

out of sports

By BRUNO L. KEARNS
Sports Editor

NUMEROUS ADVANTAGES should give the respective boards of education strong reasons to support the formation of a new high athletic league such as has been proposed from Birmingham to the mile zone.

Main concern of those school heads is, or at least should be, the economy involved but naturally without curtailing the sports program for their own schools.

As the Eastern Michigan league now exists, jumping from Woodward to Gratiot and from Nine Mile to Port-Huron there is very little homogeneity involved.

Three members of the E.M.I. are Oakland county, two in Macomb county and another in St. Clair county.

THE PROPOSED loop would enclose all of the present and potential class "A" teams in the Woodward sector of Oakland county.

Birmingham athletic teams presently travel 60 miles one way to Port Huron at least six times during the school year. This is a roundtrip average of 360 miles a year to compete against one team in the league.

Another 25 miles to Mt. Clemens is approximately 300 miles of travel costs for the different sports seasons.

THE LONGEST distance for travel in the new proposed league would be to Fitzgerald high school about nine miles from Birmingham.

Along the route are Royal Oak, Berkley, Southfield, Ferndale and Hazel Park, all class "A" schools, along with the mentioned Oak Park, a rapid-growing school moving closer to "A" state.

Using the nearest road figures on the basis that at least six Birmingham teams travel to five league cities each year, the total mileage would be nearly 1,100 miles. This does not include events that come up outside the dual schedules.

ON THE SAME scale of six competitive road events the total mileage for an eight-team league as proposed would be a roundtrip total of 480 miles a year.

Travel alone is not the only advantage. Time is a big element for the coaches, players and spectators.

A coach could reach his destination on a scouting mission in a matter of 20 minutes, compared to the 1 1/2 hour trip to Port Huron.

The nearness of the teams would build up a great natural rivalry among all the schools, giving spectators more desire to travel short distances to see the games, and subsequently helping the gate coffers of each school.

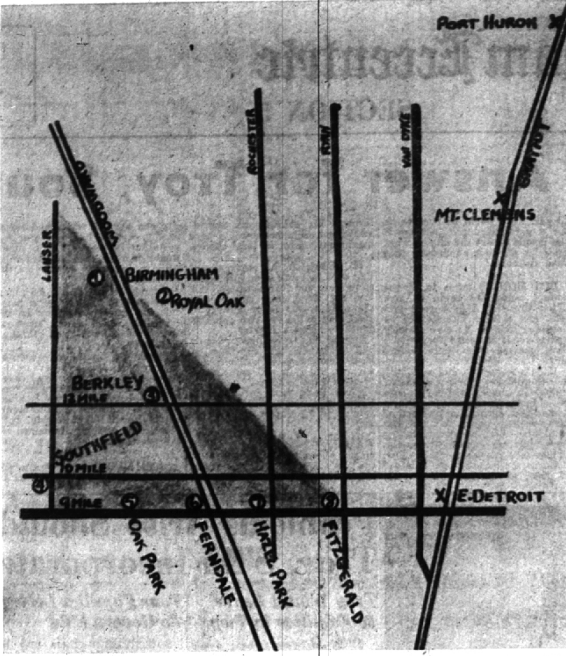
CLASS TIME is important for school heads to consider, and the new loop presents an ideal situation in this respect.

No parent wants his boy or girl going 20 to 60 miles to an athletic event, driving through bad weather conditions to get home some time in the middle of the night.

Money is a realistic consideration for high school athletic programs as well as for college or pro teams.

Last football season, for instance, one of the best drawing games was the Southfield-Birmingham game, both of which are class "A" teams but competing in different leagues. League status on the game would even stimulate the interest more so. The same with the Royal Oak game.

TRUE, such a proposed league may be a few years away, but it would be wise to use those years in serious planning, making it



SHADED TRIANGLE area of the proposed prep league is shown in comparison with the wide area of the present Eastern Michigan league which includes three Gratiot teams as far as Port Huron. Southfield high school in the west corner of the triangle and Fitzgerald in the east corner and Birmingham in the north, are the range points for the league. All teams are presently class "A" except Fitzgerald and Oak Park which are "B" but expect "A" status in the very near future.

Golfers Win Regionals

The class A regional crown was added to Birmingham varsity golfer's list of conquests last Saturday when they won the title on the Kewley Lake golf course in Flint.

Mike Conroy tied for medalist with Gary Howlet of Midland at 76 only to lose the honor to Howlet in an extra playoff hole.

THE MAPLES scores were Tim Baldwin 80, Sandy Segal 82, and Bob Goldsmith 83.

