

Along the Sidelines

with bill arthur

If you ever see an action picture of Ollie Spencer, tackle for the Green Bay Packers, you automatically become awed. In order that you may receive this same impression, that picture can be located elsewhere on these pages. The picture is used for publicity purposes, but it is obviously intended to scare the living daylight out of the opposition.

At first glance, the overall impression is one of a steam engine running down a 45-degree hill without any brakes.

STATISTICS printed on the back of the sheet, however, indicate he is just an oversized mortal. At 6'2" and 245 pounds, it is possible that there are others just as big, if not bigger than he.

The above diatribe is merely an introduction to the Ollie Spencer that walked into the office the other day. He doesn't look anything like the picture.

IT COMES as quite a shock to see a well-dressed man with smiling, unmarked face, who has the manners of a stereotyped movie butler.

If you didn't know any better, you would swear he was a successful salesman.

Then comes the second blow.

HE SELLS insurance when not knocking opposing tackles around. This writer is still not sure whether Spencer came for an interview or to sell more insurance.

His insurance business (he's an agent of Banker's Life of Nebraska) is doing well enough that he is considering the possibility of retiring from pro football.

There is only one drawback. He likes football, the pay, the (See SIDELINES, Page 7-D)

Postpone All-Star Puck Game

The recreation senior hockey league all-star game scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Sunday was postponed to Feb. 14 in favor of regularly scheduled games that had been postponed earlier in the season.

Two games scheduled for Jan. 25 were postponed because of a heavy snowfall and they were then cancelled when the Chiefs won the championship.

ALL FOUR teams, however, wanted to make up the games and the all-star tilt was moved forward one week.

(See GAME, Page 7-D)

Ex-Canadian Adopts Both Our Country And National Sport

Alex Billesdon is not a man who does things half-heartedly. Billesdon, 18860 San Jose, who was born in England, is a transplanted Canadian who has adopted both this country and its national pastime with a fervor seldom seen in the natural-born citizens.

A champion badminton player in both Canada and the U.S., Billesdon recently signed as a scout for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

This is a testimonial to his ability at judging ballplayers in the Michigan area.

BILLEDON also played hockey (Canada's equivalent of baseball) and was goalie for the University of Toronto.

"I wasn't as good a hockey player as I was at badminton," Billesdon said. "So I learned the game and won several championships in both Canada and here."

An insurance executive, Billesdon began watching baseball when (See ADOPTS, Page 7-D)




"And That's the Way It's Done!"

Alex Billesdon, 18860 San Jose, Lathrup Village, discusses the upcoming baseball season with his sons, Andy, 16, and John, 13. Andy, an excellent pitcher in prep and sandlot circles, has received immeasurable help from his dad as has John who is training to receive his brother's tosses. Billesdon was a champion Badminton player in Canada where he was reared.

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Birmingham Hosts Kimball Friday Night

Dahlquist Clinches Rek Title

With one game left in the first half of the season, Dahlquist wrapped up the half-season championship in fine style by winning twice last week.

Dahlquist ran his winning streak to seven straight and has yet to taste defeat.

ART FAIRBANKS and O. G. White paced both Dahlquist victories last week as the winners of the Domestic, 71-48, Tuesday night and Torrence, 53-34, on Thursday.

Fairbanks rified in 20 points and White clipped in with 15 in the rout over Domestic, but Carl Penrick took top scoring honors for the night with 26.

It was White with 12 and Fairbanks added 11 in the win over Torrence. Bill Lawson had 10 in a losing cause.

FAWCETT dumped Torrence on Tuesday as Bill Munsinger and John Shelley hit for double figures. Munsinger had 12 and Shelley 10, but Tom Gan had 18 for Torrence. (See TITLE, Page 7-D)



Banner Day for Bowlers in Birmingham

Frank Clause, who has 10 sanctioned 300 games in his name, will start the day off by launching the Detroit News bowling school at Bloomfield House tomorrow. Clause will hold his session from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A former school teacher, Clause abandoned the classroom to help bowlers improve their games.



Stroh captain Tony Lindeman also will help local bowlers improve their game at Birmingham Bowl from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. tomorrow. Lindeman has two sanctioned 200 games to his credit and won the Petersen Twin Classic tournament in Chicago in 1955. He has carried a 205 average over the past five years.

Int. Loop Race May End Sat.

The recreation intermediate hockey league title race may be all over by 11 a.m. Saturday.

At 10 a.m., the league-leading Bulldogs clash head-on with the second-place Jets, and if the Bulldogs win, it will be all over except for the shouting.

