out of sports

By WILLIAM F. ZACK
Sports Editor

THE HOTTEST basketball race league history seems to be developing with the ending of the first round play Friday January 8th. There will be no let-up Friday when Coach Fred Lee's East Detroit Shamrocks appear in a game which could eliminate most of Birmingham's hopes for a championship. The fact that Mt. Clemens was able to outlast them by only three points illustrates the very little difference from first place to last place teams in league standings.

There can be little doubt that the game will begin where football ended with both teams expecting and giving battle all the way. The fact that Birmingham will be on its home court might outbalance the fact that East Detroit has everything to gain and nothing to lose. The reserve contest will start at 6:45 p.m.

Although the next three weeks will have Birmingham tankers invading pools at Hazel Park, Plymouth and Mt. Clemens it is expected that the continued improvement shown by the relatively green squad will be enough to bring home the dual meet championship. This was not much in evidence until the remarkable determination of team efforts to carry on the Birmingham tradition made its impact.

The biggest test by far, however, will occur Feb. 23rd when the team must qualify enough men to keep the championship in Birmingham at the league finals in the Barnum pool March 2. If this is possible, Birmingham will have won 6 league championships in a row.

The Maples' win over Port Huron again demonstrated the fact the team makes up in determination at all to pre-game predictions and proceeded to keep right on plugging until they pulled the game out of the fire.

With the lead changing hands seven times, the local quintet matched better-than-average shooting with their best defensive effort of the season to win by a three point margin.

Coach Petrakis' team will be one to watch closely in the regional tourney. They can shoot, and they don't stop running. It's entirely conceivable that the Maples will be high up there when the state eliminations end.

Rep. George A. Dondero has introduced a bill to extend enforcement of the Water Pollution Control act, which was due to expire. This law is of importance to sportsmen by controlling factors which in the past have sharply decreased the number of game fish available. Under Dondero's bill, the act would remain in effect until at least 1958. Other bills to streamline and strengthen the act are expected.

TROY CAGE captain Jack Acton set a new scoring record for the school Friday as the Colts downed Clawson, 83-22. The tall forward tallied 37 points as the Troy team kept a commanding lead throughout the game, holding Clawson to only three points in the entire first period, and ten at the half. The win keeps Troy in a three-way tie with Madison and Roseville for first place in the Inter-Lakes league.

Detroit Lions' exhibition basketball team will make an appearance at the Troy High School gymnasium, Feb. 17 against a team made up of the Troy faculty, according to Peyton Goodwin, Troy athletic director.

The Lions' team is made up of some pretty fair basketball players according to Goodwin. Many of them starred in the court game as well as football during their high school and college careers. The team includes such well known players as Jug Girard, Bob Hoernschemeyer, Doug Dibble, Leon Creekmur, Sherwin Gandee, Charlie Ane.

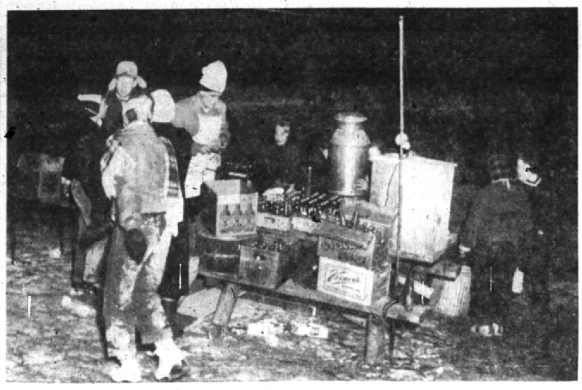
Supplementing the already star-studded cast will be Al Barrow, ex-MSC quarterback and now a Washington Redskin signal caller, and Don Lund, former outfielder with the Detroit Tigers. Lund played football and basketball at the University of Michigan.

The game is scheduled for 8:15 p.m. and will be played in the Troy gym on Livernois rd. near 16 Mile rd.

The annual 12-week training course for German shepherd dogs, sponsored by the German shepherd dog club of Detroit will start Feb. 3.

Directed by R. W. Buchmann, a well known obedience trial judge, the classes will be held at Vester Hall, 177 Vester, Ferndale, a block north of Nine Mile off Woodward. Anyone owning a shepherd is invited to enter his dog.

