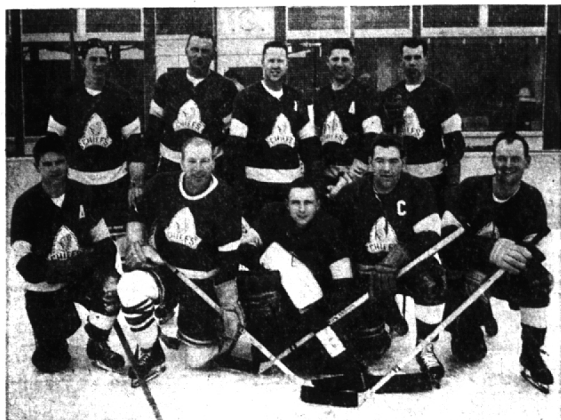


# Maples Meet Ferndale, Mt. Clemens In Next Two Games



The Chiefs, who won the recreation senior hockey league crown in the first round, are Don Durst, Wayne Groloux, Pop Stephenson, Frank Blanzly and Bill Mooney. Missing when the picture was taken was Bill G-1. Kneeling in front of the net are Bob Gagnon, Lee Williams, Jerry Blanzly, George Baker and Bill Beers. In the back row are Don Durst, Wayne Groloux, Pop Stephenson, Frank Blanzly and Bill Mooney. Missing when the picture was taken was Bill Jones and George Wolfe.

## Chiefs at Sarnia, Ontario Saturday for Playoffs

The Chiefs will invade Sarnia, Ont., Saturday afternoon for the Michigan amateur hockey association playoffs.

Winners of the recreation senior hockey league championship, the Chiefs are given the best chance of any local team to bring back state honors.

THE CHIEFS wrapped up the title three weeks before the season ended and lost only one game during the regular campaign. That was on a forfeit when three players became ill.

Sharp passing and a strong power-play combination have featured the Chiefs' attack each week. It is these two strong points that are expected to keep them in contention.

That passing and scoring attack was brought into full force Sunday when the Chiefs defeated the All-Stars, 6-2.

BOB GAGNON scored early in the first with an assist from Don Durst and Chuck McClain tied it in the second.

Doug Mooney put the Chiefs in front again with an assist from Frank Blanzly, but John LaFontaine tied it up a few minutes later.

It was the last time the Stars threatened as the Chiefs exploded. Gagnon scored his second goal on another assist from Durst and Bob Stephenson collected the first

of his two markers before the close of the second period.

It was Stephenson again in the third and Wayne Groloux added the clincher midway in the period.

Allee said that \$732 in fees was collected three weeks ago but only \$332 was brought in two weeks ago. Last week, fees totalled only \$230 and expected revenue this week is only \$200.

A TENTATIVE closing date of March 1 was set by the board, but a temporary crisis forced the city if the rink was to remain open.

Rising attendance accompanied by rising revenues kept the rink within its budget, but interest in skating has declined, Allee said.

Recreation Commissioner John O'Gorman appointed Allee to watch the rink budget while he took his vacation.

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## The Birmingham Eccentric

### SPORTS

PAGE 8 FEBRUARY 19, 1959

## Recreation Board May Close Eton Rink Sunday

Rapidly-falling revenues may close the Eton park ice rink next Sunday if recreation board trustee William Allee's recommendations are followed at the board meeting tonight.

Trustee Allee told the city commissioner's Monday that the budget will be exhausted by Sunday. Declining interest in skating is also apparent because of falling attendance and revenues, he said.

At the commission meeting of January 5, the city authorized the recreation board to operate for two weeks after the budget had been exhausted.

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## Yellow Jackets Go Into MAHA Playoffs

Birmingham's recreation junior hockey league title winners, the Yellow Jackets, will enter the Michigan amateur hockey association playoffs at Sarnia, Ont., this Saturday.

The Yellow Jackets earned the right to the playoff berth by winning the junior league championship two weeks ago.

The senior league winners will also travel to Sarnia for the playoffs. The Chiefs wrapped up the title three weeks early.

THE BUILDINGS, intermediate division winners will enter the Detroit playoff on Monday.

The Yellow Jackets clinched a successful season Saturday morning by defeating the junior league All-Stars, 3-2, in a freezing down-pour.

An all-morning rain combined with heavy fog did not prevent nearly 100 spectators from turning out to watch the exhibition game, however.

Eton rink received a new coat of ice every two or three minutes as the rain froze when it hit the surface.

HOCKEY players appreciated the new surface and responded with sharp passing and body-checking.

Dick Emrick put the Jackets ahead in the first period when he let go from 10 feet out, but Rick Thornton tied it up for the Stars when he shipped home a pass from Stu Forrest.

Ted Elliott gave the winners the lead early in the third on a solo effort, but it was Mike Thorton who tied it up, again on a pass from Forrest.

Luck Forrest's second goal midway through the final period clinched the decision.

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## Lose 3rd Straight Cage Tilt

Birmingham will try and snap a three-game losing streak tomorrow night when it hosts a tough Ferndale squad in Eastern Michigan league action.

The Maples will then take to the road Tuesday night for a visit to Mt. Clemens.

