record was something like 0-137 over a three-year period a few years ago," says Tansel. "We were trying to figure out how to change our losing image.

"I'D SEEN GUPPY bowl on TV. He looked kind of different with those wild pants, that look. So I wrote him a letter. Out of the blue.

"Why sponsor us? Outlandish as he is, the rebel that he is, we figured why not? He agreed. He's been very good to us."

At lunch, the man in black is smiling as he orders a plate heaped with spaghetti, heavy on the sauce and spices.

"Good for my ulcer," he says.

Guppy Troup. Reservoir of one-liners. Life of the party on the Professional Bowlers' Association Tour. Sometimes the entire party.

"I'm almost 39," he says, rolling his eyes.

"My body keeps telling me I can't keep staying out until two in the morning and still get up

and complete."

He knows the prayer of the career party animal by heart.

Lord, let me live through this one last hang-over and I promise I'll never take a drink again, OK?

"That's a line all right," he says.

"There isn't one guy on the PBA Tour who hasn't used that one."

IT MAY OR may not be coincidence that Troup is pro bowling's reigning best champion.

He explains: "I've won every beer tournament there is. Miller, Molson and Budweiser."

Tada. The beer drinkers' Triple Crown.

"I've also won the Kessler, which is sponsored by Seagram's. If it's fluid, I seem to do well. I've got five fluid titles. My fifth was the Quaker State. "That's the only stuff I haven't learned to drink."

See GUPPY, C2



WINDSOR SOUTH ALL-STARS Justin Adam slides safely into second base as Langley's Trevor Crump awaits the throw. The Windsor team downed the British Columbia representative 11-8 Monday at Central Park to improve its record to 2-1. For Jim Parker's story on Monday's action, see page C3.

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Olympian effort

Canadians looking to capture medal

By Bob Duff
 Star Sports Reporter

Canadian Olympic baseball coach Bernie Beckman thinks his team can do what the Canadian Olympic hockey could not do — win a medal at the Olympic Games.

"We have a goal, one goal — to win a medal," said Beckman Monday at Mic Mac Stadium, where his club handed the Windsor Chiefs of the United Baseball League a 10-5 setback.

"We're not just going there to do our best," said Beckman. "That's been the Canadian team's attitude in the past. We'd lose a close one and they'd say 'ho-hum.'"

"There's no way we're going there to just do well. We're going to win."

The Summer Olympic Games are next month in Seoul, South Korea. Canada finished fifth in 1984 at Los Angeles, the first time baseball had been part of the Olympics.

Canada has been grouped in the White Division with the United States, Australia and South Korea.

Taiwan, Japan, the Netherlands and Puerto Rico make up the Blue Division.

A big break for Canada's medal hopes came last month when Cuba, the 1984 Gold Medalists, elected to boycott the '88 Games.

"We're very optimistic about our chances," said Beckman. "Cuba is a blue-chip team that's not going to be there.

See CANADIANS, C2



TOM NELSON, one of two Windsor players on the Canadian Olympic team, scores in the first inning on a passed ball as Chiefs' pitcher Chris Smeeton covers home on the play during Monday's game at Mic Mac Stadium.

Tanana puzzles Rangers

Balk helps Tigers add to division lead

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — American League watchers remain puzzled over the Detroit Tigers' success. They wonder how the Tigers continue to win without a dominant hitter in their lineup.

The Tigers went about their business again Monday, padding their lead in the AL East to 3 1/2 games over the idle New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox with a 3-2 triumph over the Texas Rangers.

"They said last year we would finish fifth and we won the most games in either league," said Tigers' manager Sparky Anderson. "The same thing could happen this year. Maybe next year they'll move us up to fourth."

Frank Tanana continued his dominance over his former Ranger teammates, beating Texas for the fourth consecutive time this season and sixth straight overall.

Tanana, acquired from Texas in June, 1985, lowered his ERA to 1.82 against the Rangers this season, scattering five hits over six innings.

"It's been 3 1/2 years since Texas," Tanana said. "I'm glad to be back. But I'm proud to be with this kind of team."

"A veteran team will win lots of close games. They've been to war and don't get nervous."

Tanana, 33-7, had been the victim of poor luck over his previous nine starts, going 3-3 with three no-decisions despite having allowed only 14 earned runs in 63 2/3 innings.

See TIGERS, C2

Maccarone rolls into lead

By Ken Fathers
 Star Sports Reporter

Sam Maccarone insists he isn't superstitious but 8/8/88 turned out to be a lucky day for him at the eighth annual Molson Golden Bowling Challenge.

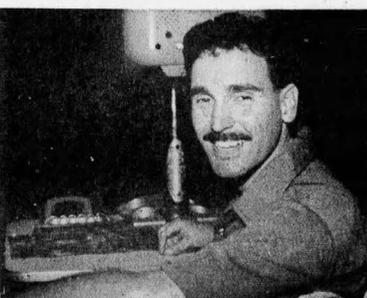
The 33-year-old bachelor from Glassboro, N.J., with only one Professional Bowlers Association tour victory to his credit, all but buried the field Monday at the Rose Bowl Lanes.

After finishing the 18-game qualifying round in first place with a 4,158 total, Maccarone posted an 8-0 record in match-play Monday to take a commanding 335-pin lead over his closest opponent, Purvis Granger of Lafayette, Ind.

Maccarone scored 1,462 in his final six games of the qualifying round to vault from sixth place to first. Then he rolled 1,901 in his first eight games of match-play competition.

He's averaging 233.03 for his first 28 tournament games and, going back to \$130,000 Kessler Classic which he won at Riverside, Calif., in July, he's racked up 20 straight match-play victories.

"In my first three games (of qualifying), I had the good shot but I was a little tentative," he said. "After that, I felt that I could shoot some big numbers and I did."



SAM MACCARONE is all smiles after bowling a perfect 300 game

Following his perfect 300 game, Maccarone strung 10 more strikes together before going high and leaving a 6-7-10 split. He picked up the split and struck out with 287. He then rolled eight more strikes in his 237 game.

Back-to-back 300 games have never happened on the PBA Tour. So, after 22 consecutive strikes, Maccarone admitted to having become nervous.

"I was shaking so bad you couldn't believe it," he said about his bid for a second perfect game. "I tried to make the shot but the ball didn't feel right when I let it go."

"I've never made the top 24 here before. Last year, I think I finished 32nd and won a little over \$1,000. But I have to admit that these lanes seem to fit my game pretty good."

Following his 8-0 performance in the match-play competition, Maccarone said: "I was pretty intense tonight. See MACCARONE, C2

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