

Out of Sports

By WILLIAM F. ZACK
Sports Editor

Drawing for the state-regionals will be held Monday night when coaches meet at the high school. Teams entered are Berkley, De LaSalle, of Detroit, Southfield, East Detroit, Mt. Clemens, Pontiac, Waterford township and the Maples.

Location of the quarterly playoff site will not be determined until after the prelims.

As we indicated here more than two months ago, the Maple cage team is one of the gamest aggregations that ever tossed a ball into a basket.

They have proved that by moving into a tie for first place in the EML league with the highly rated Mt. Clemens five, and the final game of the year, when BHS meets the Bathers in the Birmingham court is almost certain to determine the final league prizewinner.

Certainly Coach John Petrakis and his squad have already earned the admiration of local fans by compiling a 11-1 winning list so far.

HOWEVER, the lopsided figure in the win column doesn't tell much of the story as far as the gameness of the team is concerned. The EML tie is one of the best balanced leagues in the state, with each team potentially able to down any other on a given night.

To indicate the pressure that the Maple squad is under this year, there has been an average of less than six points separating the loser and winner in each of the twelve contests.

In games that are close, either team is very apt to get hot, or perhaps lucky, especially on its own court, with the support of local fans.

ACTUALLY, the only lopsided score so far was the 43-34 win by the Maples scored over hapless East Detroit. In addition to the thrilling overtime victory over Port Huron last week, the local five have won five of their games by four points or less.

In nearly all of the contests this year, the Maples have had to come from behind at one point or another. The fact that they have been able to do so successfully is a tribute to the courage and tenacity of the entire squad.

WHEN THE state regional tourney begins at the Birmingham high school gym, keep your eye on the Maples. It is entirely possible that they may go much higher in state ranking than they Birmingham team has shown in the past.

It's certain that they will have plenty of fans pulling for them.

The following letter was received by The Birmingham Eccentric:

Dear Mr. Zack:
It was officially requested at the winter meeting of the Athletic Board of Control of Birmingham high school that you be sent this letter in appreciation of your efforts in creating a sports page in The Birmingham Eccentric.

Our coaching staff of eight coaches, our principal, and myself feel that you should know of our high regard for the content, organization, and space given to the athletic programs of Southfield, Cranbrook, Troy and Birmingham. It is our hope that favorable publicity of this type will cause more of our youngsters to go out for a wholesome form of activity, which will not only keep more of them off the streets during the day and in bed during the night, but offer opportunities for further development of mind and body.

We hope that The Eccentric will continue to develop this form of public interest.

Please feel that your efforts have been well received and that our commendation is unanimous.

Very truly yours,
Frank Whitney, Director
Recreation and Physical Education

Many thanks. We believe that a properly managed municipal sports program for the city's youth is one of the most important of civic projects. We will continue to do what we can to help promote it.

Busch Team Still Has Barnum Lead

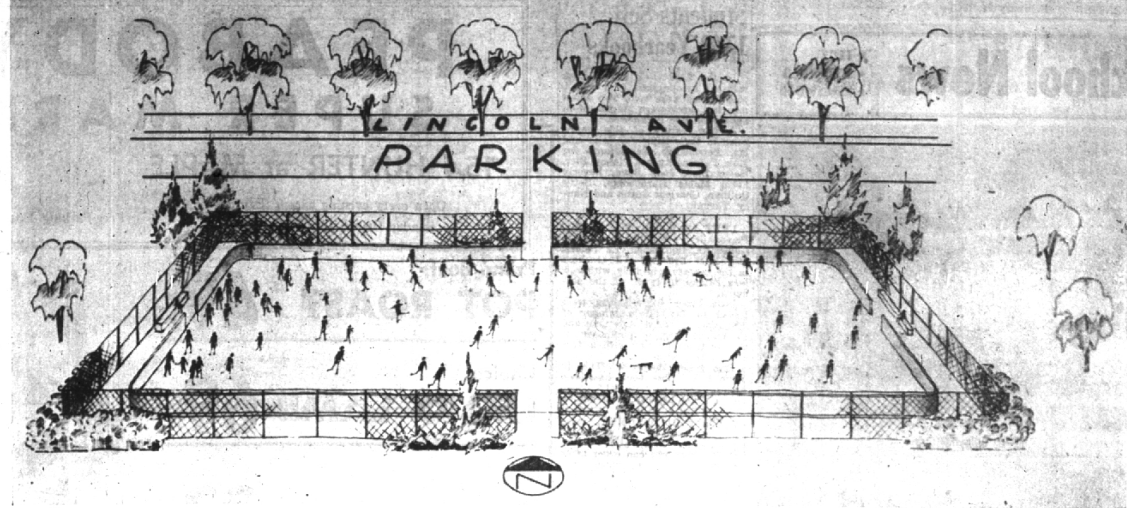
Busch's team defeated Boucher's team 30-27 Monday in the Barnum eighth grade intramural league and Isabel's cagers defeated Hans's team 28-18 in the seventh grade league.