Thousands of people read The Eccentric Classified Ads. So remember, if you want to sell that hard-to-get-rid-of article, advertise it in the Want Ad section of The Birmingham Eccentric.



CHILDREN FROM THREE COUNTIES AT TWP. RINK
Howard C. Silverthorne host at skating party. (Eccentric Photo)

Township Youngsters Skate at Rink Party

BARBARA REASON

"If anyone happened to drive by the Howard Silverthorn's home on the corner of W. Fourteen mile and old Mill road, Saturday, Jan. 22 around 6:00 p.m. they would have seen a live reproduction of one of Grandma Moses' skating scenes.

The small lake behind the Silverthorn home was bustling with skaters from the Berkshire.

This is not the first time Howard Silverthorn has outdone himself in entertaining the neighborhood children, but giving a skating party for his young friends has really put him at the top of their lists.

FLOODLIGHTS beaming down from the top of Silverthorn's home light up the whole area and music was supplied for the skaters by a record player with a huge speaker. Off to one side of the rink "Uncle Howard" complete with chef's hat and apron was serving hot dogs and hot chocolate to the children and hot coffee and doughnuts to any parents who were standing around watching the festivities.

During the winter months Howard keeps the lake in good skating condition by occasionally reflooding the surface and continual scraping with his power plow which he operates while sitting on a chair tailed on to a sled which is drawn behind the plow.

Those who skate on the lake must abide by certain rules. There should be no roughness among skaters, no dogs allowed and no hockey played when little children are on the rink or when it is crowded. Speaking of hockey, Uncle Howard recently purchased some hockey equipment for youngsters who don't own any, so that no one would be left out of the game.

Mrs. Silverthorn helps too by keeping a fresh supply of cookies and snacks available for the children. When there is no skating allowed because of thawing or bad weather, Mrs. Silverthorn says they really miss the children and the activity around the house.

IN THE summer the neighborhood children can paddle around the lake in a small row boat but only under the watchful eyes of Mr. or Mrs. Silverthorn. Uncle Howard just happens to have popsicles and ice cream sticks to pass out to the kids, of which he takes out of his well stocked deep freeze. Occasionally you will see him riding up Old Mill road on his powermower drawing a small cart behind with four or five children in it giving them a ride.

The Silverthorns may very well have good reasons for loving children, because they have three children of their own. Two daughters and a son, and five grandchildren. There is Roberta, Richard and Georgina, children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thomas and Bradford (Skippy) and Beth Holy, children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith. Their son Warren is in the Army and at present is stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Silverthorn have lived in the Berkshires for nine years and the children in the neighborhood love them and have more or less adopted Mr. Silverthorn as an uncle, while the parents feel that he is a Santa Claus and Pied Piper of the Berkshires.

Maple Reserves Bow to Hurons

By KIRK FLACK

Birmingham's reserve basketball team met defeat at the hands of the well-balanced Port Huron second 55-48 last Friday night on the Big Red floor.

The contest was never in doubt with Port Huron holding a comfortable lead throughout the game and Birmingham unable to find themselves until late in the final quarter. As a result of the setback the Maple record now stands at six wins and three losses with a 2-2 mark in League play.

Port Huron shooting early, outplayed the Maples to control the ball well and consistently come down with the rebounds, pushed to an early advantage which was maintained until the half ended with the Big Red out in front by a margin of 28-17.

When the teams returned to the floor, Birmingham still had trouble in penetrating Port Huron's tight defense. Although the Maples showed improvement on the backboards, they found themselves on the short end of a 12-23 score going into the fourth quarter.

Midway in the final period Birmingham put on a strong defense which temporarily checked the Big Red. But it was too late for a comeback. Although the Maples displayed some fine shooting, Port Huron hung on there to take a convincing 55-48 decision.

Ken Martin, Port Huron, took high scoring honors with four field goals and three charity tosses for 11 points, while Tony Evangelista paced the Birmingham attack with ten point.

The Maples play East Detroit tomorrow night in another important Eastern Michigan league contest, with the opening jump set for 6:45 p.m. in the Birmingham gym.

