

# out of sports

By BRUNO L. KEARNS  
Sports Editor

Never has any one school dominated the athletic picture in Birmingham as has done during the 1955 school year.

Six team titles of the eight participating sports is a new record for the 10 year league.

PREVIOUSLY no other school except BHS was able to top more than three EML championships in a single school year.

The Maples have been consistent four-time winners since 1949, taking five titles in 1954 and six this year.

That's six out of a possible 10 in two years.

IS BIRMINGHAM getting too tough for the EML? Several items have appeared in print to the effect that BHS would be searching for a four-spot field, because of recent overwhelming victories.

"This is silly," says athletic director Frank Whitney, and we sure go along with him.

If Birmingham is to be a new league it's not because of a two year winning spree.

There are economy, travel, time and traditional factors which have more important bearings in a proposed new league.

TO ENTERTAIN thoughts that Birmingham would quit the EML because of too many titles is ridiculous. It is as unreasonable as saying Michigan would quit the Big Ten because the Wolverines failed this year to walk away with its regular host of titles as they have usually done.

Other teams in the EML have enjoyed alternate periods of success and dimmy.

In 1945 when the loop frame into being a four-spot field, Perendale was the Titan with two team titles.

The following year Perendale continued its mastery with three championships in five sports.

IN 1947 Birmingham came through with six titles, but for the next three years Port Huron and Mt. Clemens were the two teams that walked away with football, basketball, baseball, golf, swimming and tennis titles.

Hazel Park was the big thing for several years through 1951, while Birmingham was becoming a contender to beat in swimming, cross-country, tennis and golf.

Port Huron has been the most consistent defender of the basketball crown and Mt. Clemens the football favorite. Last season the Maples took the title for the first time, including a tie, since 1945, but in the king of high school sports, basketball, it pays the freight for the other sports, Birmingham has yet to yearn the crown.

OVERALL the competition within the EML is as keen and balanced as can be found in any league, and although we agree that Birmingham belongs in a potential league closer to home, we don't buy the statement that BHS is getting too strong for the present league as the reason for leaving.

CRANES dominated the entire Inter-State tennis team, and placed two baseball players on the all-league team.

Nesters Shaw Emmons, Jerry Dobson and Bob Klein made up the first three singles, and the Crane doubles teams of Paul Boddy and Gordon Fleming and Pete Colwell and Perry Ryan completed the team.

CAPTAIN Pete Dawkins, first baseman, and captain-elect catcher George Gary were named to the baseball team.

Gary, a junior, took the batting honors for the Cranes this year with a .352 average in 19 games, while Dawkins, a senior from Royal Oak, posted a .339 average.

IN BATTING averages, junior outfielder Jim Greig, who was also the extra base slugger on the team, finished with a .340 average. Among his 21 hits were three doubles, three triples and a homer.

ALL-SPORTS Award Given at Troy Hi

All-sports star, Floyd Bailey, was awarded Troy high school's all-sports trophy this year.

Bailey, a 6'2" 190 tackle, captained the football team last season, and also lettered in basketball and track for the past two seasons.

HE WAS the high individual scorer on the Colt track team and scored 170 points with the cage team, along with carrying a B-average in his studies.

"He is a hard worker, and a fine athlete," said athletic director Peyton Goodwin. Bailey is headed for Central Michigan college.

A TROPHY was also presented to senior Jim Murdoch. It was free throw award for the best mark of 68% in 23 games.

# Olympic Riders in Annual Horse Show

An Olympic atmosphere, with four of the top prospects for the United States team of 1956, will be part of the Detroit Horse Show-June 23-26 at the Bloomfield Open Hunt club.

The four riders, all members of the U. S. Equestrian team include the young veterans, J. E. B. Wolford, a 24 year old rider from Milford, Kansas; Charles Denney, 23, of Lake Forest, Illinois and the youngest member, 18 year old Frank Duffy of Bloomfield Hills.

MAJOR Robert J. Berg, Dallas, Oregon, the fourth rider, will act as judge at this year's show. He is the most equestrian team member in the Dressage division, and will give exhibition of this intricate field of horsemanship at the show.

Dressage is a "school ride" designed to show obedience, balance, suppleness and perfect lightness of a horse.

Wolford, a veteran of the 1952 Olympics at Helsinki, will bring his Olympic horses Reno Kirk, Raster and Hollandia to the show.

FIVE TOP horses, Fortune Hunter, Ricochet, Black Watch, Alt Meister and Potato Chips, will be brought to the show by Charles Denney. He won the Junior Hunter class championship last year with Potato Chips at the BOH.

