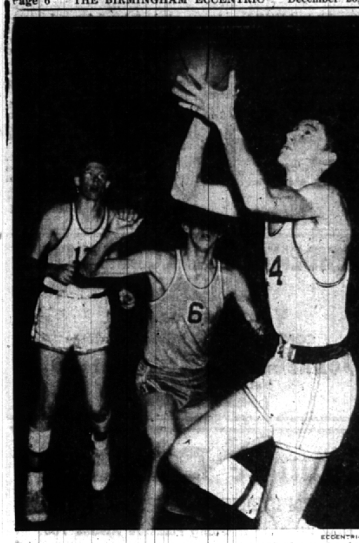

RICH BOOTH (14). Troy forward, floats in for two points against Avondale in the fourth quarter of Friday's game, after taking a pass from teammate Don Kellerwald (background). Avondale's Jim Greenlees (6) appears to have blinders on as he makes a futile attempt to stop the shot. The Colts won by merit of a second-half spurt, 53-38.

Colts' Spurts Down Avondale

By C. H. HALLAS

Troy's basketball team started slow, but came alive in the second half to walk away from Avondale, 53-38, Friday.

It was the second Oakland B victory in as many tries for coach Peyton Goodwin's crew and put the Colts on top of their conference.

Troy led 8-7 in a slow-moving first quarter which saw the lead see-saw several times. Avondale was moving the ball much better than the Colts despite getting the poorer of it in the scoring department. Both teams missed easy scoring opportunities.

THE RAGGED play kept up through most of the first half and at the end of the half held a slim 22-21 margin.

From the start of the third quarter, play picked up. Troy began fast-breaking the Avondale five and started to pull away. One basket by Wayne Figley, two by Milan Varajon, and a free throw by Rich Booth put the Colts ahead 31-25.

Then with Figley, Varajon, and Booth leading the way, Troy ran up a 46-31 lead at the end of the third period. Avondale was never in the ball game after the opening minutes of the second half. Troy outscored their opponents 24-10 in the short confines of that quarter.

ONE BASKET by Figley and two quick breakaways by Sim Acton finished the scoring for Troy in the final quarter. Each team scored seven points the last quarter, as both clubs showed evidence of the tiring race-horse style of play.

At the game's end Troy had raced to a 53-38 lead. Figley was high scorer for the Colts with 14 points, followed by Varajon who had 10 markers. Troy's scoring was fairly evenly distributed among the other five who played regularly.

Score by quarters:

Troy	8	14	24	7—53
Avondale	7	14	10	7—38

Troy

	fg	ft	tp
Acton, f	2	2	6
Mitchell, g	1	2	4
Kill'wald, f	1	0	2
Varajon, c	4	2	10
Figley, c	5	4	14
Litt'son, f	1	0	2
Weldon, g	3	0	6
Booth, f	3	3	9
Totals	20	15	53

Avondale

	fg	ft	tp
Sauders	2	0	4
Greenlees	0	3	3
Mullholland	2	1	5
LaForge	1	0	2
Hill	2	0	4
Sheehy	4	1	9
Hyten	1	0	2
Moulton	1	0	2
Gronski	2	0	4
Thompson	0	3	3
Totals	15	8	38

Birmingham GAA In Full Swing

Winter sports for GAA are in full swing as girls take part in volleyball, swimming, and bowling.

The teachers were victorious again this year, winning the student-teacher volleyball game. The combined forces of GAA players and varsity club members tried but failed to beat the teachers.

Teams from Ferndale came Tuesday to compete in volleyball, the second exchange game of the season. Recently two teams went to Pontiac.

Water ballet, synchronized swimming have over 120 girls taking part. Tryouts for the show in the spring were finished recently.

Pins at the Birmingham bowling alley are falling Thursdays. 90 BHS girls are competing.

The first Thursday of each month GAA has an open house. With the variety of sports being offered, there is always a large number of girls in attendance.

Late Heroics Stop Maples' Reserves Too

Local basketball fans were treated to quite an exhibition of last-minute heroics last week when Royal Oak brought its varsity and jayvee squads to Birmingham.

The Maple varsity was nipped by the Acorns, 62-60, climaxed by Royal Oak's winning basket with only 21 seconds left in the ball game.

In a thrilling sudden death overtime game, the Birmingham reserve team lost to Royal Oak, 39-38, in the contest which preceded the varsity affair.

THE ACORNS HELD slim leads at the end of each of the first three quarters, but the Maple seconds tied the score 35-all to end the last period.

