

IN THE

POCKET

By W.W. EDGAR

Lack of snow may have been a disappointment to the bob-sledders during the holiday season, but it was a boon to the bowling industry.

From all sections of Observerland come reports that "open" bowling reached a record high between Christmas and New Year's Day.

"We were so busy," one of the managers reported, "that we were operating with reservations as early as 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. We've never had a holiday season like this one."

Another reported that he had spent the entire day after Christmas drilling bowling balls.

"And many of them were sales that day and not Christmas gifts being brought in to have drilled. It was one of the busiest holiday periods we ever have had."

FROM ALL APPEARANCES the Detroit Woman's Bowling Association, to which many of the area bowlers belong, will set another national mark for membership.

"Thus far we have 2500 leagues sanctioned," Mrs. Lillian C. Jacob, the president, explained. "This is only 38 teams below the mark we set up last year. And thus far we have 85,500 members sanctioned compared to the 82,189 we had last season. We have until the end of the bowling season to pick up the extra 5,000."

TOM MC KAY, secretary of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association, reported a novelty in his membership drive. "We have 2,870 leagues sanctioned thus far. That's 20 more than we had at this time last year," he said, "but we have 185 fewer bowlers."

Tom pointed out that strange condition is made possible because of the increased number of mixed leagues which consist of two couples. On each of these teams there are only four bowlers instead of the usual five.

He also reported that the membership to date is 125,303.

Both Mrs. Jacob and McKay have asked that the league average sheets be turned in as soon as possible so that the year books can be published.

THERE HAS BEEN a dearth of perfect games thus far this season.

The Greater Detroit Bowling Association has recorded only 17, along with 18 counts of 299 and seven at 298.

MARY WORDEN, one of the most enthusiastic of all women bowlers at Livonia Lanes, set the pace in the ladies league this week with a 191-43-234.

Right behind her came Marge Brothers with 204-22-228 add Kay McGuffridge with 203-26-229. Kay had high series with 558-78-636.

Harold Villert topped the men in the Whirlwind League with a 660 series. Hank Tyl finished in the runner-up position with 222 and 231 in 652, while John Larkin posted a high single of 235.

JERRY HEILSTEDT was the big man of the week in the Westland Classic. He put together games of 210, 246 and 244 for an even 700. Bob Walker closed with a 267 in 692 and Bob Hart landed third with 687.

Jay Dishong still tops the average list with 306.

BILL DE FRAIN will have good reason to remember the holidays. During his regular turn with the Golden Eagle League he converted the 7-10.

STEVE DONALDSON was high man in the Garden Lanes Classic with a 749 gained on games of 211, 279 and 259.

Don Johnson also broke the 700 barrier with a 726 as his Twin Pines team linked games of 1075, 1062, and 1013 for a 3140 series.

ELVIRA TOEPFER, the Bowling Queen, finished the old year in fine style when she registered a 659 series in the Bowlerettes League on Monday night. It was her sixth straight series above the 600 mark and kept her average for December at 218. This is one of the highest in the country.

DICK BEATTIE, the south-paw sharpshooter, closed out the old year, with another high scoring performance at Wonderland and solidified his average as one of the highest in the state.

He put together three good games for a 696 that kept his average at 219.

While Dick was accomplishing this feat, two others, only a few lanes away, were posting 700's. Bob Holt got the first of them with a 707 and Ben Grandenburg came right behind with a 702.

BILL COOPER set the pace in the Bel-Aire Classic with games of 264, 247 and 200 for 711.

Among the other high scorers were Jack Brown with 652 and stretching on into March, Observerland High School athletes are in for some hectic times.

In four sports—basketball, swimming, wrestling and gymnastics—they'll be competing for a variety of honors. There will be local distinction such as Franklin and Bentley will seek when they contest in basketball Tuesday night.

Then will come the more important business of shooting for league championships.

Later on in basketball it'll be the districts, the regionals and hopefully the state finals.

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In swimming it'll be league and state competition.

Into gymnastics. When the preps paused for the holiday from regulation action such teams as North Farmington (Northwest Suburban), Bentley (Suburban Six) and Stevenson (Inter-Lakes) already had forged to the front in their respective basketball leagues.

