



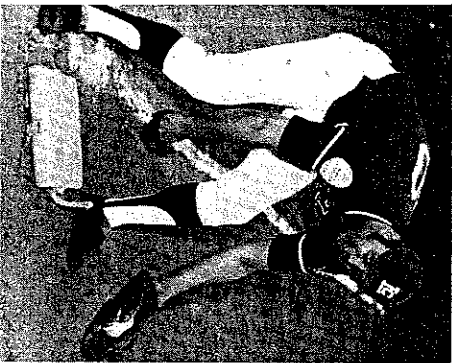
ALPHONSE "DEE" DOLECKI

Following his graduation from St. Ladislaus High School in Hamtramck, Alphonse "Dee" Dolecki enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps not knowing about some scholarships he could have received by attending college. After serving in the Marine Corp from 1943-1945, Dolecki worked in a sporting goods department for two years. He then decided with his brothers, Vic and Jim, to open their own sporting goods business in 1947 under the name of Dee's Sport Shop which is still at its original location on Van Dyke near Outer Drive in Detroit.

During his 38 years in business with his brothers, he has sponsored many teams in various sports including softball (slow-pitch and fast-pitch), baseball (American Legion, and fast-pitch), basketball, hockey and golf.

The team Dolecki most fondly remembers sponsoring was the Detroit Parks and Recreation team which carried the Dee's banner for 20 years. Bill Svochak managed the team for 12 of those years capturing eight Metro City championships during that time. Following Svochak's reign, Frank Lebyk took over as manager for the next eight years and continued to capture championships for the Dee's Sport Shop Softball team. "We never had a team as dedicated and loyal to their sponsor as those fellows were", said Dolecki. "These were enjoyable days watching this team play at Jayne Field and throughout the City."

Dolecki is married to Delphine and have three children - Nancy, Allan and Audrey.



JOE GAUCI

Joe Gauci was an outstanding high school athlete at Detroit Denby High where he captained the baseball team and was elected all-city. Upon graduation, Gauci turned down a scholarship to Western Michigan to sign a contract with the Detroit Tigers. Gauci played six years of minor league ball before turning his attention to slowpitch in 1957.

Gauci's first year of softball was spent playing with Sox's Bar in Detroit. At the end of the year, Gauci was picked up by East Side Sports to play in the ASA Nationals. Again in 1958, Gauci was a year end pick up for East Side Sports. It proved to be a good move as East Side went on to win the National Championship in 1958 with Gauci 18 of 20 ASA National Tournaments from 1957 to 1976, playing an instrumental role on two other National Championship teams, Michael's Lounge in 1966 and Little Caesars in 1970.

Among the many accomplishments Gauci best remembers on the softball field was a perfect 13 for 13 performance in an area tournament and turning a triple play at shortstop in the Oak Park Invitational in the early 1970's.

Gauci has been married for four years to Susanne, who is the controller at Higgin's Management.



CHARLES JUSTICE

The late Charles "Choo-Choo" Justice was the Satchel Page of softball.

During a career which spanned more than three decades, Justice won 873 games and lost only 92. Eight times in his career he struck out all 21 batters in a seven-inning game and hurled six perfect games.

Justice, who was raised in Detroit, began playing Softball on the Russell Street Baptist Church team but his years with Pontiac Big Six (1936-42), Flint M & S Orange (1945) and the Toronto Tip Top Tailors (1949-50) were the ones he was the proudest of.

In 1949 Justice hurled Tip Top to the Amateur Softball Association national first pitch title and in 1950 Tip Top finished second. In the 1949 final, Justice pitched 12 shutout innings of the 18 inning game and beat Clearwater 3-1. He fanned 13 batters and was the winning pitcher, allowing only 5 hits. In the 1950 World Tournament, Justice won 5 games and lost 2. He struck out 40 batters.

In World Tournament play with Pontiac and Flint from 1937 to 1951, Justice had a record of 21-6 and had streaks such as pitching 55 scoreless innings in the 1945 World Tournament.

Justice, who was a solid 6 foot 1, 210 pounder in his heyday, also was a good basketball player and played with the Harlem Globetrotters in 1935-36-38 and part of 1939-40.

On Wednesday, May 22, 1974, "Charles Justice Day" was proclaimed in Detroit and a banquet was held honoring Justice, who retired from softball in 1965.

