

Drawing Just Around Corner For State Tourney

Nervousness is setting in around the Michigan high school basketball front.

And, for two reasons:

1-The regular-season title chase is coming down to the wire. This week and next. That's all.

2-A week from Tuesday, the schools gather to see how they draw for the district phase of the annual state high school basketball tournament. That's always a tense moment. How you draw can have an effect on how you do in the tournament proper.

As for the regular-season doings, it's still between Plymouth and Bentley for the title in the Suburban Six League.

NORTH FARMINGTON needs some help... somebody has to kayo Birmingham Groves... if the Raiders are at least to gain a share of the Northwest Suburban League crown.

For Stevenson High, it's just a matter of winning the rest to wrap up an undisputed title in the Inter-Lakes Conference.

Going into last Friday's action, the Spartans could afford one loss and still do no less than share the circuit's pennant.

The big school, of course, in Observerland, has been Garden City West led by Rick Drewitz, a cinch for all-suburban and all-state honors.

West had the Tri-Rivers League crown cemented away this weekend.

IN ADDITION to next Friday's league schedule,

this week also will feature four interesting Tuesday games in the area.

Franklin, which has upset Oak Park and Plymouth, goes against always-strong Fordson, while North Farmington tackles Royal Oak Dondero and Farmington goes to Plymouth for non-leaguers.

Farmington has been an up and down team... a team with considerable power in its lineup. This could spell trouble for Plymouth, which has been tied with Bentley for the Suburban Six loop crown.

Tuesday's fourth game matches Clarenceville with West Bloomfield in the Wayne-Oakland League. It's been a tough winter for Clarenceville, but here's a chance to gain some glory against one of the league's powers.

But, while the regular-season finishes near, the excitement hits in the air in connection with the state meet booked for the first three weeks in March.

THE DISTRICT draws can't be held before Tuesday, Feb. 24. It's always a simple ceremony at the sites of the various districts... but it is of vital interest to all concerned.

Most of Observerland's Class A teams have been assigned to districts to be held at Franklin and North Farmington High schools. Others will go to Southfield, Detroit Henry Ford and Eastern Michigan at Ypsilanti.

Class B teams go to Northville and two Class C teams to Pontiac and Redford St. Mary's.

Following a long-standard procedure, teams are not seeded for the district. This means it's strictly a matter of luck who draws who.

There's just one stipulation. If a team is playing at home—such as Franklin, Southfield and North Farmington—and the field is unbalanced, necessitated a first-round bye, the host team can't draw a bye.

THE OPEN draw provides its unhappy moments in some instances.

Often the two top teams in a tournament clash head-on in the first round when their meeting in the finals would be far more ideal.

Or there are situations when a team which has lost to another twice during the regular season draws that team in the first round of the district.

Nephej coach likes that.

But that's the way it goes.

Once the district pairings are made, there are no further draws involved in the state meet until the semifinals of the championships are staged.

THE PAIRINGS for the regionals already have been set.

For example at the Class A regional at Franklin it already has been determined that the winners of the districts at Franklin, Howell and North Farmington will draw byes in the first round.

Only the Howell and Ypsilanti district winners will have to play. Then in the second round it'll be

Franklin vs. Howell (district winners, that is) vs. the North Farmington winner and the survivor between the Ypsilanti and Ford battle.

Very simple.

And, if you want to know what happens to the Franklin regional winner, it meets the Kalamazoo regional winner in the state quarterfinals while Southfield's regional winner plays the Trenton winner... Birmingham's opposes the East Detroit and Wyoming's faces Flint's.

Where Observer teams are assigned for play in the 1970 district high school basketball tournaments.

Class A
AT FRANKLIN—Franklin, Bentley, Stevenson, Crestwood, Garden City West and Garden City East.
AT NORTH FARMINGTON—Plymouth, Farmington, North Farmington, Walled Lake West and Walled Lake Central.
AT DETROIT FORD—Bishop Borgess.
AT SOUTHFIELD—Redford Union, Thurston, Southfield, Bathrup.

Class B
AT NORTHVILLE—Livonia Churchill and Clarenceville.

Class C
AT PONTIAC—Our Lady of Sorrows.
AT REDFORD ST. MARY'S—St. Agatha.

Sorrows' Wrestlers Have Eyes Focused On State Crown



Take a bow Our Lady of Sorrows high in wrestling.

Unbeaten in nine straight meets, Sorrows claims to be the No. 1 team in Observerland prep mat warfare this season.

Certainly, coach Greg Doty's charges have caught

the fancy of wrestling observers around the state.

