

Doc's Corner

By Dennis O'Connor



It's O&E All-Area time again

By DENNIS O'CONNOR

It seems the fall sports season just began last week, but were already finished with prep football, cross country, tennis and golf competition for another year.

With the conclusion of these sports, it's time for our annual All-Observer & Eccentric selections.

To be honest, the process for selecting these teams has been under a great deal of criticism from area coaches, players, parents and even the Oakland County sports staff.

Last year, as a staff, we experiment-

ed with various ways to select these teams — meetings, letters to coaches, committees, and nominations from sports editors.

Truly, there is no letter perfect way to choose these all area teams. The metropolitan daily newspapers also have trouble every year deciding who the best players in the state are.

It's impossible for their writers, and it's impossible for our staff, to witness every player on every team in every community.

In fact, the dailies usually call our publication as a reference in finding the best athletes in the state.

No one will ever totally be happy with any kind of selection process. We understand this.

However, with a new school season beginning, Oakland County's three sports editors — Tom Bear, Farmington-West Bloomfield, Marty Budner, Rochester-Troy and myself, representing Birmingham-Bloomfield and Southfield — got together last month and decided that letter ballots from each coach is the most equitable way to select the All-Observer & Eccentric teams.

And this system will remain consistent for all sports for the remainder of the school year.

AS OAKLAND COUNTY coordinator of these selections, I hope all coaches will begin their research in helping us choose the best possible squad in the area. The most honest and fair team can only be chosen with the help of every coach in the area. The sports editors will NOT vote for any of the teams. The teams will be selected only from coaches' votes.

Letters will be addressed and sent to each football, girls' tennis, girls' cross country, boys' cross country and boys' golf coach this week.

Letters to the girls' basketball, girls' swimming, and boys' soccer will come in the next few weeks.

The letters will be addressed to the schools. Area coaches are asked to respond to this letter by selecting first and second-team all-area squads. You may vote for your own team member — although personal discretion is advised.

Deadlines for returning your selections, the election point system and the schools which are eligible for votes will be explained in the letter. All athletes who receive a vote, but don't make the first or second squads, will receive honorable mention.

After receiving the letter, coaches may feel free to call their local sports editor or me, Dennis O'Connor, at 644-1101 or 644-1103, if you have further questions.

Please remember, it's hard enough to select an all-area squad. The more responses we receive, the better the outcome of each team.

Bear, Budner and I am very anxious to see, read and tabulate your responses so the Observer & Eccentric can have the best, and most accurate all-star team in the area.

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W. Bloomfield downs Andover

West Bloomfield raised its girls' basketball record to 14-1 last Thursday with a 46-34 victory over Bloomfield Hills Andover in the Greater Oakland Athletic League. West Bloomfield's 6-1 in the conference.

Sandy DeSilvio led the winners with 14 points and six field goals and two free throws. Ann Claverilla added 12 points and Lynn Gerber had eight.

West Bloomfield's Carolyn Barciewicz, who missed a couple of games because of a bruised knee, was back against Andover, and "played like a tiger," according to Laker coach Mike Greene. She scored six points and pulled down nine rebounds to help the Lakers control the boards.

Lauren Marakas scored 15 points for Andover and Laura Focher added 12. Peggy Bortfield, Andover's 6-foot center, didn't play because of injury.

West Bloomfield, which made 20 of 53 shots from the field and six of 11 free throws, established an one-point lead (21-19) at halftime. Andover came back to score 23 points to West Bloomfield's 24 in the second half.

West Bloomfield's next opponent is Waterford Mott. The two schools will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday (Nov. 6) at West Bloomfield.

WEST BLOOMFIELD 46 — ANDOVER 34
WEST BLOOMFIELD (46) — Sandy DeSilvio 6, 2, 2, 14; Ann Claverilla 8, 8, 12; Lynn Gerber 4, 8, 1; Carolyn Barciewicz 2, 2, 4, 8; Kelly O'Shea 1, 0, 2; Sue Volokh 1, 0, 2; Stephanie Smith 5, 1, 2; Anna Hargrett 0, 1, 2. TOTALS: 28-6, 11-46.
BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANDOVER (34) — Lauren Marakas 6, 2, 4, 15; Laura Focher 5, 2, 12; Bev Olson 2, 0, 3; Lisa Voth 1, 0, 2; Jean Budner 0, 1, 1. TOTALS: 14-6, 11-34.
TOTAL POINTS — West Bloomfield 13, Andover 13. FOLLOWS: Waterford Mott (11-13).
W. BLOOMFIELD 13 — 12 11 11 — 46
ANDOVER 13 — 5 12 11 11 — 34

Boxing show planned

Tired of watching football all weekend?

The West Bloomfield Jewish Community Center has your feelings at heart. The center is sponsoring a series of amateur boxing nights, the first on Saturday, Nov. 17.

Thomas Hearn, Detroit's promising professional welterweight, will be the guest host for the opening night. Hearn's younger brother, John, an amateur welterweight, will be part of the fight card.

Fifteen bouts are planned during the evening, each three rounds in length except for the main attraction, which will be five rounds.

Undeclared welterweight Andre Wil-

liams of Pontiac will battle Robert Tyus of Detroit in the main event. Both fighters are Olympic hopefuls.

Other top bouts will be undefeated bantamweight Danny Mardesia of Detroit against Kevin Waldenhamer of New Baltimore, and heavyweights Dave Field of Pontiac versus Chuck Tomes of Detroit. Middleweight Peter Lesner of Waterford, a winner by knockout in all of his fights, will also be on the card.

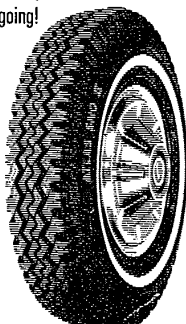
The first fight will start at 8:15 p.m. Tickets are available at the center, located at 6600 West Maple Road in West Bloomfield. Adults are \$3.50, students are \$2. For further information, call the center at 661-1000.

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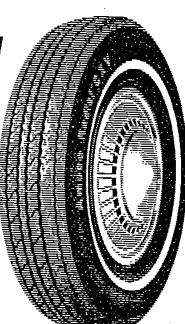
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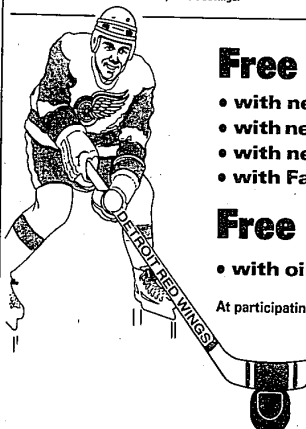
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