



Gem Stones

The Official New Jersey Gems Newsletter

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A COPY

Editors in Chief — Jeff Tarallo & Tom Eagleson

"CATCH THE FEVER"

JERSEY JOTTINGS

Don't forget that Saturday night, March 15 will be Fan Appreciation Night at the Dunn Sport Center. This is the last regular season home game, and all persons attending will receive a special gift courtesy of your New Jersey Gems.

Latest news on the Gems' summer basketball camp for girls between the ages of 11-18 is that the camp will be held the last 2-3 weeks of July in Morris County, and that there will likely be another 1-2 week camp held at a different site in August. For more information call the Gems' offices at 635-1003.

Gemstones would like to thank the three young men who sang last weeks' National Anthem in honor of the U.S. Hockey teams' Olympic Gold Medal achievement. The Gems thank Billy Neafsy, Shawn Kelly and Tony Orlando for a fine job.

Gemstones would like to recommend for fine Italian-American dining before or after the game Afflitto's Restaurant 495 Chestnut St. Union. Hours are from 2pm till midnight. Call 687-3250 for reservations or information. Many of the Gems' personal can attest to the great food.

Last, but certainly not least. Gemstones would like to welcome Gov. Brendan Byrne to the Mach 1st game against St. Louis.

EDITORIAL

It is the opinion of Gemstones that the Gems and the WBL are not receiving the print, radio or television coverage that is due them. The team and the league have been in existence for two years now and the time has come for the media to start providing the fans with the necessary coverage due a professional sports team. Outside of a few newspapers and radio and television stations, very little can be found about the Gems and the WBL. We feel this is a gross injustice. The team and the league are here to stay! With that in mind we truly hope the media will eventually provide fair coverage.

If you agree with our opinion, why not pick up a pen and a piece of paper and let your feelings be known. Both the Gems and the WBL will appreciate your help.

"WICKED WANDA" - A GEM OF A GEM

Wanda Szeremeta began her playing career at Queen of Peace High School in North Arlington where she became the first 1,000 point scorer in the school's history. Upon graduation, Wanda went to Lamar University in Texas on an athletic scholarship. She transferred to Montclair State for her junior and senior years and the rest is history. In her junior year, Wanda was named to the All-New Jersey Conference Team and it was at this time that she earned her nickname of "Wicked". The title was given to her by the Sports Information Director at Montclair who said, "She had a wicked way about her". Her senior year was almost a dream come true. The squad made it to the final four in the country and it was an experience Wanda will never forget.

The Gems' Captain views her role on the team realistically. "I'll call the defenses and I'll make sure that everything is organized out there". Wanda also plays an important role off the court. "I'm the player representative. If we ever have any problems, which we really don't, I'm the mediator between the coaches and management".

When comparing last year's team with the current one, Wanda said, "This year we are more organized. Last year it was more of a one on one type of thing. We're much closer this year and we're more talented. We're a closer knit unit". Concerning next year, she stated, "The most important thing on any club in this league is depth. Next year, the club plans to sign Carol Blazejowski and Tara Heiss and if we get another big girl, we'll either be the number one team or we'll be right up there. Things look really positive". Wanda feels that the league has "the best crop of college talent ever" coming up in this year's draft. The young girls coming up are almost certainly going to ask for higher salaries than the girls already in the league and "Wicked" issues a warning, "They have to realize that we're still in the growing stages and if they keep their salaries down to a degree that is reasonable, then it will be all right".

Wanda really enjoys playing near her home. "I really get a thrill playing in Jersey because there are a lot of people I know and I'd rather play before my family and friends". "Wicked" shows a lot of emotion when she speaks about one of her most important achievements in the sport of basketball. "I'm an original Gem and that means more to me than anything else. I've been the Captain for two years and no one can ever take that away from me. It's something special and no one else will ever have. It's just a super feeling!". No one can deny Wanda Szeremeta of that honor. It's an honor that she truly deserves. Gem Stones found "Wicked Wanda"(she really isn't) to be very sincere in our conversation with her. She truly is...A Gem of a Gem!

THE MAN THAT MADE IT HAPPEN

"Ebullient" was the word used to describe Rob Milo's personality by New Jersey Monthly magazine. A more fitting word cannot be found, because the bubbling President of the New Jersey Gems has a personality that is unique not only in the sports' world, but in everyday life as well.