In a three-minute overtime, each team scored two points to make the score 37-37.

Finally in a sudden death overtime, in which the first team to score two successive points wins, Birmingham sank one foul shot, but missed the other. Mike Joyce took a rebound, ran up the court and put in the winning basket for Royal Oak, making the final score 39-38.

Joyce held high scoring honors for the Oaks with 14 points.

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The Birmingham Eccentric
SPORTS
PAGE 6 DECEMBER 20, 1956

Maples Break Marks But Lose the Meet

Maybe all the fast times being turned in by Birmingham swimmers this season are turning out as bad luck omens. The Maples, who usually manage to break two or three school records every time they swim, did it again Thursday at Plymouth, but lost the meet, 57-39.

Although the Maples set new pool and school records in three events, Plymouth's speedy turns and overall power proved too much for the younger team from Birmingham.

JAY MEYERS' defending EML champs encountered a little trouble in the 25-yard Plymouth pool, since the Maples' home pool at Barnum is only 20 yards long.

Tom Bechtel, Birmingham co-captain, swam the 200-yard free-style in 2:00.8, and is believed to be the fastest man in the state at this event. Bechtel defeated Bill Brandell who was runner-up in the state finals last year.

Bechtel also broke the pool and school records in the 100-yard orthodox breast stroke, doing the distance in 1:13.

PETE SINTZ set a new school record in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:03.6. Sintz' time was also a pool record.

John Overgard got the other Maple first by swimming the 100-yard freestyle in 57 seconds flat.

In the last two relay events, Plymouth set new school records. The meet was close until these events.

The first home meet for Birmingham will be January 10, against Mt. Clemens.

SUMMARY: 50 yd. freestyle: 1. Corney (P), 2. McGinnis (B), 3. Wright (P); 100 yd. butterfly: 1. Sintz (B), 2. Showers (P), 3. Hogan (B); 200 yd. freestyle: 1. Bechtel (B), 2. Brandell (P), 3. Cook (B); 100 yd. back stroke: 1. Gregory (P), 2. Archer (P), 3. Smith (B); 100 yd. freestyle: 1. Overgard (B), 2. Baker (P), 3. Faylor (P); 100 yd. breast stroke: 1. Bechtel (B), 2. Todd (P), 3. Parsch (B);

DIVING: 1. Walker (P), 2. Loose (P), 3. Wickham (B); 150 yd. individual medley: 1. Wright (P), 2. Cook (B), 3. Showers (P); 200 yd. medley relay: 1: Plymouth, 2. Birmingham; 200 yd. freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth, 2. Birmingham.

Twelve Teams Open Hockey Loop Action

The Birmingham recreation department hockey league got under way last weekend with all twelve teams in action. The junior and intermediate leagues met head-on Saturday morning. The seniors competed Sunday morning for the initial first place status.

Results in the junior circuit showed the Banshees stung the Yellow Jackets five-two with Dave Jansen, Steve Perry, Tim Bannon, Mike Jackson and Sid Sullivan scoring for the Banshees. Bill Henderson and Peter Moore were goal-getters for the Yellow Jackets.

In the other junior tussle the Eldorados scored a 3-2 decision over the Green Hornets. Tom Stewart, Dick Moore, and Larry Stahlberg hammered the puck home for the Eldorados, and Gordon Schick and Bill Hutton tallied for the Green Hornets.

INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE teams skated on thinner ice as the weather started warming up and loosened the ice surface somewhat, but the ice held long enough to finish the next two games. The Barons scored a 1-0 victory over the Red Wings in a hard fought battle which saw Ken Maurer of the Barons score the lone goal of the game.

The Jets and the Blue Bombers fought to a 2-2 deadlock as Bill Baker and Steve Murphy scored goals for the Jets and Grey Ruddy and Mike Conroy scored for the Blue Bombers.

IN THE SENIOR loop Geri's Beauty Salon defeated Walnut Lake by a score of 6-1, with Gibbs turning the hat trick. Ken Pelto, John Burkhardt and Jim O'Leary scoring the other three goals for Geri's. Bob Gagnor scored the only goal for the Walnut Lake Team.

The Varsity Shop Team duplicated the previous score by beating the Bull Dogs 6 to 1. Another hat trick was performed by Bill Allen with Bill Phelan right behind him with two tallies. Bud Cotter scored once to round out the Varsity Shop's six goals. Jim Swartz scored a lone goal for the Bull Dogs.