Sorrows is rated No. 3 in the Michigan Class C rankings. Ahead of the Farmington team stand Haslett in No. 1 and Shelby in No. 2.

Shelby won the state Class C crown last year with Haslett the runnerup.

Along with Sorrows, the two 1969 leaders figure to make the forthcoming state championships very interesting.

SORROWS ADDED a pair of victories during the past week. First it was 34-8 over Pontiac Catholic Central, then 25-15 over Bishop Foley.

Two dual meets remain --

against Ferndale and Detroit Country Day -- before Sorrows goes to Adrian on Feb. 27-28 for the regional meet.

There's more than just a perfect dual-meet record to support the high rating Sorrows enjoys in the state.

The team has engaged in three tournaments this season.

Two of the Sorrows stalwarts have yet to lose this season. One is Heavyweight Barry Walsh, who has compiled a brilliant 23-0 record. He was third in the state meet last year.

Captain Pat Kern at 137 pounds has a 12-0 record with a series of brilliant accomplishments.

Thurston Tankmen Beat Stevenson

Steve Kano turned in victories in the 200-yard freestyle and the 100-yard freestyle in leading Thurston High to a 59-42 swimming victory over Stevenson.

The win was the eighth in 14 meets for Thurston.

The results:

Medley relay: 1-Stevenson (Gilbert, Day, Kloote, Salter). Time: 1:50.1. 200-yard free: 1-Kano (T), 2-Zeeb (T), 3-Gil (S). Time: 2:08.7.

200-yard Individual Medley: 1-Lawless (S), 2-Noren (T), 3-Jarocha (S). Time: 2:19.4.

50-yard: 1-Lee (T), 2-Cavicholi (S), 3-Martin (T). Time: 24.2 seconds.

Diving: 1-Buchan (T), 2-Bieckham (S), 3-Leonard (S).

Backstroke: 1-Noren (T), 2-Doran (T), 3-Gilbert (S). Time: 1:02.

400-yard free: 1-Zeeb (T), 2-McArthur (T), 3-Lawless (S). Time: 4:23.5.

Breaststroke: 1-Day (S), 2-Holcombe (T), 3-Stefan (T). Time: 1:06.3.

Freestyle relay: 1-Thurston (Fox, Wallis, Alimpich, Martin). Time: 3:58.8.

What's Doing In Prep Sports

BASKETBALL

Tuesday

Fordson at Franklin
Farmington at Plymouth
North Farmington at Royal Oak Dondero
Clarenceville at West Bloomfield

WRESTLING

Tuesday

Redford Union at Garden City East
Royal Oak Dondero at Farmington
Thurston, at Creston

Friday-Saturday

District Meets

SWIMMING

Monday

Clarenceville at Madison

Tuesday

Franklin at Redford Union
Dondero at Farmington
Andover at North Farmington

Thursday

Riverview at Thurston
Allen Park at Plymouth
Redford Union at Bentley
River Rouge at Clarenceville

Falcons Swim Away To Victory

It was Farmington over Pontiac Northern, 69-36, in an Inter-Lakes Conference swimming meet.

How Farmington placed:

Medley relay: 1-Henderson, Kerasias, Jamison, Millman. Time: 1:56.8.

200-yard free: 1-Hansen. 3-Jamison. Time: 2:06.9.

Individual Medley: 1-Jenks (F), 2-Georkens. Time: 2:24.3.

50-yard free: 1-Millman. 2-Henderson. Time: 23.1 seconds.

Diving: 2-Preimer. 3-Schram.

Butterfly: 1-Lawshe. 3-Olan. Time: 1:11.3.

100-yard free: 1-Schneider. 3-Jamison. Time: 58.7 seconds.

Backstroke: 1-Dolan. 2-Jayroe. Time: 1:10.2.

400-yard free: 1-Hansen. 3-Niemel. Time: 4:41.

Breaststroke: 3-Bock.

Freestyle relay: 1-Farmington (Jenks, Harnack, Jamison, Georkens). Time: 3:57.7.

OTHER STARS on the team include Paul Osenoski at 107 pounds and Mike Hajduk (155). Each has won 19 while losing only three.

Brian Van Dusen, a 155-pounder, has compiled a 15-4 record.

Brian's brother Pat wrestles at 145 pounds while the Hofsess boys, Nick (98) and Rick (177) also are regulars in the victory department.

In the meet against Pontiac CC, the following won for Sorrows:

86-Nick Hofsess.
107-Osenoski.
115-Sve Thiesen.
137-Pat Kern via a pin.
145-Pat Van Dusen (draw).
155-Brian Van Dusen.
165-Hajduk.
177-Rick Hofsess.
188-Jeff Main.
Heavyweight-Walsh via a pin.