IF THE Jets win, then a postponed game that will be played Monday may decide the championship.

The Bulldogs have a one-game lead over the Jets, but they have to make up a postponed game with the Huskies. The Jets have to play the Tigers.

Should the Jets win on Saturday to tie for the lead and both teams win on Monday, then a playoff game would have to be held to decide the championship.

The Bulldogs assured themselves a tie for the title by downing the Tigers, 4-2, in Saturday's action.

GEORGE FORREST scored twice (See LOOP, Page 7-D)

Yellow Jackets Claim Junior Hockey Crown

Although the Yellow Jackets will meet their closest competitor this Saturday at 7:45 a.m. at Eton rink, the game will be merely a warm-up for the following Saturday's all-star game.

The Yellow Jackets won the recreation junior hockey league title outright last week by dumping the Green Hornets, 4-2.

BY WINNING the title, the Yellow Jackets will be named to start Monday against the junior aggregation of all-stars composed of the best players from the three other teams.

Don Kaufman and John McCracken put the Jackets in front with two quick goals in the first period and Mike Paucit assisted on one to add the cause.

The Green Hornets came back strong in the second period to tie it up on two unassisted goals by Stu Forrest. It appeared that the Hornets would upset the Jackets with the second-period outburst.

TED ELLIOTT and Pete Hutton decided the issue, however, early in the third period when they both scored to give the Yellow Jackets the game and the title.

Earlier in the day, the Ranshees kept their title hopes temporarily alive by downing the Eldorados, 4-2.

Don Alcorn pushed in the first goal in the opening period on a fine pass from Mike Thornton and Ed Brown broke loose for two in the middle stanza with Thornton getting another assist.

ALCORN'S second goal early in the third put the game out of the Eldorados' reach, but they came back for two markers late in the third.

Dick Bled scored with an assist from Doug MacLean and Tim Gray pushed in a consolation marker with an assist from Dave White.

Most of the Ranshee players remained to watch the Yellow Jackets' take the title by beating the Green Hornets.

STANDINGS

Yellow Jackets	4	1	1
Green Hornets	2	1	2
Ranshees	2	1	2

BOB STARRS 11 for the winners.

Will Visit E. Detroit On Tuesday

When Hazel Park invades Birmingham high's gym tomorrow night, the Vikings will be out to prove two things:

(1) That the 48-47 loss to the Maples earlier in the season was a fluke, and (2) that those same Maples cannot do it again.

BIRMINGHAM, on the other hand, will be out to prove otherwise.

It was Jeff Boucher's free throw with 14 seconds left that took the earlier decision on December 21.

Following their clash with the Vikings, the Maples will begin preparation for a visit to East Detroit on Tuesday. The Shamrocks hold a 61-58 decision over Birmingham.

THE MAPLES will be seeking their third straight league win when they clash with Hazel Park tomorrow night.

They eased past a winless Royal Oak Kimball squad, 54-49, Friday night on the strength of Merv Galup's 24 points.

Birmingham held a five-point edge at intermission time and increased that lead to eight by the end of the third quarter. Mike Harris had 21 for the losers and Galup's closest teammate was Phil Ishell with nine.

Barons To Visit Holly '5'

The on-again, off-again Bloomfield Hills quintet, which hosted Oak Kimball on Tuesday, will visit Holly tomorrow night.

It will be the only meeting between the two teams this season. Hills Coach Hal Trent is probably wondering if his team will be "on" when the Barons clash with Holly. The Barons lost Friday's 55-47 defeat at the hands of Northville.

THE BARONS suffered a second-half letdown and that was the ballgame as far as Northville was concerned. The locals led by six points at the end of the first period and by seven at the intermission.

Northville, however, scored 21 points in the third period while Bloomfield was held to 11. The Barons scored only nine in the final period.

Doug Duzinger's 19 points went for naught in the loss and he was tied by Northville's Nelson Schriener. Wade Deal added 13 and Bob Starrs 11 for the winners.

'Skater's Holiday' Ice Show Rehearsals Begin

Rehearsals for the Skater's Holiday ice show by the recreation department were stepped up this week at Eton rink.

The local extravaganza will be held Sunday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Four production numbers, two duets and a brace of solo acts started rehearsals last week. Others are expected to begin this week.

MORE THAN 30 children, who have taken skating lessons during the past season, will be featured in one production and a toyland production will also be presented.

Other productions will include a group waltz number and a skater's march.

Helen and Wendy Gale will tango while Lynn Reese and Pat Ackers can present the latest dance week. (See REHEARSALS, Page 7-D)

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