Following are the hockey standings and schedule:

JUNIOR LEAGUE

Team	W	L	T	Pts.	PF	PA
Banshees	1	0	0	2	5	2
Eldorados	1	0	0	2	3	2
Green Hornets	0	1	0	0	2	3
Yellow Jackets	0	1	0	0	2	5

Saturday, December 22, 1956, Junior League.
Banshees vs. Eldorados 7:30
Green Hornets vs Yellow Jackets.. 8:30

INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

Team	W	L	T	Pts.	PF	PA
Barons	1	0	0	2	1	0
Jets	0	0	1	1	2	2
Blue Bombers	0	0	1	1	2	2
Red Wings	0	1	0	0	0	1

Saturday, December, 1956, Intermediate League.
Red Wings vs. Jets 9:30
Blue Bombers vs. Barons 10:30

SENIOR LEAGUE

Team	W	L	T	Pts.	PF	PA
Geri's	1	0	0	2	6	1
Varsity Shop	1	0	0	2	6	1
Walnut Lake	0	1	0	0	1	6
Bull Dodgs	0	1	0	0	1	6

Sunday, December 23, 1956, Senior League.
Geri's vs. Varsity Shop 7:30
Bull Dodgs vs. Walnut Lake 8:30

Changes Made in Eton Park Ice Schedule

Eton Park Ice Schedule .....

In a recent meeting of the Birmingham recreation board, the Eton Park ice rink schedule was amended to help ease crowded conditions during some periods and allow younger children to skate earlier in the evening.

The new schedule will become effective Friday, December 21.

Friday's, Saturday's, Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays was the 7:30 p.m. period which will now be held at 7:00. The five-to-six hour on Thursday has been dropped, and there will be no skating during that time.

ETON PARK
ICE RINK SCHEDULE

Monday
1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Mothers, Pre-school, Groups & Classes.
4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Hockey.
7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Classes.
8:00 to 10:00 p.m., Open Skating.

Tuesday
1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Open Skating on Holidays Only.
4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Open Skating.
7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Open Skating.
10:00 to ....., Private Rental.

Wednesday
1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Open Skating.
4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Open Skating.
7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Open Skating.
10:00 to ....., Private Rental.

Thursday
1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Open Skating on School Holidays Only.
4:00 to 5:00 p.m., Classes.
6:00 to 7:00 p.m., Classes
7:00 to 8:00 p.m., Classes
8:00 to 10:00 p.m., Open Skating.

Friday
1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Open Skating.
4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Open Skating.
7:00 to 10:00 p.m., Open Skating.

Saturday
7:30 to 11:30 a.m., Hockey.
1:00 to 2:00 p.m., Classes.
2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Open Skating.
5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Open Skating.
8:30 to 11:00 p.m., Open Skating.

Sunday
7:30 to 9:30 a.m., Hockey.
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., Private Rental.
2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Open Skating.
5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Open Skating.
8:30 to 10:30 p.m., Open Skating.

Holidays
Legal Holidays will be operated on the Sunday Schedule.

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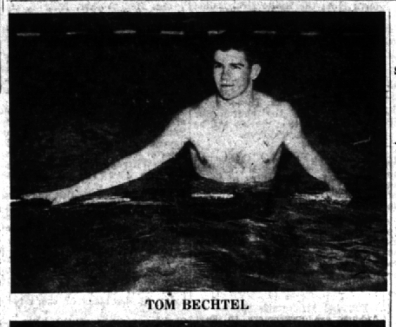
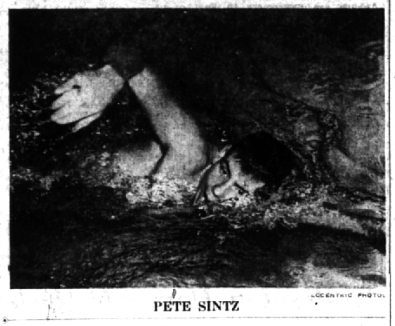


TOM BECHTEL



PETE SINTZ

Play Opens in Church League

After three weeks of practice, the Birmingham YMCA Church Basketball League got under way with an impressive start. Rules of the league demand the inclusion of lay men from the church helping with the scorer's table, timing and supervision of the locker room. This helps in getting more of the dads out to see their sons play and also boosts family attendance. The spectators balcony is open to all without charge.

First Presbyterian Church shares the league lead with First Methodist having two wins and no defeats. First Presbyterian defeated First Baptist 28-16 with Jim Ellis sinking 4 baskets and 2 foul throws to lead the scoring. Dick Pratt bagged 3 baskets for a six point total to pace the Baptist Church five.