Osenoski, Kern, the two Van Dusens, Hajduk, Rick Hofsess and Walsh emerged victorious in the exciting meet with Bishop Foley.

RU Tops Raiders

Sweeping both relays and collecting seven other firsts, Redford Union's notators in dunked North Farmington in a 59-42 non-league match, 55-46.

Despite the nine wins, RU was pressed all the way by the Raiders who took eight seconds and six thirds to stay in the running.

Stokley led RU with triumphs in the 200 and 400 freestyle events.

The summaries:

200 medley relay—Won by RU (Smith, Jakus, Reed and Kochevari). Time 1:56.9.

200 freestyle—Won by Stokley (RU); 2, Shokoto (NF); 3, Houghton (RU); 4, Matousek (NF). Time 2:04.

200 individual medley—Won by Swan (NF); 2, Freeman (RU); 3, Blackman (RU); 4, Conklin (NF).

50 freestyle—Won by Smith (NF); 2, Reed (RU); 3, Bertsch (NF); 4, Toth (RU). Time 24.6.

100 freestyle—Won by Blackman (RU); 2, Carr (NF); 3, Mogle (RU); 4, King (NF).

100 Butterfly—Won by Kochevari (RU); 2, Panofian (NF); 3, Swan (NF); 4, Michalak (RU). Time 1:09.9.

100 freestyle—Won by Jakus (RU); 2, McLeary (NF); 3, Bertsch (NF); 4, Srook (RU). Time 24.6.

100 backstroke—Won by Smit (RU); 2, Dolan (NF); 3, Conklin (NF); 4, Charles (RU). Time 1:02.3.

400 freestyle—Won by Stokley (RU); 2, Matousek (NF); 3, Shokoto (NF); 4, Michalak (RU). Time 4:27.9.

100 breaststroke—Won by Freeman (RU); 2, Blackman (RU); 3, Pierdon (NF); 4, Amperse (NF). Time 1:31.1.

400 freestyle relay—Won by Redford Union (Link, Toth, Srook, Houghton). Time 3:49.1.



COACH GREG DOTY watches Captain Pat Kern try to pin middleweight Brian Van Dusen during a practice session. Pat has won 12 consecutive matches this year and Brian has lost only four times in 18 contests over two years. The all-senior wrestling team has won eight dual meets and five invitational tournaments to date.

Raiders Post 8th Victory For Wrestling

North Farmington High's wrestling team, lining up for Saturday's Northwest Suburban League meet, whipped Walled Lake Central, 39-4, to boost its record for the season to 8-1 in dual meets.

Ken Haller (110 pounds), Mike Leiter (188), Tom McBeth (188) and Mike Patrick (heavyweight) led the way for the Raiders as each pinned his opponent.

The results:

101 - Doug Burke (WL) pinned Bob Kule, 3:22.

110 - Ken Haller (NF) pinned Hammes, 4:39.

118 - Tom Toohy (NF) dec. Kulha, 4:0.

125 - Ray Toohy (NF), dec. Schneider, 5:0.

133 - Snyder (WL) dec. Terry Gies, 7:0.

140 - Tim Jarratt (NF) dec. Helton, 6:3.

148 - Mike Pease (NF) dec. Mahle, 3:1.

158 - Craig Gow (NF) dec. Mortensen, 5:3.

165 - Mike Leiter (NF) pinned Winkler, 5:20.

178 - Steve Loe (NF) dec. Werther, 9:2.

188 - Tom McBeth (NF) pinned Oak, 4:31.

Heavyweight - Mike Patrick (NF) pinned Shier, 4:06.

Balance Pays Off For Rocks

Win victories in six of the 11 events and seven second places, Plymouth High's swimmers recorded another Suburban Six League dual meet triumph when they whipped Redford Union, 62-43.

S. Finley, of Plymouth, and A. Stokley, of Redford Union, divided individual scoring honors with two first places.

Finley took the 50 and 100 yard freestyle events and

Stokley was the winner in the 200 and 400 yard freestyles.

The Rocks put the match out of reach of the Panthers with a triumph in the 400 freestyle relay. The team of Erb, McKeon, Norman and Emerick, moved to the front on the first lap and stayed there for the entire distance.

It was balance that paid off for the Rocks—the same balance that makes Plymouth one of the top contenders for the league championship in the annual meet two weeks away.

Most Valuable

Michigan State's most valuable football player for 1969 is Ron Snel, senior offensive guard from Butler, Pa. He was picked by teammates to receive the Governor of Michigan Award.

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