More than 230 of the nation's top show horses will be entered in the 1955 show. Spanish Mint, champion hunter owned by J. H. Ricker of Detroit and Vallet Lassie, a champion jumper of Mrs. Herbert Thomas of Indianapolis are among the entries.

AWARDS for the show will include prizes of \$10,000, 22 trophies and 358 ribbons and more than 30,000 people are expected to see the four day show.

# Golf Tourney Starts Today At Pine Lake

The sixth annual Pine Lake Invitational Golf Tournament will be staged this weekend, according to Elmer Prieskorn, host professional.

James Cornell and Bruce Wright are co-chairmen of the popular two-day event, which features selective drives and alternate shots by the two-man teams.

Battle lines will be drawn today in eighteen-hole qualifying rounds for positions in the championship and six additional flights.

IN ALL, 112 teams will participate with some of the Detroit District's top amateur talent poised to lift the championship from last year's winners, Dick Whiting and Tony Skover of Red Run and Meadowbrook respectively. Last year's runners up are also back in the field. They are Bill Nettie of the host club and his partner, Bill Pettibone of Red Run.

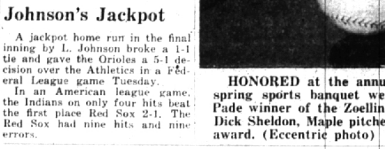
Some of the other favored teams include the combinations of Bob Habbish and Bill O'Brien, Tom Sheehan and Bud Gould, Bob Whiting and Tom Watrous, Tom Draper and Perry Ryard, Art Oza and Dick Wilhel, Bob Zinn and Ray West, and Bob Fife and Bob Muzzy.

AFTER TODAY'S qualifying rounds the players and guests will participate in the stag dinner, and on Saturday evening the participants and club members will enjoy the usual dinner dance. Play will be concluded on Sunday, June 19.

A jackpot home run in the final inning by L. Johnson broke a 1-1 tie and gave the Orioles a 5-1 decision over the Athletics in a Federal League game Tuesday.

In an American League game, the Indians on only four hits beat the first place Red Sox 2-1. The Red Sox had only nine hits and nine errors.

HONORED at the annual Birmingham high school spring sports banquet were track co-captain Gordon Pade winner of the Zoellin Memorial award (left) and Dick Sheldon, Maple pitcher who received the Mintling award. (Eccentric photo)



# B'ham Senior Champion In Annual Bike Derby

Michigan's senior state bicycle champion, Clair Young, 539 Smith, Birmingham, will be among the nationally prominent riders entered in the second annual Oak Wheelmen Derby to be held Sunday in Royal Oak.

The Derby, which is sponsored by the Oak Wheelmen, the bicycle riders club of the area which is a member of the Amateur Bicycle League of America, will have nearly 60 participant riders in the senior, junior and girls divisions.

BICYCLISTS from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, New York, Indiana, Michigan, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania will be among the riders entered in the Derby.

Young and Wettberg are members of the Wolverine Wheelmen club of Detroit.

The seniors will ride in a 15 mile race and the juniors in a five mile race. The starting line at 1:00 p.m. and finish line will be at Washington and Sixth streets in Royal Oak. The cyclists will pedal north on Washington to Fifth, east on Fifth to Center and south on Center to Lincoln to Washington and to finish at Sixth.

THERE WILL be eight types of events in the Derby for the juniors, seniors, tourist, novice and girls.

Local Athletes Get Olivet Letter Awards

William Leckie, 774 E. Lincoln, and James Stardevant, 30500 Rosemont Drive, Franklin Village, were among the list of letterwinners at Olivet college.

Leckie won his award in golf, and Stardevant, who set a new high jump record at the MIAA track meet, received a track letter and was named most valuable member of the team.

CLAIR YOUNG (Eccentric Photo)

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# The Birmingham Eccentric SPORTS

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## Only Whitesox Still Unbeaten in LL Play

Only the Whitesox of the Federal League are still unblemished with three victories in the second week of Little League action, which saw numerous games postponed and delayed because of rain.

All of the other teams have suffered at least one loss with the Giants and the Senators taking four losses on the chin in their respective leagues.

IN THE Federal League, the Senators were dumped 16-3 by the Orioles and 6-5 by the Athletics. The Orioles scored three 10 runs on only six hits while pitcher L. Johnson was holding the Whitesox to only two hits.

In the American loop the Whitesox handed the Red Sox their first defeat 5-3 behind the one hit pitching of Jackson. The Tigers scored all of their runs in the first inning and the Red Sox tallied three in the final stanza.