PORT HURON (55)

	G	F	T
Wells, f	4	2	10
Charron, f	1	0	2
Barr, f	1	0	2
Flanagan, f	1	0	2
Alcock, c	1	0	2
Foster, g	0	2	2
Herring, g	0	2	2
Wilson, g	1	0	2
Jacob, f	1	4	5
Martin, f	4	3	11
Weed, g	1	5	7
Totals	16	17	55

BIRMINGHAM (48)

	G	F	T
Fredrickson, f	2	0	4
Duncan, f	0	1	1
Kelly, c	2	4	8
Wiggins, c	1	0	2
Cowell, g	1	0	2
Evangelista	4	2	10
Gaither, g	1	0	2
Farmer, g	1	0	2
Rice, f	1	0	2
Robertson	1	0	2
Totals	18	4	40

Score at half: Port Huron 28, Birmingham 17.

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Babe Ruth, Little League Name New Officers for '55

The Board of Directors of Birmingham Little League held their first meeting of the year last week at the Community House. The directors elected the following officers for 1955:

president, Glenn M. Emery; vice president, Don Parry; secretary, Glenn C. Jewett; treasurer, Keith Alvern; president of American league, Boyd Simmons; president of National league, Art Farrell; president of farm system, Lou Clark.

IT WAS decided to limit the Little League activities to the American and National Leagues and the farm systems.

The plan to add another league of four teams, thereby increasing the number of boys participating, was shelved for the 1955 season because of insufficient financial backing.

Approximately $500.00 was allotted for equipment and uniforms for the coming season.

One new manager has been named for the American League. He is Robert Smart who will manage the Tigers. Other managers of the American league, returning from last year are Ed Mosher, Indians, Roland Walton, Yankees, and Robert W. Kirby of the Red Sox.

THE NATIONAL league has appointed two new managers. Chris Schearer, last year's National League president, will manage the Cubs, and Cliff Stanton, formerly a coach, will lead the Braves.

Managers returning from the last year are Al Robertson, of the Pirates, and Don Porteous of the Giants.

The next board meeting is scheduled to be held at the Community House on Feb. 9th.

Birmingham's Babe Ruth league plans to expand to six teams this season, newly-elected officers announced this week.

Because of the increasing interest in baseball among 13 to 15 year olds, the league's directors at a meeting in the Community House agreed to investigate the possibility of adding two more teams to the present setup.

PROBLEMS of additional managers, sponsors and another field were discussed as the group reorganized under its new officers and directors.

The following were elected: president, Dick Cloutan; vice president, Barney Johnson; secretary, Bob Squires; and treasurer, George Dixon.

Directors are Lou Perry, high school baseball coach; Ed Green, William R. Barnett, Bill Roehl, A. F. Boucher, Neil Hyde, Abe Parnie, and Wendell Mouw.

THE NEW board expressed its appreciation for the gruelling groundwork laid by the league's founders who retired from the organization at the annual meeting after serving three years. They are Dr. Ed Beer, Ed Leavenworth, Don Chaffee, and Jim O'Connor.

Junior High Dance

All junior high students are invited to the regular monthly square dance at the Birmingham Y building on tomorrow at 8 p.m. Those interested should call Mrs. Leslie Schaefer, 120 Hawthorne, and make reservations.

Want a good used car? Look in the Classified columns under "For Sale—Automobiles."

Cranes Downed By Patterson

AL BUTZEL

Cranbrook varsity basketball team met Patterson Collegiate of Ontario in one of the most exciting games in the Crane's court in several seasons.

Patterson won by the score of 62-61 but only after a last second Crane steal and lay-up rolled off the rim.

Patterson forged into an early lead and slowly increased this in the first quarter due to sloppy passing by Cranbrook. However the Cranes began to pick up in the second quarter. A 10 foot shot by Shaw Emmons tipped off the rim as the period ended, but the Cranes was still only a back pound behind.

The second half was close throughout with neither team ever able to put a point ahead. Cranbrook, and by the are quite should ing of Co-Captain Jim Knapp and the driving of Emmons led midway in the third quarter to a three point. However Patterson fought back and forged into a seven point lead as Jim Ott and Bob Vaquel sank long shots from everywhere on the floor.

Late in the fourth quarter the Cranes stormed back. Knapp, Emmons, Co-Captain Dave Turner, and Pete Bedford swiftly closed the gap to three points. When center Owen Fett buckeled a jump shot, the Cranes were behind by only 1 point, but there were only ten seconds remaining in the game.