These were the only two intramural games played last week. The floor was used by teams in the seventh and eighth grade intramural leagues.

Wednesday, Feb. 16, Madonna's team from the seventh grade intramural league defeated a seventh grade team from Adams school 30-23.

EIGHTH GRADE STANDINGS	
Busch	W 1
Boucher	L 0
Kelly	W 0
SEVENTH GRADE STANDINGS	
Madonna	W 1
Isabel	L 0
Hans	L 0

HIGHPOINT MEET
Jan. 21—eighth grade
Busch (Busch) 29
Boucher (Boucher) 27
Katie (Katie) 25
Isabel (Isabel) 18
Hans (Hans) 10



Plan for Proposed Eton Park Artificial Ice Rink

This architect's sketch, prepared especially for the recreation board this week by Herbert Herzberg, city planning technician, graphically illustrates the layout and location of Birmingham's proposed \$125,000 skating rink.

The sketch permits city electors, who will vote April 4 on a bond issue to permit construction of the rink, to visualize the design and proportions, as well as the location of the rink.

APPROXIMATELY 100 FEET to the left of the rink is Eton road, while Lincoln is indicated across the top of the sketch.

Parking facilities, as well as the building which will house ice machinery, washrooms and a warming room are also indicated.

The rink would have a total area of 115 by 215 feet, with an 85 by 185 foot skating surface.

The rink would be readily convertible for summer use as either basketball or tennis courts. The machinery to provide the ice is to be housed in an adjacent building, which would also have washroom and warming room facilities.

The skating surface will accommodate more than 100 skaters at one time. Plans also include a lighting system for evening skating and a public address system for music and announcements.

THE PROPOSAL, which will be voted on by city residents in the April 4 election, includes a total cost of \$125,000. Of that amount, \$100,000 is earmarked for rink construction. A 150-car hard surfaced parking lot is scheduled to cost \$15,000.

Adequate supervision of the rink would be provided through the Recreation Board.

The program would be developed to supply activities indicated as desirable by the public, including general skating, figure skating, instruction and organized games, possibly including amateur hockey.

Such activities would be scheduled to avoid possible conflict.

Maples Down Hurons

By KIRK FLACK

One of the largest home crowds of the season occupied the Birmingham gym last Friday and was not disappointed when the Maple varsity basketball team edged an upset-minded Port Huron quintet, 53-51 in a thrilling overtime contest.

The score, coupled with Boucher's unexpected 19-17 triumph over Mt. Clemens, left Birmingham's Bathers charging the league leadership with identical 7-1 records and gave the Maples an overall mark of 12 victories against a lone setback.

It also ran Birmingham's unbeaten string to ten in the row and marked the fourth time in as many games that Port Huron has met defeat at the hands of the Maples, including this season's earlier decision which Birmingham took by a score of 21-16.

AT THE VERY beginning it was obvious that the Hurons were out to deplore the dispoaters who had cast them in the underdog role. They put on a press immediately on seeing the opening jump. This seemed to unnerve Birmingham and enabled the Big Red to hustle to a 10-12 first quarter lead.

Although neither team shot too well from the floor, the Hurons' effective defense, good rebounding and accuracy from the foul line kept them out in front until late in the second stanza when their goals by Birmingham's Jim Johnston and Bill Wilkinson knotted the score 20.

After Roger Livingston put the Big Red back in the lead with two freethrows, Ed Peters, dropped in the equalizer and Dick Sheldon swished a one-handed just as the tremendously exerting first half, in which the lead changed hands five times, ended with the Maples on top 24-22.

FOLLOWING the intermission the teams continued trading baskets until Sheldon popped in a field goal to put Birmingham to rest to push Birmingham to a 30-23 advantage. While the Maples weren't playing their best brand of defensive ball, they had gained control of the backboards to hold a 37-32 margin at the close of the third quarter.

All the drama that can possibly be packed into a game of basketball featured the final period and had the crowd on its feet most of the time.