Second baseman Schroyer batted in three runs with two hits to pace the Red Sox to a 4-1 victory over the Yankees.

PITCHER Bob Hendrickson of the Yankees turned in a fine pitching performance to beat the Tigers Monday 4-0 on one hit. The lone hit was credited to Bob Alexander who went out a hunt in the last inning.

The pirates moved into a first place tie with the Braves in the National league with a 5-0 win over the Braves.

The hitting of Robertson with three for four paced the Pirate attack.

In a rained out game played Saturday between the Braves and Cubs, the contest was played under protest by both teams with the final score reading 4-3 in favor of the Braves.

SLUGGER Steve Jacobson continued his hitting spree with a double to drive in two runs.

In the 8-7 decision over the Giants, the Cubs were out-hit but the big bat of first baseman Scheerer sent four runs across the plate, which helped move BHS's Walker to account for seven of the eight runs.

A RAINED out game between the Indians and the Tigers will be played Friday in the American League, which forces the move of its games to the new diamond at Eton field very shortly.

## Co-captains Finish Top Maple Scorers

Retiring co-captains Gordon Pade and Bill Dove took the point-making honors for the powerful BHS track team that finished its straight unbeaten dual season.

PADE, featured in the hurdles, holds the school's 120 yard high hurdles mark with 14:20 time; the plate, along with three more BHS's, is a top total of 87 2/3 points.

Dove, recent winner of the Marjory Memorial award, had 50 1/2 points for his season total. Co-captain of the track team, Dove ran Joe Kidwell, a junior who was Pade's running mate in the hurdles tallied 41 points, followed by senior Dave Long and Tony Evangelista who had 38 1/2 points each.

POLE VAULTER Ron McCrumb finished with 39 7/8 points with Bill McFarland adding 27 1/2 points to the pole vault team.

Coach Kermit Ambrose will lose 12 men from the 1955 squad but will have six of the 12 top point-makers returning next season.

Faculty Beaten

Barnum eighth graders defeated the faculty 8-6 in a softball game last Friday starting at 7:00 p.m. and as preliminary to the Ivory Ranger games on Wednesday nights.

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# Prep Athletes Eye Various Colleges



## State Schools Will Get Most Of the Talent

High school caps and gowns will be worn and shed in the next few days and the prep sports stars from the various area teams will set their attention to numerous colleges across the land.

Most of the area athletes will find themselves on a campus of an institution of higher learning within the state of Michigan next fall, with Michigan, Michigan State and Western Michigan drawing the bulk of the boys.

ONE OF the top athletes of the area, quarterback Pete Dawkins, fine quarterback and hard hitting first baseman, is hoping to enter West Point next fall. Dawkins was given an alternate appointment and he expects to know definitely within a few weeks whether he will be admitted to the Academy. He is an outstanding student and lives in Royal Oak.

Western Michigan, long a baseball power in the mid-west will draw a flock of the top diamond stars from the area.

Dick Sheldon, Birmingham's leading pitcher for the past three years, is headed for Western along with the Maples' football and third baseman, Bill Watkinson.

SOUTHFIELD high school has five of its leading athletes also thinking of Western Michigan. The Broncos may get Bluzny quarter-backs Ben Fisher and Jerry Gatti, along with football and track stars Carter Scheerer and Fred Corville, and Dave Julkane a football and baseball prospect.

Western is also valuable heir to George Burard, track, football and basketball player from Troy high school.

CRANE CAPTAIN PETE DAWKINS Hopes to enter West Point Academy next fall

## Extra Bases Win For Spartan Babes

Bob Squires, with a two-run homer and a triple sparked the Spartans as they defeated the Wolverines in the third game of the rain-washed Babe Ruth League this season.

A combination of bucket errors and doubles by Pat Baldwin and Karl Pierce accounted for the Chiefs' four runs in the first and fifth.

LEN WILLIS was the heavy hitter for the Rockets, with a double and a single. The Rockets scored one in the first, two in the second, and one each in the third and fourth.

ACE at Stony Croft

Second hole in one of the season at Stony Croft was fired by Robert B. Hanly, 214 Catalpa, Royal Oak, who netted the 115 yard 9th hole with a four iron. He shot a 49 for the round.

ALMA will also pick up a few athletes with an athletic scholarship to Troy's Jack Acton. Acton led Troy to an outstanding cage basketball effort, Jim Starlock an all-sports man at Troy, along with basketball stars Tom Beck, Dan Corvick and Bruce Johnson from IHS are also thinking of Alma.

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