However, Emmons stole the ball and passed to Bedford who drove in for a last second shot. The ball forward shot but the basketball rolled off the rim. Before another shot could be taken, the buzzer sounded ending the game. The high scorer was Emmons with 26 points. Fett followed with 15; August led the winners with 19 points. The Cranes record now stands at 4-2.

One out of every six buisinesses in the United States is automotive.

BHS Wins Eighth Game, Downs Port Huron 51-48

By Dick Morgan

The Maple cagers outlasted Port Huron's varsity last Friday night to score a 51-48 upset in an Eastern Michigan league thriller at Port Huron.

The Big Red jumped to an early 10-5 lead, but the never-say-die Maples rallied and knotted the score at 12-12 ending the first quarter.

Led by sharpshooting sophomore Rick Robins and deceptive Reg Hanton, the Hurons continued to outplay Birmingham and established a 25-20 intermission advantage.

THE SECOND half was an entirely different story with the Red-up Maples outrebounding, outscrapping and outshooting the surprised Hurons. Led by Ed Peters and Bill Isbell, the Maples went ahead 30-29 with but two minutes remaining in the third quarter and never relinquished the lead.

Midway through the final stanza Maple guard Dick Sheldon fouled out and was replaced by hefty Bill Swaney. Although threatened, the Maples retained their slim margin. Peters, Maple forward, led the game on ice when he scored two freethrows, making the score 51-48 with but five seconds remaining in the contest.

Port Huron's Robins took high scoring honors with 17 points and Isbell scored 15 for Maple high point man. Peters was next with 12 points for the Maples, connecting on six of seven charity tosses.

THE LEAD changed hands seven times during the contest, and there never was more than a seven point difference between the two scores.

Birmingham (51)

	G	F	T
Sheldon, g	1	1	3
Goldsmith, g	4	2	10
Vickers, f	1	0	2
Atkinson, f	1	0	2
Isbell, c	7	1	15
Totals	14	4	32

Port Huron (48)

	G	F	T
McAlvey, f	1	2	4
McCarty, f	1	0	2
Lathe, f	1	0	2
Hanton, g	1	0	2
Robins, c	7	3	17
Robins, g	2	0	4
Totals	13	5	31

Score at half: Port Huron 25, Birmingham 20.

BOWLING SCORES

LADIES JUNIOR HOUSE LEAGUE

	WON	LOST
Adams Greenhouse	58	18
Bloomfield Barbecue	51	24
Twin Pines	46	30
Birmingham Bowling	41	35
Dahlquist Sales	38	38
Fisher's Market	38	38
Tip Top Products	36	39
Sno-bol	35	41
Wesch Cleaners	34	43
Johnston Plumbing	32	44
Fed Inn	28	48
Young's	21	55

LADIES ALIBI LEAGUE

	WON	LOST
Blum Excelsior	46	21
Blum Office Sup.	45	22
Mints Ice Cream	42	26
Western Carpet	40	28
Murray Way	35	33
Twin Pines	35	33
B.W. Controlles	34	34
Vachonder Inc	29	37
Sabin Inc	26	38
Adler Jewelry	24	40
Boulevard Shoppe	23	45
Wilson National Bk	18	50

(See BOWLING, Next Page)

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Congregationalists Lose First Game

The First Methodist church basketball team playing in the local Birmingham YMCA church league administered a 26-6, 21 defeat to Congregational Church of Birmingham to give them their first loss in 5 games.

Dick Johnson tossed in 8 points for the winners as the lead seesawed back and forth three times before First Methodist went ahead to win. Bob Sisson and Tom Beck garnered 18 points for the Congregationalists.

REDEEMER Lutheran Church took possession of first place with a 52 to 25 win over First Presbyterian. They led 10 to 8 at the half and 19 to 16 at the end of the first quarter. Ted Wagner's 15 points were high for both teams while Dick Lester's 9 markers paced the loser's scoring.

In the other game of the evening, Christ Church won over Kirk in the Hills by a 45 to 15 score.

In games played last Thursday Southfield Methodist was pressed to the utmost to eke out a 19 to 16 win over Christ Church Cranbrook. Christ Church, behind 12 to 27 at the end of the third quarter, spurted to score 19 points in the last eight minutes.