Rob was born in Camden on June 12, 1943. He attended both grammar and high school in Union and received a BBA in Marketing at the University of Miami in Florida in 1965. Upon graduation, he married his college sweetheart, Amy Lamparski, who was from Pittsburgh, Pa.

He founded Robert J. Milo Associates in 1977 to serve New Jersey with creative advertising, public relations, and marketing services. With twelve years of experience in industrial marketing, it was and still is, a rewarding and challenging experience.

The highlight of his career came in October of 1979, when he was appointed President of the New Jersey Gems after being instrumental in negotiating a purchase from the original owners of the franchise. In less than one month Rob set the sports world on fire. He acquired the most sought after woman player in the world, the former UCLA All-American and Indiana Pacer, Annie Meyers. After making other changes in personnel, the Gems did an about face. Besides an increase in attendance, the team has really begun to improve on the court. The Gems will almost certainly double last year's win total of nine and has proven to be one of the most competitive teams in the league.

Rob has three very interesting hobbies. He loves to collect Victorian antiques and decorate both home and office with them. Collecting beer cans and bottles from breweries all over the world is his second hobby. His third is collecting cookbooks and cooking seven course dinners for his friends.

Rob and Amy currently reside in Chatham Township. His beautiful split-level home is always very busy. Besides the basketball team being the talk of the house, the Milo's Old English Sheepdog, "Precious Shag Personality" is constantly keeping the duo occupied. "Person" is the Gems' team mascot and can be seen at every home game.

Rob Milo is a very personable and warm human being. His players and his associates have nothing but praise for him. He has a genuine interest in not only the team, but the fans as well. It is not uncommon to see Rob talking to anyone who visits the Dunn Sports Center, whether he knows them or not. If he doesn't know you, he will soon. He is the leader of the Gems' "family". He loves his work and he loves the Gems. He truly believes that the Gems and the WBL are here to stay. Believe in Robert J. Milo! He believes in you! If the WBL had a few more people like Rob, the league would be at the top of the sports world.

GEMS JUMBLE

Unscramble the following six team cities, or nicknames of teams. Then use the circled letters to find the puzzle answer.

- 1) S T U E H L ○ ○ ○
 - 2) I M A O D S N D ○ ○ ○ ○
 - 3) T R S A S ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
 - 4) I N T O A S E N M ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
 - 5) E M G S ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
 - 6) I R C A F N I A L O ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
- Clue to the final answer:
Last years' WBL champs.
(answers to appear in next weeks' issue)

Here are the answers to last week's puzzle: 1) Harris 2) Meyers 3) Geils 4) Szeremeta 5) Comerie 6) Browning 7) Landa 8) Burdick 9) Arturi 10) Podlesny. Final answer: Dunn Sports Center.

GEMS STATS AS OF FEB. 23

PLAYER	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	T.REB	AST	STL	AVG.
Meyers	214	544	174	226	225	137	125	23.2
Geils	199	491	110	146	128	118	84	18.8
Harris	52	89	17	29	72	6	5	17.3
Szeremeta	148	380	116	151	186	74	53	14.7
Comerie	111	220	81	130	248	44	31	12.6
Browning	78	229	83	122	184	48	33	8.9
Burdick	88	205	58	78	136	35	30	8.6
Simms	43	84	30	46	83	9	9	5.3
K. Young	3	7	3	4	2	1	0	9.0
F. Young	2	6	4	4	2	1	1	8.0
Arturi	10	17	4	6	12	3	3	2.2
Greer	1	5	1	3	0	2	2	0.5

GEMSTONES TO BE AVAILABLE IN OFF SEASON

The New Jersey Gems are proud to announce that Gemstones, the official newsletter of the Gems will be offered on a subscription basis during the off season. Plans are to publish the letter monthly between April and November, so that our fans can keep up with all the inside information on the team.

The total cost for the eight issues will be \$3.00. Why not get in on all the off season goings on and prepare yourself for next years' action?

Please fill out the following information and send it with a \$3.00 check or money order to: New Jersey Gems

6 Roosevelt Ave.

Chatham, N.J. 07928

Name _____

Address _____

Season ticket holders
receive at no cost -
please specify.