In their second game of the week, First Presbyterian barely eked out a 27-26 victory over Congregational church of Birmingham. Presbyterian's Jim Ellis sank a layup shot in the closing seconds of play, and was matched by the opposition's Paul Mortimer. The one-point lead held up for the remaining seconds of play. Mortimer and Dick Walker with 8 points each led the scoring for Congregational while Ellis' 14 points was high for the Maple Avenue boys.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH came up with a strong aggregation and scored impressive win over First Baptist 33-22 with Jim Reeder banking 12 points for the victors. Gertz hit the boards for 6 points to lead the Baptist delegation.

In their second game of the week, First Methodist defeated defending champions Lutheran Redeemer Church 44-33 as Reeder and Bob Crowley had 17 and 12 point totals to send First Methodist into a commanding lead that they never relinquished. Ron Bever ran up the season's high score with 22 points for the losers. Lutheran Redeemer, with a green team, will improve.

Lutheran Redeemer's first game was a 25-22 loss to Community Congregational Church of Lathrup as they failed to survive a last quarter spurt by the victors. Leading 10-6 at the half, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer failed on ball control and were behind 18-13 at the end of the third quarter. The surprising feature of this game was the fact that the Lutheran Church had 10 foul shots and made all of them without a miss.

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL Church used a fast breaking offense to good advantage as they swamped Embury Methodist 59-18. Jeff Chantler scored 21 points for the victors.

Congregational Church of Birmingham defeated Embury Church in its second game of the week with a 32-24 win. Dick Walker and Paul Mortimer combined to sink 22 points between them as Billy Lawson hit the hoops for 14 for the losers.

Only one game remains on the 1956 schedule and that pits Community Church Congregational against St. James Episcopal on the Barnum floor, Thursday, December 20 at 8 p.m. Following this game the league will recess until January 3.

Glad Tidings Local Skiers

Snow was manufactured for the first time in southern Michigan Monday night. The new snow machine laid a white blanket 12 inches deep on the main slope at Mt. Holly Ski area, located on Dixie Highway 20 miles north of Pontiac. Four more slopes covered with man-made snow will be ready for skiers by Saturday, Dec. 15, and the sixth, a Beginner's Run, sometime next week.

Last season snow machines kept a half dozen ski areas around New York City operating full time despite light snowfall. Now area residents can make definite plans to ski close to home without keeping an eye or ear cocked for changing weather reports. Proprietor Mor Graddis anticipates a minimum of 100 good skiing days at Mt. Holly daily and weekends, from nine in the morning until eleven at night under the lights.

Sunshine and snow-making don't mix, so most of the snow will be manufactured in the evening. Snow forms at 28 degrees or less when a stream of cold water is intercepted by two jets of warm compressed air a couple inches from the end of a special hose nozzle.

RECREATION ROUNDUP

SWIMMING—Barnum Pool, Saturday mornings, 9:00 a.m. to 120.00 a.m., beginning January 5, 1956. Register now by calling the Birmingham Recreation Dept. in the Municipal Building or coming in in person.

THERAPEUTIC SWIMMING — Barnum Pool, Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The only requirement is a doctor's certificate which should be on file in the Recreation Office. There is no charge for the swimming.

ADULT NIGHT — Birmingham High School Gym on Tuesday and Thursday nights. There will not be a session on December 20, or December 25, but there will again be Adult Night on December 27. Come out and participate in shuffleboard, badminton, basketball, volleyball, fencing, boxing, or golf driving. A fee of 25c is charged.

SLED AND SKI SLOPE—Located at 14 Mile and Cranbrook. To be ready for free sledding and skiing, when the weather permits

NATURAL ICE RINKS—Located at Poppleton, Pembroke, St. James, and Quarton School for ice skating. The rinks will be flooded approximately December 21, if the weather allows.

TON PARK ICE RINK—Located at Eton & Lincoln Roads. Schedule available at the Rink or at the Recreation Office. Pre-schoolers through golden agers learn to skate by using Miss Heard's, Rink Instructor, methods.

BASKETBALL — A basketball clinic and informal league set-up for boys 9 through 12 years of age in the Birmingham School District. The program will be handled by competent instructors at no charge to the boys. The Basketball program will begin January 5, 1957, at 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the gyms in the following schools: Barnum, Baldwin, High School, Pierce, Pembroke, Torry and Adams.

SANTA CLAUS CALLING—A report from Santa at the North Pole says that he has had about 700 calls from the youngsters in the Birmingham Area during the first week the direct line to the North Pole was open. Santa urges all Birmingham youngsters who have not called him to do so at once and let him know what their Christmas wishes are.