Justice retired after hurling Cole and Erwin of River Rouge to the Michigan Class A fast pitch state title. Justice pitched a six-hitter in the semifinals and hurled four of the six games his team won and contributed three base hits. He was named the most valuable player in the tournament.

Justice was the 47th player to be inducted into the National Softball Hall of Fame. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1974. On November 7, 1974 Justice passed away at the age of 61.



ANTHONY "TONY" LUTOMSKI

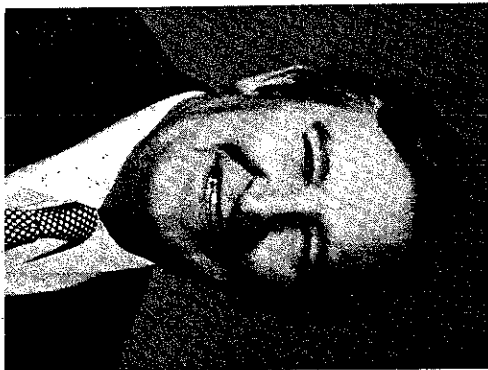
It seemed pre-ordained that Anthony "Tony" Lutomski would devote the better part of his life to the sport of softball. As a youngster he tagged along as his six older brothers played softball on playgrounds around the City. Lutomski's late brother Mike is credited with throwing the first windmill pitch back in 1922.

Lutomski's involvement with softball administration began in 1948 when he formed the War Veterans' & Major Fast-pitch League. In 1962, Lutomski organized the Big Ten Classic Slow-pitch league then recognized as the best league in the nation which featured several teams that went on to win national titles and being Detroit softball respectability.

Lutomski is a veteran Detroit Attorney having attended college and law school at the University of Michigan. He served as President of Detroit Recreation Commission from 1962 to 1978. His involvement with the Metro Detroit Amateur Softball Association dates back over 35 years including a tenure as President from 1966 - 1976.

Lutomski is perhaps best known as the director - godfather of the respected 16-team Lt. Frank Lutomski slow-pitch league at Jayne Field in Detroit. Tony Lutomski has given countless hours of service, and inspiration to the sport of softball. Without the dedication and spirit of Tony Lutomski, MDASA would not be the number one softball organization in the world.

WILLIAM "BILL" SVOCHAK



William 'Bill' Svochak's first involvement with softball occurred more than 50 years ago when he was a player in the Detroit youth leagues. Svochak served in the U.S. Army from 1941-1945 and played army softball in Europe. A 1951 graduate of Wayne State University, Svochak worked 32 years for the Detroit Parks and Recreation Department before retiring in 1979.

Svochak served as manager of Dee's Sports Shop in the Detroit Parks and Recreation A.S.A. Major Industrial Slow-pitch softball league from 1959-1970. His team participated in eight national tournaments - 1959-1965 and 1969. The best finish Svochak's team attained was in 1960 when they were national runner-ups.

Svochak served on the Metro Detroit A.S.A. board from 1960-1970, when M.D.A.S.A. survived mainly through the efforts of a few dedicated people, such as Bill and his good friend Tony Lutomski. Svochak was appointed an M.D.A.S.A. Commissioner in 1971. He served as Great Lakes A.S.A. Vice-President from 1980-1982. Svochak has also served on many standing committees both at the local and national levels for A.S.A.

Svochak has received many awards for his outstanding leadership throughout the years. In 1982-83 & 84 Svochak received the National A.S.A. award for production and registration gains in both umpires and teams for the Metro Detroit Area.

In 1982 Metro Detroit A.S.A. became the number one Metro association in the United States, a far cry from the association that 3 years previous had a mere 100 teams and 75 umpires registered. Presently more than 3,500 teams and 700 umpires are part of Metro Detroit A.S.A. Svochak has seen A.S.A. grow throughout the years and become a national symbol of excellence. "The board made this possible", said an elated Svochak. "A man is only as good as the people around him... and I have been blessed."

Svochak and his wife Eva, have one son, Darryl, an attorney in Lansing.

PAST INDUCTEES

1982	George Caloia	Edward Figelski	1984
	Bill Cole	Mike Hirsch	Bob Auten
	Carl "Tex" Collins	Beatrice Lollar	Mack Phillips
	Mike Gouin	Roy Lombardo	Johnny Spring
	Bonnie Jones	Jim Snyder	Frank Verbanac
	Sam Lombardo		

Metro Detroit
A.S.A. Softball
"A Game For Amateurs
Run by Professionals"