

Sports Birmingham Stops Bathers in Final Seconds

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SPORTS
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ONE OF THE MOST exciting area prep basketball games in recent years was played Friday night between Birmingham high school and Mt. Clemens.

Anyone's game right down to the wire, a cool-headed freshman named Kelly (no relation) made the difference. Trailing by one point with four seconds left in the game, substitute guard Tom Kelly stepped to the free-throw line and dropped two perfect shots through the hoop for the winning margin, 50-49.

It was the first Eastern Michigan league game for the Maples and the victory put them in the top spot in the league standings.

MT. CLEMENS had a 49-48 lead with two minutes left in the game but couldn't increase the margin despite several clutch scoring opportunities. The Bathers controlled the ball during the final minutes and only a mental misfire by Mt. Clemens' best player of the night, who went from hero to "goat" in a matter of seconds, gave Birmingham the victory.

Forward Marv Ulman, the game's high scorer with 18 points, got possession of the ball after a jump with just seconds remaining and instead of waiting for the clock to run out Ulman raced down the floor and was given a charging foul which Kelly converted into victory.

REFEREE JIM MANILA, Royal Oak athletic director and football coach, made his debut before the Maples fans and did a commendable job on some close calls.

It was a hard night on Maple coach John Petrakis who jumps up and down on every play and who probably wore out at the finish than the players of either squad. The signal continues to show improvement with every game. Most of the team came out late for practice because of the long football season but are starting to come around.

Guard John Fleser, one of the few non-football players in the squad, has captured the first string guard position. Fleser, a transfer from Flint Central, has been the leading Birmingham scorer for the past two games.

Forwards Don Haugh, Don Picman and George Huffman and center Bob Isbell are starting to play a stronger game under the backboards which was the big Maple weakness at the beginning of the season.

SPORT SHOTS: If you want to do something about that bulging gut and thin arms and who doesn't, check into the Birmingham adult recreation program which gets under way Jan. 10.

Program conducted by the recreation board will be held on Tuesday evenings until spring at the Birmingham high school. Group interest will determine the number of events in the program.

WILT "THE STILT" Chamberlain is only a freshman at Kansas university but is already being touted as the best basketball player of all-time.

Chamberlain was probably the most sought-after high school basketball player in history with over 140 colleges bidding for his services.

THE SEVEN-FOOT giant from Philadelphia lived up to his reputation two weeks ago by leading the Kansas frosh squad to an unheard of 81-71 victory over the varsity. Chamberlain scored 42 points in spear-heading the drive.

Dr. P. H. G. Allen, Kansas basketball coach, has a hard-earned right to wear the "Stilt" will be eligible for varsity competition.

"He easily has greater possibilities than any player we ever have had here. He has co-ordination, can run and can jump," Allen said, "and he is the best I ever saw." Allen added.

Smile A Minute
Hubby—Ah, let me be just one more horse, dear, and I promise you it will be the last.
Wife—It usually is.

Maples Beat Southfield In Overtime, 64-61

Thrilling finishes are getting to be a specialty of the Birmingham high school basketball team. After stopping Mt. Clemens by one point Friday night they turn around and defeat Southfield, 64-61, an overtime Tuesday night.

Guard John Fleser was the hero for the Maples this time when he tied the score at the end of regulation play, 56-56, with a 25-foot jump shot from the gamut off. Fleser turned in three points in the overtime period for a total of 17, high man for the third straight game.

The Jays jumped to an early lead but Birmingham managed to tie the score, 15-15, at the end of the first period. Southfield came back strong in the second stanza to lead, 32-27, at the intermission.

WITH THREE minutes left in the third period Fleser shot the ball under the hoop for a driving lay-up shot that put Birmingham in front, 39-38.

Southfield free throws by Steve Klimak put the Jays in front, 42-45, as the third quarter ended. Fleser shot the ball under the hoop for a driving lay-up shot that put Birmingham in front, 49-48, with a minute left in the final period but the "come-from-behind" Maples weren't through yet.

Birmingham called time out with 30 seconds left and Coach John Petrakis' strategy called for Fleser to get the ball and shoot. It worked perfect and the score was tied.

IT WAS anybody's ball game until the final seconds. The score was tied on five different occasions in the lead changed hands 12 times during the contest.

Birmingham's Bob Isbell and Bob Southfield had 15 points each.

Jays Top Van Dyke For 2nd Straight Win
Southfield won its second straight game Friday night, downing Van Dyke, 59-47, for its first win in Inter-Lakes league competition.

Leaving all the way, the Jays showed their best form of the season. Southfield outscored Van Dyke 29 to 19 during the first period to lead 18-12 at the intermission.

Center Eric Leighton with seven field goals and three free throws took scoring honors with 17 points.

Guards Bob Evans and Ken Meier had 11 and 10 points, respectively.

SOUTHFIELD had come back with two victories after dropping its first three games. Coach Bob Walls hopes the boys have

Cage Tournament Tues. and Wed.
The 1955 University of Detroit Christmas basketball tournament featuring Michigan Young, Toledo, Penn. State and Detroit will be held Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of next week at the U. of D. Memorial building.

Detroit will meet Penn. State while Toledo faces Birmingham Young in the first night's action. The winners and losers of these two games will meet in the second night's games.