Cranes Rest Up After Dropping Fifth Straight

Cranbrook's basketball coach Bob Kenny may be suffering from assorted feelings over the fact that the holiday recess has found his green quintet will be unable to gather experience until January 11.

A few practice sessions, it seems would prove beneficial to the Cranes than a long layoff at this point, unless they should mellow simply by aging. On the plus side, at least Kenny will have ample time to forget the disastrous start, during which Cranbrook has dropped its first five games.

THE LATEST DEFEAT was at hands of a strong Tecumseh team, 64-38, Friday. The Cranes were outclassed and trailed all the way.

Tecumseh towered over the shorter Cranbrook team and its height proved decisive in rebounding. The Cranes had difficulty in passing accurately, which has been their nemesis all season.

High scorer in the lopsided game was Tecumseh's Dick Miller who dropped in 22 points, making 14 out of 18 free throws.

Bruce McCaul and Harris led Cranbrook scorers with nine points each.

TECUMSEH	fg	ft	tp
Hanson	5	2	12
Elliot	2	1	5
Miller	4	14	22
Yonkum	2	2	6
O'Neil	0	0	0
McDowell	4	0	8
Farver	0	0	2
Totals	22	20	64

CRANBROOK	fg	ft	tp
Klein	1	0	2
Harris	4	1	9
McCaul	4	1	9
Crowley	3	1	7
Gribe	1	0	2
Moyer	0	2	2
Andrews	1	0	2
Totals	15	8	38

Just Two Games Will Be Played

By C. H. HALLAS

With most of the area quintets idled until after the first of the new year, there will be pretty slim pickings for basketball fans during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Only the Southfield-Bentley game at Livonia, December 21, and the Birmingham - Fitzgerald contest here December 28, are scheduled during the recess.

Four of the five teams will then get back into action on Friday, January fourth.

BIRMINGHAM got off to a shaky start against Cranbrook, but managed to subdue the Cranes after a tussle, 47-36. In their next game, the Maples displayed a more effective attack but lost to a good Royal Oak team, 62-60, in a last-minute decision.

The Maples began the season with a nucleus of five returning lettermen but so far coach John Petrakis hasn't been successful in finding a good scoring combination. Bob Isbell and Marshall Roe, who both stand 6 ft. 4 in., were counted on for some punch up front by Petrakis but so far only Isbell has come through in the important scoring and rebounding departments.

ISBELL leads the area scorers after two games with a 17.5 average per game. Roe showed great improvement in the Royal Oak loss for the Maples, although he has scored only six points in the two games. If Roe can continue to improve with added experience, he could give Birmingham the backboard strength they will need in season in the tough Eastern Michigan league, in which nearly every team has at least three men over 6 ft. 2 in.

Steve Ritchie, Maple forward, indicated against Royal Oak that he might add some strength to the Birmingham offense when he scored 16 points. Ritchie, a senior along with Isbell and Roe, has scored 24 points this season, second highest on the Maple outfit.

SENIOR GUARD Dick Kelley has an average of 10.5 points per game.

Troy coach Peyton Goodwin has reason to be smiling these days with his Colts on top of the Oakland B conference with a 2-0 record, but Goodwin isn't sure how long it will last.

"After a couple of games, we seem to be better balanced than last year. We might finish third if everything goes as expected," Goodwin said.

The Colts beat Madison in their opener, 57-36, with Sim Acton scoring 18 points. In their second start they were completely outclassed by East Detroit, 56-38, whom Goodwin referred to as "the state class A champions of 1956-57."

"I CAN'T GET over the height that team has—6 ft. 2, 6 ft. 3, 6 ft. 4, and 6 ft. 7 and so on. Gary Ballman and Ron Emerick are both terrific. They will be hard to stop this year," says Goodwin. Which is not particularly good news for the Maples, who will play East Detroit twice this season.

Troy beat Avondale Friday, 53-38, for its second Oakland B triumph in as many starts. Wayne Figley scored 14 points and Milan Varajon dropped in 10 for the Colts, the team showing its best drive of the season.

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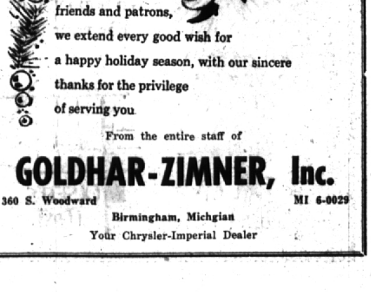

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