

Conceroog Maples Prepared For Royal Oak Invasion

Short Shots

By WILLIAM F. ZACK

Rud Gordon, president and one of the top players of the Birmingham badminton club, reports that a hard fought battle Friday brought the group a 7-7 tie with the Flint badminton club. The local group meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights at Cranbrook.

Season's play will culminate with an inter-club tourney at Grosse Pointe in January. Anyone interested in participating should call Bud (Mr. H. L.) Gordon or club secretary Jane Piggott.

Winner of the open derby stakes for dogs under two years of age last year, the Birmingham trials of the Weimaraner dog club of America was Henry Vasy-Acker owned by Betty Hoover.

The trials were held at Golden, Cal. The Birmingham-owned dog was handled by Henry Kozyrsky of Chesapeake.

A STEADY increase in interest in skiing in the lower peninsula already noted through increased patronage at the west Michigan sports centers—was proved correct by a survey by the business research bureau of Michigan State college.

The study disclosed that skiers in the area spent approximately \$5,000,000 last year. A breakdown showed 21 per cent were active in the sport for only a year or less; 31 per cent were in their second year.

Cranbrook's lower school football team closed out its most successful season in the school's history as they romped over St. Mary's, 27-0, in their final game. The squad, coached by Jim Kelly, dropped only its opening game to Detroit Day, but avenged that defeat by defeating the Day team 21-0.

Tom (The Bomb) Tracy, former Maples star who is now Tennessee's hard running fullback, was rated by Harry Robinson as the best long distance runner in the Vol's history.

Tracy, a 185-pound junior, has been a standout in every game this season, although his team has only a 4-4 record. His total of 775 yards in 105 carries for 5,000 average out to an outstanding record for the school yardage runner. Tracy needed only 41 yards, with a single game to top.

TOP COAT weather made Birmingham a pleasant place to be this week, but cut down on the effectiveness of the local hunters who had counted on their deer as the season opened.

Those who have already returned sport one from the smaller deer beds in years. Others are remaining in camp, with hopes of bagging their deer in the remainder of the season. It will be legal to kill does on one single day, Dec. 1.

Coach Jay Myers has only six men returning to his BHS swimming team from the squad which won the league race last year. Not a single diver is back in school, he reports.

BIRMINGHAM football fans who watched a determined Green Bay eleven are wondering how the patrol team will do against Packers today to say nothing of two probable matchups with Cleveland. On one point they are in complete accord: If the Pats are toppled from their throne this year, it will be because of an almost unbeatable opponent; the schedule, coached by Commissioner Bell.

Banquet Honors Gridders, Harriers
In honor of the football and cross country teams, the mothers will give a banquet December 9 in the high school cafeteria.

James K. Flack will be toastmaster, presenting the coaches and guest speakers.

Part of the program will consist of Coach's comments on individual players and reviews of the seasons.

Chairmen of the mothers' committee are Mrs. M. J. Taup, cross country; and Mrs. A. A. Watkins, representing football.

Other chairmen are invitations, R. E. Dyer; reservations, Mrs. C. G. Horton; programs, Mrs. J. Farvey Peters; hospitality, Mrs. Manuel Barrie; decorations, Mrs. John Allen.



A BUCK TO MAKE ANY FAMILY proud. This 10-point "old man" was the target of Varn L. Kilby, 20000 Smallwood, Southfield township, on the opening day of the season. Glennie, Mich. Kilby, who returned home Wednesday night, was hunting with Lea Grant, 1200 Pilgrim, (Conservation department officers estimated that the deer was 17 years old, an old age for the antler crew. Kilby is shown with Margaret Ann, age four, and Leonard, age 10. (Eccentric Photo)

Crane Winter Sport Program Beginning

Paul A. Thompson, director of athletics at Cranbrook school, this week announced the winter sports schedule, which will begin Dec. 1. The school will have a basketball team journey to Walled Lake high school. Other games and matches scheduled for the winter season are:

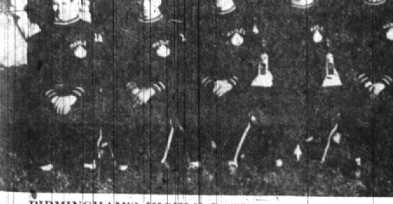
VARSITY BASKETBALL	
Kennedy Collegiate	Dec. 7
Romeo high school	Dec. 13
Flint Tech high school	Jan. 7, 1955
Patterson Collegiate	Jan. 11
Romeo high school	Jan. 14
Kennedy Collegiate	Jan. 18
Rochester high school	Jan. 23
Shady-Side Academy	Feb. 1
Walled Lake high school	Feb. 5
Patterson Collegiate	Feb. 16
Flint Tech high school	Feb. 18
Walled Lake high school	Feb. 22
Nichols school	Feb. 26
Western Reserve Acad	March 6
Games Away	

Robert Kenny, head coach; Paul Dotyk, Manager; James Kowalski, Co-Captain; John Hintermeister, Coach; David Turner, Co-Captain; John Newcomb, Asst. Manager.

JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL	
Walled Lake high school	Dec. 3
Kennedy Collegiate	Dec. 7
Romeo high school	Dec. 13
Flint Tech high school	Jan. 7, 1955
Patterson Collegiate	Jan. 11
Romeo high school	Jan. 14
Kennedy Collegiate	Jan. 18
Rochester high school	Jan. 23
Patterson Collegiate	Feb. 1
Flint Tech high school	Feb. 16
Walled Lake high school	Feb. 22
Games Away	

John Hintermeister, Coach.

FRESHMAN BASKETBALL	
Birmingham	Jan. 1955
Hazel Park	Jan. 14
Clawson	Jan. 21
Ferdale	Jan. 28
Clawson	Feb. 15



BIRMINGHAM'S HIGHLY RATED cross country team ended its season as Eastern Michigan league champions and finished sixth in the state meet. Members are, from left, front row, Bob Brown, Co-Captain Dave Long, Howard Ditch, Alan Fuhbringer, Doug Waggner, Howard Foose, Bill McFarlen, John Emmerling, Ralph Hotchkiss, Jay Stark and Mike Doyle. Top row, Jim Pass, Jim Yoernans, Ron McCrumm, Pete Sephar, Bod Pass, Pat Perry and Andy Hawley.

By KIRK FLACK

Labeled as the decided underdog, Birmingham's football team plays host to a powerful Royal Oak aggregation in the annual Turkey day game at the new Birmingham high school stadium with the kickoff slated for 11:00 a.m.

While the Maples hold a mark of only four wins and four losses, with a fifth place finish in the Eastern Michigan league, Royal Oak compiled the enviable record of seven victories against last year's setback. The Acorns trailed only Grosse Pointe's Border Cities league champions, and it was Grosse Pointe that the Acorns suffered their lone defeat by the slim margin of 7-0.

ONE OF the main factors in Royal Oak's success has been the almost perfect blending of excellent coaching with outstanding player material. Coach Jim Manilla has put together a fine 22-4 record, including two straight Thanksgiving day wins, during his three year tenure as Acorn mentor. A former player at the University of Michigan, Manilla teaches the Michigan system, a combination of the T and single wing formations run from an unbalanced line. This system, with exceptional personnel, has made the Royal Oak offense devastating both on the ground and in the air.

During the past two seasons Dick Nash and Jack Drabugh were among the area's finest backs. When their guidance it was believed an impossible task for Royal Oak to find two boys to take their place. This year, however, the Acorns have come up with not two, but four, backs who more than make up for the loss of the former stars.

Frank Finney, Darrel Harper, Dave Brown and Roy Soldano, Royal Oak's backfield which displays the school found combination of individual running and passing ability.

Co-captain and fullback Roy Soldano is the Oak's big gun. Weighing close to 200 pounds and possessing great speed, he excels on offense and from the defensive line backer position. Soldano was ranked sixth among Oakland county's leading scorers with nine touchdowns and 54 points.

FLEETFOOTED HALFBACKS Darrel Harper and Dick Pitcher are Royal Oak's bookends. Harper, to counterbalance Soldano's strength in the middle. Although all the Acorn players are good, Harper is quarterback Frank Finney, who blocks well in the single wing, and Dick Pitcher, a rugged safety man on the defense.

Favorite receiver of the Oak's passers is genetic and Bob Kelly, who caught two touchdown passes in Royal Oak's 38-7 conquest of Highland Park, last outing before the Birmingham game.

Also outstanding in the line is the other co-captain Dick Ullrich, a stellar guard and Bud Allen; and 240-pound tackle Ed Bartz.

BIRMINGHAM WILL have an uphill fight to salvage a 4-4 record and to turn a disappointing season into a fairly successful one.

The locals began the season by taking decisions from Southfield and Cranbrook, and they lost to Mt. Clemens and Ferndale. Back of the winning side of the ledger after playing their two finest games of the year against Hazel Park and East Detroit, the Maples left down in their last two tilts, Port Huron and Berkley.

If the pattern continues, the Little Brown Jug could return to Birmingham after a two-year absence.