Birmingham team scores was 321 followed by Midland 323, Owosso 333, Flint Central 334, Saginaw 342, Royal Oak and Westland 347, Mt. Clemens 348, Port Huron 361, Bay City Handy 375, Bay City Central 403.

NEXT SATURDAY the team travels to the State meet to match skill against the best class A schools can offer. Favored to win will be Dearborn, Midland, Jackson, and Birmingham.

The Headline Read:

Dog in Bed, Asks Divorce— Galveston, Tex.

"I know that on the day each school reaches the point of equitable but not strictly total likeness this league will open competition."

There is no objection to the present league setup in the way of competition. All of the six EMI offer each other good sound caliber of competition, but the end of good things are best if more feasible opportunities arise.

For Mt. Clemens, East Detroit and Port Huron there are similar advantages in bringing about a league of Gratiot area teams in which the same time, travel and economical factors would apply.

The Birmingham Eccentric

SPORTS

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14 Maples Qualify In Regional Title

Depth was the big factor for the Birmingham high school track team as the Maples scored points in every event to win the school's first regional class A track title in history at Ferndale last week.

In qualifying 14 men for the initial race of the 880 when Maple Dave Long won with a time of 2:08.9.

Port Huron's Lyall McNulty set a winning time of 20.8 in the 180-yard low hurdles with Gordon Pade and Joe Siskewit finishing fourth and fifth respectively.

THE STATE MEET, with Pontiac high school rated the top favorite, will start at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at East Lansing.

FINAL REGIONAL RESULTS

Birmingham	90
Royal Oak	37
Mt. Clemens	36
Hazel Park	35
Southfield	15
Port Huron	14
Ferndale	4
Berkley	2 1/2

SOFTBALL GAME

The junior-senior boys softball team of City and Country school in Bloomfield Hills will meet Hickory Grove Friday, May 20, at 1:45 p.m.

Another first was scored in the pole vault with Steve Pew, Jim Macdonald, Jim Selhor and Bob Libby finishing second behind Royal Oak.

Al Fuhrmann won the first 440-yard dash in 35.4 and Bill Dove took top spot in the 100-yard dash of 10.6.

A time of 1:35.5 was posted by the Hazel Park relay team with Birmingham taking second place.

THE MAPLES took first and second in the pole vault with Tom McGrumb taking theault at 11 ft. 6 inches and Bill McFarlan finishing second.

Another first was shared by 77

Jays Meet Berkley in Showdown

Head Football, Basketball Coaches Named at Hills

The showdown baseball game of the inter-league league will take place on the Berkley diamond with Southfield trying to keep its hopes for at least a title tie alive.

Southfield, by virtue of a 4-3 victory over Waterford Tuesday stayed within one game of the league lead as Berkley was taking a 3-0 decision from Walled Lake.

THE JAYS' second run in the bottom half of the first against Waterford on a double by Steve Klimik with two men on base.

In the second inning Dave Junke slammed a long home run over the left fielders head, and in the fifth inning the Jays scored the winning run on three Waterford errors without getting a hit.

DICK COVREA won his second straight game. He took a 5-1 decision from Walled Lake three days earlier by allowing only four hits.

The game with Waterford was marred with 12 errors as 47 balls were being dropped in the tricky wind all over the field, and all of Waterford's runs were unearned.

A LOSS to Berkley Friday would eliminate the Jays from the title chase.

LINE SCORE

Waterford	2	0	0	0	0	3	5	7
Southfield	2	1	0	0	0	0	8	11

LEAGUE STANDINGS

Berkley	9	2
Waterford	5	4
Walled Lake	3	4
Farmington	0	7

Crane Netters Beat Nichols 4-1

Sitting on the top perch of the league tennis standings, the Crane net squad whipped Nichols school 4-1 to assure itself of at least a tie for the title.

The Cranbrook squad swept three singles and gave way only in the first doubles in beating Nichols.

WITH A 7-3 season mark, and 3-0 in the league, the Cranes meet Shary Side of Pittsburgh next week for the loop final.

Shaw Emmons scored his second straight shutout in the varsity meet by beating Dan Lewin of Nichols 6-0, 6-0.



DONALD J. HOFF

Maple Reserves Cop League Meet

Reserves of the Birmingham high school track team easily swept through the Eastern Michigan League reserve track meet held at East Detroit last weekend.

IN TALLYING 54 points, the yearling thunders set six new records and won eight of 13 events to outpoint nearest rival Mt. Clemens by 49 points.

Chuck Gibson won the shot put with 42 1/2, missing the record by nine inches.