THE LOCAL quiet had a modest three-game streak going two weeks ago when they bumped into East Detroit and bowed, 71-63. The Maples then dropped a four-point verdict to Port Huron Friday, 53-49, and ran head-on into Berkley Tuesday.

Berkley, however, needed three minutes of overtime and an assist from a referee's decision to edge the Maples, 61-60.

The Maples trailed by 21 points at halftime, but came back to within three at the end of the third period. The Maples' Phil Russell tied it up with two free throws, 52-53, with seconds left in regulation time.

A SEE-SAW battle proceeded during the overtime and Birmingham led, 60-59, with three seconds left in the overtime when the Maples were charged with goal-tending (blocking a shot on its way to basket) which gave Berkley an automatic two points and the game.

Dave Burris, of Berkley, and Birmingham's Merv Gallop conducted a personal scoring duel and Burris had a one-point decision in that department, too.

Burris had 24 points and Gallop 23 while Bob Ross added 16 for the winners and Russell 14 for the Maples.

THE PORT HURON defeat cost Birmingham a chance to move up in the EML standings, but the Maples have no one but themselves to blame.

They held a two-point edge at halftime and increased that lead to six at the end of the third quarter.

Port Huron broke loose in the fourth quarter with 19 points while holding a cold Maple team to a mere nine.

RON VERNONICKI and Dick Smith hit for 12 each, but Merv Gallop took top scoring honors with 17.

(SEE MAPLES, Page 7-E)

## Country Day Leaves For Ohio Tournament

Detroit Country Day Coach Dan Halling is wondering what it takes to win a game these days.

After playing in the Maumee of Ohio tournament this coming weekend, the Yellow Jackets will close out the regularly scheduled season Tuesday when they meet Clintondale.

ALTHOUGH his young squad is already talking about "next year," Halling would like to end the current season with a few victories.

Lutheran East extracted a 60-59 overtime decision from the Yellow Jackets Tuesday night. The Jackets led by as much as 18 midway in the third period.

Lutheran's Andy Rio tied it up with three seconds left in regulation time and Jim Newman won it with 15 seconds to go in overtime with a jump shot. Newman had 28 and Rio 18. Jim Martin led Country Day with 20 and teammate Jim Kramer added 13.

IT APPEARED that the Yellow Jackets would get started on the winning trail Friday when they jumped off to a 32-20 halftime lead over Lamphere.

They ended up on the short end of a 53-46 score.

The reason? Country Day could score only five points in the third period.

IT WAS mostly a case of running out of steam.

Three of the varsity members were absent from practices because of colds and two practice sessions were cancelled because of

## Along the Sidelines with bill arthur

There are an estimated 25,000 residents within the city limits of Birmingham, according to the people who make a living by knowing such facts, and approximately 24,250 of them missed one of the top shows of the year Sunday night.

Of course, this writer cannot really blame those estimated 24,250 who showed more sense than the crowd of 750 who did attend the Skaters Holiday ice show presented at Eton rink.

The thermometer said it was only 30 degrees—but it was the coldest 30 degrees ever seen in these parts. A brisk, invigorating wind from the north chased most of the spectators from the rink-side seats to the warming shelter.

A SMALL admission fee of 75 cents for adults and a reduced price for children was charged at the door, but the money plus a few frost-bitten toes and fingers were evidently well worth the show.

It must be recorded at this time that the ice show was presented by the recreation department in conjunction with skaters in the area who are listed as "amateurs."

An amateur, according to my old friend Webster, is one who is not rated as a professional.

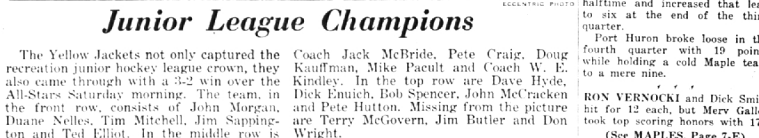
(SEE SIDELINES, Page 7-E)

edge Walled Lake, 60-54, a team that took a non-point decision from the Cranes earlier in the season.

The Cranes will visit Pontiac Northern tomorrow night and remain on the road for a game at Bloomfield Hills Tuesday.

John Hayden (17), Jim Williams (12), and Tom Bray (11) found the range for Cranbrook while Kirk Evans and Bill Allen had 18 each for the Lakers.

A TRIP to Cleveland netted the Cranbrook bounced back Tuesday



The Yellow Jackets not only captured the recreation junior league crown, they also came through with a 3-2 win over the All-Stars Saturday morning. The team, in the front row, consists of John Morgan, Duane Nelles, Tim Mitchell, Jim Suppington and Ted Elliott. In the middle row is Coach Jack McBride, Pete Craig, Doug Kauffman, Mike Paulcut and Coach W. E. Kindley. In the top row are Dave Hyde, Dick Emrick, Bob Spencer, John McCracken and Pete Hutton. Missing from the picture are Terry McGovern, Jim Butler and Don Wright.

## Junior League Champions

When it comes to winning trainers at Detroit race course, it is strictly a two-man act. Marion Van Berg and V. R. "Tennessee" Wright have finished 1-2 every year since 1954, with Wright holding a 3-2 edge in the top spot.

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