

VIKING ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL PICNIC

GOLF ROAD AND
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DES PLAINES,
ILLINOIS

Saturday, July 23, 1966



*Our Fortieth
Anniversary*

We Are Celebrating Our
90th BIRTHDAY in 1966

Svenska Amerikanaren Tribunen

1876 - NITTIOÅRSJUBILEUM - 1966

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On the fortieth anniversary of the Viking Athletic Association it is my pleasure as president to welcome all members and friends to our annual picnic.

I feel we are giving you, our best friends the kind of picnic that you will remember for a long time. My heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all members of Viking A. A. and especially to all those connected with the picnic committees who have given so unselfishly of their time and efforts in the planning of this day.

The proceeds from our picnic are used to further sports and good fellowship in the Chicago area.

Thank you very much and my personal regards to all.

HAROLD A. JOHNSON, President
Viking Athletic Association



FORTY LINES IN FORTY YEARS

by J. A. D.

Seven young Swedes started kickin' the ball;
They formed a team and started play in the fall;
Was back in May of nineteen twenty-six,
Playing in the Fourth Division, they got their kicks.
Now a season goes by and they land on top—
So, from this Division they could not drop;
And they earned promotion with their Old Country skill,
Because they took honors from opponents at will,
Membership grew and more teams were made
And in the First, Third and Fourth they played.
Comes nineteen twenty-eight and other sports to be tried,
So bowling was started which has never died;
This added more trophies to the growing collection—
We still admire then all with the fondest affection.
December nineteen twenty-nine was the start of auxiliary for girls
Who through all these years have been a sea of pearls.
Nineteen thirty the club's name was changed, on the sixth of June,
To be known as the Viking Athletic Association—with no club room—
Because depression days hit hard with everything at a loss,
It was agreed to meet anywhere—with Ivar still boss.
Times were hard and demotions were near,
But they weathered all storms without any fear.
We go to nineteen forty when our clubhouse was bought,
Remodeled by a number of members who sweated and fought
To bring into being something of which they could be proud—
With hopes they could fill with a sportsminded crowd.
Then came nineteen forty-six and the goal of all soccer teams—
They won the National Open Cup and realized their dreams.
At this time the basket tossers took first in City YMCA,
And softballers won 20 of 23, to make the year happy and gay.
Golfers were no dubbers, having beaten the Lawndale A.C.,
With 40 to 60 still getting off the first tee.
Then came promotion years, with teams from Sweden land,
And indoor soccer too, which we won at first hand.
We go to nineteen fifty-eight when we added to our club
An addition for which we had to work and scrub.
Some sports we have lost—such as basketball, chess and track—
But who knows, in the future we may have them back.
Now what should be uppermost in our minds—lend your ear—
Is to make this the "mostest"—OUR FORTIETH YEAR!

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CORNER KICKS — by E. H.

[The following was written for, and used in the September, 1955, issue of the Rams' News. One of the reasons we're re-printing it here is that we feel the experiment at Oak Brook is a step in the direction which the article advocates—and we hope will prove successful. The other reason is that we needed filler material to make our ad book even 40 pages.]

When asked to submit "something on soccer for the Rams' News," the caller suggested two subjects which, he inferred, might be of interest. The writer agreed that he might try to come up with something along these lines. These, however, would have come under the heading of "Reminiscing" and since writing is not our best side, we felt that we might just as well look into the future, with the hope in mind that "something" may come out of it.

Ever since the day when it was found impossible to continue the North American Soccer League (the professional set-up which functioned for about one and a half seasons, ten years ago) the writer has felt that the entire soccer set-up in Chicagoland

should be revamped. This idea got a further boost when the National Indoor Soccer League got started and continued to prove a complete success.

The main reason for the failure of the above mentioned professional league was because it was organized on an inter-city competition, and the heavy traveling expenses proved to be the undoing of this venture. (Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Toronto, Canada, were the cities involved.)

To come to point number one: Why not organize the outdoor league on the same general principle as the indoor league?

In order to function properly we should have our own "Soccer Stadium." This may seem far-fetched at first thought, but let us go into it a bit further.

Have you noticed the immense amount of land very close to our city limits, a great deal of which is planted with cabbage, onions, and so forth? [This has changed greatly in the eleven years since this was written.] Don't you think about fifteen or twenty acres of this land would yield a much greater monetary return if it could be used for soccer, say two or three afternoons and nights a

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CORNER KICKS (Continued from page 3)

week? We feel the game should be played at twilight and in the cool of the evening, under lights.

We are well aware of the fact that the National Soccer League, with all its affiliated clubs, do not have the cash it takes to venture into anything like this, but we do know that we have among our followers men very well situated financially. Maybe they would be interested if we could assure them of a proper return on their investment. It might

also be possible to lease the land on a percentage basis.

The yield of a food and beverage concession at such a place should prove very profitable. Witness the dozen men working during the indoor season—and the concessionaire, no doubt, gets a few nickels, too.

(2) Change the season to run through, June, July, August and September. Ridiculous! Not at

(Continued on page 34)

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Standing: John Fray, junior past president; Nils Erikson, board member; William Crawford, second vice president; Harold Johnson, president; Eric Haggberg, board member; Aivars Kuplis, recording secretary; Louis Gross, financial secretary; Sitting: Knut Magnusson, board member; John Doyle, treasurer; Tim Riordan, first vice president.



In Memoriam

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BOWLING BAWLS — by J.A.D.

She hooked her ball and picked off number seven,
Leaving nine to go, oh, good heaven!
But she got her ball, and without fanfare
Oozed it down the lane and got the spare.
Her teammate now, like all mighty men,
Blistered the alley, leaving the four, six and ten,
Which proves one point, that it's not the speed
That gets those marks you badly need.
Now she enters the sixth with a spare and ninety-
seven,
But only gets four which makes one-eleven;
So, taking aim with perfection she snakes that ball;
It had to happen, the rest of the pins fall!
Now he's getting mad—to get beat by this wench!
If he gets another rail, he's gonna park on the
bench.

Finishing the fifth, he's got fifty-nine,
So he zips it down, and gets the washline;
But he'll show her, whether he's dead or alive;
Zips it down again, and now has sixty-five.
She spares the tenth—so gets one free
And winds up her game with one-seventy-three.
Now he's been struggling all through the game
And marks one-twenty to finish the last frame.
Now this proves another thing to some of you boys,
Don't think you're so hot and make so much noise.
Just keep practicing, and then remember—
Be back for our league this coming September.

In order to be fond of good sports, a girl don't
have to be athletic.

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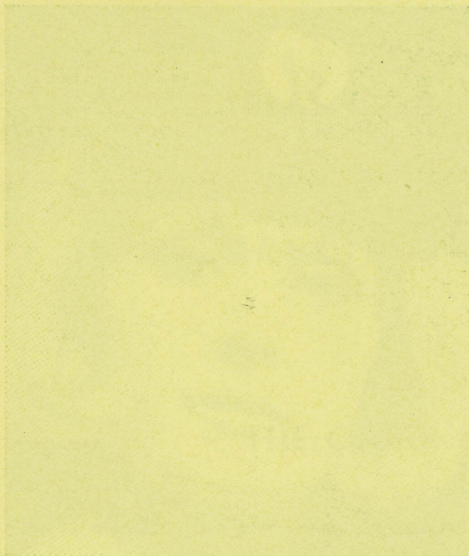
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