Since the Jug was put up as a trophy in 1924, Royal Oak has won it 14 times and Birmingham ten, with five games.

THE SERIES ITSELF, the longest continuous high school rivalry in the state, began unofficially in 1908, with the first scheduled game in 1915. Since then the overall record shows a total of 111 wins for Royal Oak, 44 for Birmingham, and the seven ties, four of them scoreless.

Birmingham will be out to avenge last season's 28-0 Turkey day lacing, the highest winning score in the history of the series.

ALTHOUGH THE Maples weren't as sharp in their last two engagements as they had been previously, they have been working hard for the Royal Oak game and team morale is high.

Coach Carl Lennie has been shutting defensive backs during practice for the past week and a half, in an attempt to strengthen the Maples' sogging mass defense.

No team has been able to run consistently against Birmingham since the 1947 season.

All-Time Greats Attending Game

The all-time greats of former Birmingham high school football teams will watch the annual Turkey day game between the Maples and Royal Oak.

The all-stars were invited by the athletic department. Although no rule to take part in the actual game, the alumni will sit on the bleachers and be honored in half time ceremonies.

The championship squad of 1933 has the largest representation on the team with four.

The Birmingham all-star 11 consists of ends, John Shepley and Frank McArthur; guards, Bob Harlow and Clayton Joyce; tackles, Tom Miller and Dale McCallan; center, Harold Watts; quarterback, Ralph Schwarze; halfback, Tom Traub; and Hugh Mack; fullback—Kenneth Hunt.

All the former Maple gridirers still live in the Detroit area except Tom Miller, but a few work in other cities. The only all star still playing football is Tom Traub, Kenessey's brilliant fullback.

Hi-Y Sells Wreaths

The Birmingham Kanabans Hi-Y club is taking orders for wreaths and balls in the coming weeks to raise money for use in the club program. The club is active in service to the school and participates in YMCA World Service and other community programs.

B'ham Swimmers Start Title Defense

Birmingham high school swimmers now practice under Coach Jay Myers, will open its season Dec. 8 at Hazel Park. Other teams the championship defending squad will face are:

Hazel Park—Dec. 8	7:30 p.m.
At Ferndale—Dec. 21	4:00 p.m.
At Pontiac—Jan. 5	7:30 p.m.
At Mt. Clemens—Jan. 13	7:30 p.m.
Ferdale—Jan. 18	7:30 p.m.
Port Huron—Jan. 25	7:30 p.m.
At Hazel Park—Feb. 1	7:30 p.m.
At Mt. Clemens—Feb. 11	3:45 p.m.
League—Feb. 21	3:00 p.m.
State Meet—Mar. 12	8:00 p.m.

Ski Championship Meet Scheduled

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—The attracted the outstanding exhibitions of the sport in the middle Michigan open skiing championships will be held at Briar Hill west, with an entry list in excess of 500.

This will be the fifth competition sponsored by the Michigan Ski Assn. last year that Briar Hill has been announced by William E. Scoville, director of the competition, sponsored the competition. Contacted under sanction of the Central United States Ski Assn. winter schedule includes Caterline, Inter-Club, Skit meet



BEST IN SHOW at Rock Island, Ill., was Int. Ch. Dark Star of Franklin, Labrador retriever owned by Fred T. Martin of Franklin and shown with his handler Dick Cooper of Mandeville, Ill. The Rock Island show had an entry of 600 dogs. In his last 37 titles on the bench Star has been placed 11 times in the sporting group with three first as well as his best in show rating, all at less than two years. This is an outstanding record for any show dog and "sensational" for one of Star's breed, Mrs. Martin claims.

Baker Bobcats Start Cage Schedule Dec. 9

Spigit K. Baker junior high school will put its first cage team on the mats Dec. 9 at Roseville. Other games on their schedule are:

Dec. 9—Roseville	Away 3:30
Dec. 15—Fitzgerald	Away 3:30
Jan. 1—Madison	Home 3:30
Jan. 15—Avondale	Away 3:30
Jan. 19—Clawson	Away 3:30
Jan. 27—Roseville	Home 3:30
Feb. 1—Fitzgerald	Home 3:30
Feb. 15—Madison	Away 3:30
Feb. 17—Avondale	Home 3:30
Feb. 23—Clawson	Home 3:30

at the Caterline Winter Sports meet (Caterline, February 5 and 6) and the Michigan State and February 14 (senior events).

The Birmingham Eccentric

SPORTS

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MEN'S NIGHT
Monday, Dec. 6th
7 to 10 P. M.

The Sportsman

Bob Covert
Erwin Wilson
Leo Renault

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116 S. Woodward
Birmingham