FRED RICHARDSON'S 18 points for the victors was high for the evening while Jack Pryce with 17 kept Christ Church threatening. Redeemer Lutheran Church came from behind to defeat St. James Episcopal Church 50 to 37. Tom Sheehan's 11 points took scoring honors.

By virtue of Congregational Church of Birmingham's 37 to 27 win over Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Southfield Methodist slipped into undisputed possession of first place in the Birmingham YMCA league with five wins and no defeats. Congregational Church took a 25 to 16 half-time lead over Lutheran Church on a scoring spree by Bob Sisson. This lead was maintained throughout and saw the Lutheran five drop its first game in six starts.

FIRST METHODIST church maintained its tie for second place with a 32 to 25 win over Holy Name church. Holy Name scored but three points in the first half and were trailing 16 to 3 when Ralph Botchkiss began to find the basket and netted 12 points. Bertrand Siegel's 15 points for First Methodist was high score.

First Baptist Church came up with one of its better games and dropped Christ Church 52 to 22 on the strength of an 18 point total by Jim Kidwell. Half-time score was 26 to 22 in favor of First Baptist who went on to score 19 points in the third quarter.

IN ITS second game of the week, First Baptist rolled over Holy Name by a score of 40 to 27 as Ronnie McCrumb dropped in 16 points. Southfield Methodist registered a 14 to 26 win over St. James. Bill Duette racked up 12 points for the winners and Jack Leavenworth dropped in 8 for the losers.

STANDINGS JAN. 24

	W	L	PCT
Lutheran	5	0	1000
Methodist	5	0	1000
Southfield	5	0	1000
Congregational	4	1	800
Baptist	2	3	400
St. James	1	4	200
Presbyterian	1	4	200
Holy Name	1	4	200
Christ Church	1	4	200
Kirk in the Hills	0	5	000

Cranbrook's JV Beats Patterson

Cranbrook School's junior varsity basketball team beat Patterson's five by the score of 41-36.

Both teams were exceptionally well established on the Cranbrook floor in regard to scoring.

However, Cranbrook rapidly maintained a margin over Patterson throughout the game. Cranbrook led at the half, 26-14, and at the end of the third quarter, 33-26. Patterson's two guards, starting the game, were outstanding as were Jerry Dobing, John Good and Bill Butler for Cranbrook.

Crane Wrestlers Defeat Berkley

By LEO BUTZEL

Cranbrook defeated Berkley high in wrestling by a score of 29-19. The Cranes started off 10 points in the lead as they won two weights by default. Their 120-pounder was unable to make the weight and their 175-pounder could not come.

Italo Massobrio wrestled an exhibition with Berkley's 120-pound man who could not lose his four extra pounds necessary to make the proper weight. Italo pinned his man with 12 seconds gone in the first period.

Sig Snyder wrestling at the 85-pound weight pinned his man in the third period to give Cranbrook their first 5 "earned" points.

LOU O'CONNOR followed in quick succession with a pin in the first period against his 103-pound opponent to give Cranbrook another 5 points. At this point the Cranes led 10-0.

Paul Woolley who last week pinned his man with 17 seconds gone in the first period fell prey to a pin by his Berkley opponent, Larry Wright, weighing 112 to give Berkley its first 5 points of the match.

At 127, Ron Hammel was decisioned by Berkley's captain, who is number one in the State.

Roger Morrison weighing 133 added 3 more points to Cranbrook's score as he defeated his opponent 6-3.

AT 138 Pete Colwell lost a close battle to Eugene Downie 4-5. Colwell had been undefeated up to this time.

Leo Butzel next defeated his 145-pound opponent to add 3 more points to Cranbrook's score.

In the 154 pound class Cranbrook's co-captain, Jack Foster in a hard fought match badly beat his Berkley rival to give the Cranes more well deserved points.

At 165 Keith Phillips of Berkley pinned his Cranbrook opponent in the third period to chalk up 5 needed points for his team.

In the heavyweight division, John Gayton lost by a score of 4 to 4 to A. J. Meyers to give Berkley its final 3 points of the match.

Final score was 29-19 in favor of the Cranes, their second win in 3 starts.

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