Bob Goldsmith hit on two attempts from the floor before Port Huron closed the gap to slay the Maple lead to 41-40. But Birmingham increased its ledge and with 2 1/2 minutes remaining and the Maples ahead 46-43, they began to stall. This looked like the ball game. However, Port Huron had no intention of conceding victory and Rich Robins narrowed the margin to 47-45.

Then with but 30 seconds showing on the scoreboard above, the Big Red captain Lyle McAlley eased up a hook shot that rolled around the rim and dropped through to deadlock the count at 47-47 as the regulation time ran out.

IN THE tension-filled three-minute overtime period Birmingham again showed its mettle as a pressure team. Peters' field goal and a brace of freethrows by Sheldon and Goldsmith, spaced between McAlley's four points, gave the Maples a 53-51 advantage. But just as Birmingham started to freeze the ball, the Hurons gained possession and almost knotted the score again. However, when the chips were down, they failed to convert four attempts from close in, and the final buzzer sounded.

BHS Tankers Overwhelm Mt. Clemens Tankers

By JIM MOCK

The Maple swim team sweet over Mt. Clemens 50-41 last Friday afternoon in the latter's home pool. During the meet Birmingham swept six events and four seconds out of eight events.

The meet opened with a close finish in the 50 yard freestyle between Anne Hag of Mt. Clemens and Dick Morse of Birmingham. Maple placing first won Tom Hiza of Jay Lewis, Wayne George, Gordon Eide and Pete Storz.

ROBINS, BIG RED sophomore standout, flipped in 11 field goals and three charity tosses for 27 points to take high scoring honors, while Sheldon's 10 point offensive effort paved the Maple attack.

Due to the temporary loss of pivotman Bob Isbell, Birmingham coach John Petrakis started Don Demann at the center position. Because of an eligibility rule it was Demann's first game since his transfer from Pontiac St. Francis; he gave a creditable performance, netting three points, including one basket.

(See MAPLES, Page 6, Sec. 5)

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SALE SECOND WEEK SALE

DRASTIC REDUCTIONS ON SKI EQUIPMENT

SKI PANTS	100% wool gabardine	Originally	Now
	Dacron	\$21.75	\$17.40
		\$32.50	\$24.95
		\$14.95	\$15.95
		\$24.95	\$21.70
SKIS	Northland	\$18.50	\$14.30
		\$22.50	\$18.00
		\$29.95	\$23.95
		\$39.95	\$31.95
		\$49.95	\$39.95
		\$75.00	\$59.95
	Spalding	\$54.50	\$43.60
		\$39.95	\$31.95
	Holley	\$59.95	\$55.95
		\$99.00	\$24.00
			\$ 7.95
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EML Tankers Will Meet Next Week

By Bob Terry

The schools of the Eastern Michigan league will meet next Wednesday in Hamorn pool to decide the championship in what should prove to be the closest league meet in EML history.

The biggest threat to Birmingham, six-times champion, is Hazel Park, which just finished its best dual meet season and is out to stop the Maples from taking their seventh straight EML title.

Individual threats to Birmingham are Denny Ford, Fernalde, Goldsmith, and Ron Sarsukin, Mt. Clemens, and Ron Sarsukin, Jerry Pierce, Bob Wheeler, and Nick Carone, Hazel Park.

Bartering injuries and illness, the Maple swimmers will be at full strength for the final next week and out to fight for their seventh EML title.

League swimming teams are Birmingham, Fernalde, Hazel Park, Mt. Clemens, and Port Huron. East Detroit does not have a swim team due to the lack of a swimming pool.

BHS Frosh Down Cranbrook 31-20

By Dave Sutton

Leading all the way, the Birmingham freshmen cagers posted a 31-20 victory over a weak and undermanned Cranbrook team on the latter's court last Friday afternoon.

After jumping to a quick lead the Maples displayed steady but not perfect basketball in landing up a 13-7 half-time advantage.

The Cranes saw any faint ray of victory hopes disappear in the third quarter when Birmingham nailed ten points.

CLEANING the Maples' bench in the final period kept the game from becoming a complete rout. In 3 1/2 quarters Cranbrook outscored the winners 9-8 to close the margin of victory to 11 points.

Chuck Gibson led the Maples with 11 points to be the game's top man.

BOX SCORE			
Birmingham			
Gibson	15	11	11
Carlisle	5	0	4
Wells	2	0	4
Stratton	2	0	2
Ward	1	0	2
Chaplin	1	0	2
Chaplin	1	0	2

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