THE NEW RECORDS established saw Tom Segal winning the pole vault at 10 feet breaking the 90" and Steve Pew winning the 440 dash in 35.9 compared to the previous mark of 38.9.

In the 180 yard dash Tom Sheehan posted a time of 20.8 and in the 880 Mary Brokaw bettered the mark of 2:21.9 by posting the run at 2:17.0. Medley relay men Jay Stark, Wayne Giegge, Tom Sheehan and Jim Johnson set a new time at 2:46.2 and the 880 yard relay team of Frank Mabey, Wayne Giegge, Tom Hizar and Tom Sheehan set a time of 1:41.2.

This is the fourth year for this inter-area meet, and only the boys who have not scored a point in varsity meets are eligible to compete.

FINAL RESULTS

1. Birmingham	63 5/8
2. Mt. Clemens	34
3. Hazel Park	26 1/2
4. East Detroit	22 1/8
5. Port Huron	16
6. Ferndale	13 1/2

Assume Duties In September

Two head coaches, for football and basketball, were appointed to the faculty of Bloomfield Hills' new junior-senior high school which is scheduled to open with the school year in September.

Donald J. Hoff, 31, was named by the Hills board of education as head football coach and boys physical education instructor, and Harold G. Trott, 31, was appointed head basketball coach and instructor in social sciences, according to superintendent Eugene L. Johnson.

Both will assume their faculty posts with the opening of the new school in September.



HAROLD G. TROTT

Hoff, who was chosen from among 10 other applicants for the position, has been coaching and teaching at Neagane high school in the upper peninsula for the past four years.

He prepared at Central high school in Minneapolis, Minn., and played football with the Gophers from 1947 to 1949. After his graduation from the University of Minnesota in 1950, he received his Master's degree in physical education from Hamline University.

In 1951 Hoff was named assistant football coach and physical education instructor at Neagane and a year later assumed the head coaching job.

He is married and has two children, and he expects to find residence in the area after the present school year ends in Neagane.

TROTT, who is presently the head basketball coach at Addison high school, graduated from Hillsdale college in 1951 where he was an all-sports man.

He prepared at Reading, Mich. high school and started coaching and teaching at Cereset City, Michigan in 1951 before going to Addison.

Married and the father of two children, Trott will be instructor of Social Sciences in the new school.

"WE HOPE to build the physical education program to become an integral part of the overall program at the new school, for the benefit of the entire enrollment," said superintendent Johnson, "and the selection of these two men was made on their teaching qualifications as well as coaching."

Hoff was highly recommended by Neagane school officials for

his ability to develop physical education activities, and he was commended for his active participation as president of the teachers' club at Neagane.

JOHNSON SAID the new school would have nearly 700 junior and senior high school students.

East Detroit Sixth Victim

With five leading varsity track men resting for the State meet Saturday, Birmingham still managed to beat East Detroit handily 82-27 with seven reserves chalking up respectable victories.

The Maples took 70 of 13 drafts in the 100m with Freshman Chuck Gibson showing good potential as he won the shot put with 45 ft. 2 1/2 in. distance.

RENEVEE Lynn Henn took the pole vault with 9 ft. 6 in. and Pat Berry won the 180 yard dash in a time of 1:29.3.

The mile ran had an unusual situation with three Birmingham runners finishing in a tie with a turtle time of 5:19.4. The miles were Jim Paup, Bob Brown and John Emmerling.

IT WAS the sixth straight dual victory of the season for coach Kermit Ambrose and the Maples, and the next stop will be East Lansing for the State meet Saturday.

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Like Father - - - Watrous - - - Like Son



When young Tom Watrous was only three he had the Watrous household dodging the swings of the sward-off golf club his dad Al had given him.

"There were golf clubs all over the house but rather than let Tom go blasting things with a club bigger than himself, I had one set down for him," said Al, the pro at Oakland Hills Country Club.

Tom wanted no time in following his dad's footsteps, and today at 19 years of age he has already stacked his mantle with scores of golf laurels.

AT SHRINE high school in Royal Oak, Tom won medalist honors in the 1951 and 1952 regionals along with a tie in 1953, and was state medalist in 1952 and 1953.

At the University of Detroit Tom is continuing his fast progress as he recently led the Titan scoring in the Missouri Valley conference meet at Tulsa.

AT NORTH HILLS a week ago he posted the best golf score for the young season shooting 82-82-84 and just missing the club record by one stroke.

Al is naturally proud to have his son following in his footsteps and he may even be inclined to think that Tom might overshadow him some day.



TOM WATROUS

DOVE COACH AMBROSE PADE

Coach and co-capt with regional trophy. (Eccentric Photo)

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