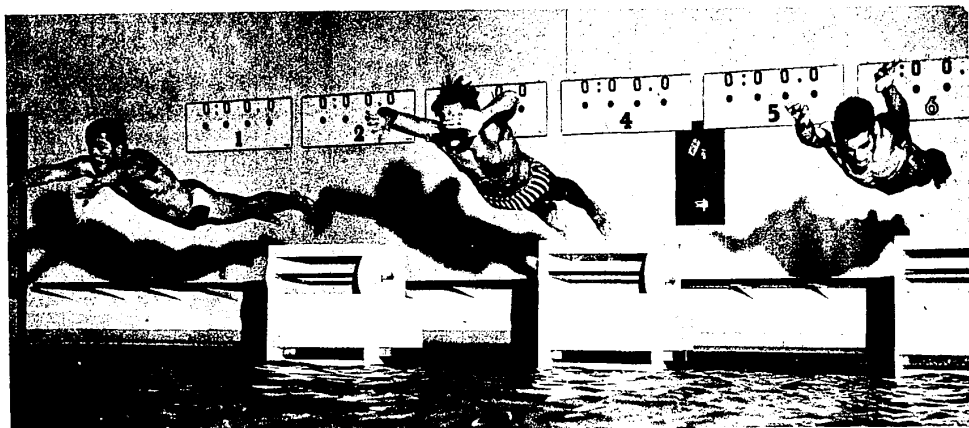
North Farmington then added to its laurels by sweeping in three straight victories over the championship in the Northwest Holiday tournament.

All of which means the Raiders will take a 6-0 record with them when they renew action this week.

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They were the most successful of the entries, although Plymouth gained recognition by going to the finals in the John Glenn Invitational before

Farmington High Has New Look--Swim Varsity



Off the starting blocks go (from left) Randy Jenks, Bob Jamison and Larry Henderson during an afternoon workout.



WATER FLIES in all directions when Bob Jamison works on breaststroke.

Prep Athletes Resume Action After Holidays

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Tigers Set Bargain Programs

Monday nights and Saturday afternoons are the bargain bill for Tiger Stadium in 1970.

Five Monday night games have been selected by the Tigers for Family Night events with reduced admission prices for family groups. Not included is the Labor Day (Sept. 7) game, the only holiday attraction on the home schedule.

Six Saturday afternoon games are on the list for Ladies/Retirees Days.

ON FAMILY NIGHT, Dad pays the regular \$3 reserved seat admission and the rest of the family group is admitted for 50 cents each. Seating is in designated sections of the Upper deck and sale of Family Night tickets limited to the capacity of those sections.

On Ladies/Retirees Days, women, girls, boys 14 or under and all senior citizens are admitted for 50 cents each, with seating in the Upper Deck and ticket sales limited to 10,000.

Tickets for both of the bargain events can be purchased in advance by mail or at the Tiger Stadium Advance Ticket Office, Michigan and Trumbull, check or money order (payable in U.S. currency) and a stamped, addressed return envelope should accompany mail orders sent to: Ticket Department, Tiger Stadium, Detroit, Mich. 48216.

Retirees not wishing to use the ramps leading to the Upper Deck at Tiger Stadium can use an elevator located behind home plate near Section 15.

FAMILY NIGHTS
May 11 - Chicago White Sox
May 25 - New York Yankees
June 15 - Oakland Athletics
July 6 - Boston Red Sox
Aug. 3 - Washington Senators

LADIES/RETIREES DAYS
April 18 - Boston Red Sox
May 23 - Washington Senators
June 27 - Cleveland Indians
July 25 - Chicago White Sox
Aug. 22 - Seattle Pilots
Sept. 12 - Washington Senators

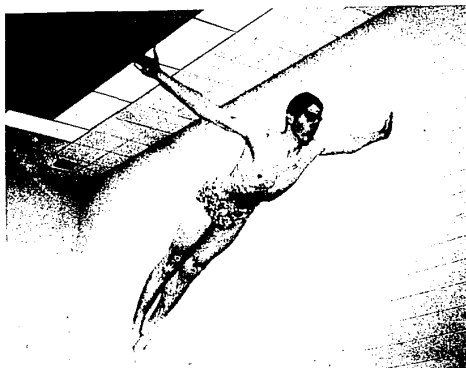
LEADING THE WAY was Ward Squires of Churchill, who had the second best time in the 100-yard butterfly with a 57.1 second clocking and also was fifth in the individual medley with a time of 2:14.3.

Bill Kloote of Stevenson made the honored listed in three categories. He was among the top ten in the 400-yard freestyle, and Stacy Swatkowski of Churchill with a 54.3 second clocking in the 100-yard free.

Jeff Harringer of Thurston made the top ten in the butterfly with a 1:01.8 while Mark Noren made the list with a 1:04 in the backstroke.

Tom Zeeb of Thurston swam on the big board with a 4:29.4 time in the 400-yard free style.

Two Observerland breaststrokers also were among the day's best - Don Day of Stevenson with a 1:07.3 clocking and Tom Holcomb of Thurston with a 1:07.8.



HIGH IN AIR goes Diver Tom Sudd.



COACH DOUG GEMBIS (center) helps Tim Jamison (left) and Gary Dolan perfect their kicks for freestyle swimmers.



LEAVING BOARD for backstroke time trial is Rick Harnack.

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