Brigham Young, presently ranked eighth in the country, in the pre-tournament favorite. Detroit has been the affair for the past two years.

OWEN LOCKENBACH of the firm of O'Neil Hewlett and Lockenbach advised the City Commission on December 22, 1955, that it was anticipated that the artificial rink would not be in operation before January 15, 1956.

EVERY EFFORT has been made to push, as rapidly as possible, the completion of the neighborhood rink at the new skating rink station, and it was anticipated that it would be open during the holidays, prior to the latest report of the architects.

Superintendent of Parks, Charles W. Gale, and his forces are attempting to establish a satisfactory neighborhood rink at Sharton School. However, a skating rink is necessary to permit better sharing of the ground so that a reasonably smooth ice area can be formed.

It is hoped that the weather will permit this in the next several weeks so that the rink may be established at this location.

ONE DAY OLDER
When Al Kaline took the American League batting crown with a mark of .340, he did something no other 29-year-old had done since Ty Cobb did it with .374 in 1890.

Actually Kaline is the youngest to perform the feat. Cobb's birthday was December 15, while Kaline was born December 10.

Kelley Wins Game 50-49 In Final Four Seconds

Substitute guard Tom Kelly was the "man of the night" for Birmingham high school Friday night.

With four seconds left in the game, Kelly sank two free throws to give the Maples a 50-49 victory over Mt. Clemens. The Bathers had the game appearing to go to that time. Mt. Clemens' Marv Ulman got possession of the ball with 10 seconds left to go and a one point lead but instead of shooting Ulman drove down the floor and was given a penalty for charging into Kelly.

Ulman was the first Eastern Michigan league game for Mt. Clemens and the second straight victory for the Maples.

Mt. Clemens started fast, taking a 15-11 lead at the end of the first period but the Maples took control in the second quarter and led 29-21, at the intermission.

THE BATHERS pulled to within three points of the end of the third stanza, 42-39. Ulman put them in front, 49-48, on a driving lay-up with two minutes left in the game.

That set the stage for Kelly's heroics. Ulman drove down the floor and was given a foul. Ulman was the game's high scorer with 18 points.

FRANCOIS hit John Fleser, a transfer from Flint Central, was high for the Maples with 13 points. Teammate Eric Leight had 10.

FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS
The Birmingham Eclectic's work will also be done by the Birmingham Eclectic's Christmas and New Year's holidays are observed on Monday.

We'd appreciate your assistance in getting a copy in a way for these next two issues.

CRANBROOK JV RALLY STOPS BARONS 48-34
Bloomfield Hills couldn't keep up with a Cranbrook javye fourth quarter rally and went down to their fourth straight defeat, 48-34, last Thursday on the Baron home court.

Trailing 25-14 at the half, the Barons outscored the javyes 15 to 4 in the third period, giving the Cranbrook a slim 32-26 lead.

The Cranbrook came back strong in the final period by consistently breaking through the Barons' attempt at a foul-out press. Guard John Studebaker of Cranbrook kept the game on an even keel by putting on three different occasions to score on easy lay-up shots for the javyes.

DAVE DRURY was the only Baron player to hit double figures with 14 points. Cranbrook's Bob Klein was the game's high scorer with 15 points while Studebaker hit 10.

Harvey Pranian of Bloomfield Hills has been averaging 12 points a game with 10 to three points against the Cranbrook. Bloomfield hit on only two of 11 free throw attempts.

It was the second loss in 24 hours for the Barons who were beaten by the Redford Union javyes Wednesday night, 59-40.

Pranion was the Baron high scorer with 12 points while Brock Kelly of Redford Union scored javye honors with 22 points.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS reserves beat Cranbrook's freshmen squad 36-18. It was the first game of the season for the reserves.

This is the first regular basketball season for the Barons who will be idle until Jan. 6 when they resume the cage season with Oak Park.

Coach Harold Trotts' club is having a tough season but can't be expected to show much until they get a year of experience. Most of the boys are new to the game and still have plenty to learn but Trotts is confident that they will break into the win column before the season is over.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
Player FG FT TP
Danziger 4 6 5
Barrett 4 0 8
Crawley 1 1 14
Pranion 1 1 3
Stouffer 2 0 4
Totals 16 2 34

CRANBROOK JAVYES
Player FG FT TP
Studebaker 4 4 22
McCall 4 1 9
Crawley 1 1 3
Campbell 4 1 9
Klein 6 3 15
Totals 19 10 48

COUNTRY DAY ANNUAL ALUMNI DINNER SET
Detroit Country Day school will hold its annual alumni dinner at the school December 27th at 6 p.m. Allen Shaw, Country Day's headmaster, will be the toastmaster at the affair which will be presided by a basketball game between the school's varsity squad and the alumni.

The school is presently located at Wyoming and Seven mile roads in Detroit but plans to start building a new school at the southwest corner of 13 Mile road and Lahser in the near future.

GEORGE A. CAVANAUGH, founder of the little league in Birmingham, was named honorary chairman of the board.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE will begin its January 22 when Frank Cummings, 4 Park and Embassy Methodist will join the league. Standings to date are:

Redeemer Lutheran Church	9	0	4
First Presbyterian Church	7	0	4
First Baptist Church	6	0	4
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First Lutheran Church	6	0	4
First Baptist Church	6	0	4
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