

# Rocks, Bentley Battle To Wire For Title

Bentley or Plymouth... or both? That's the way the Suburban League high school basketball race shapes up one game left to go Friday night.

It'll be Bentley vs. Allen Park... Plymouth vs. Belleville.

AND THE "IF'S" are these:

- 1-If Bentley wins and Plymouth loses, Bentley is the outright 1969-70 league champion.
- 2-If Plymouth wins and Bentley loses, the undisputed flag will fly over Plymouth.
- 3-If both win, or both lose, they'll reign as co-champs.

Each team comes down to the final game of the

regular season with an identical 8-1 conference record.

How could one ask for a tighter situation? The one loss Plymouth suffered in the loop came from Bentley in the first conference game of the season.

Plymouth then reversed matters six games later in a return-showdown with Bentley.

**BOTH COACHES**—Dick Bearup of Plymouth and Ken Timmons of Bentley—approach the action Friday with the same attitude. Bearup expressed matters when he said:

"We can't worry about what happens in the Bentley game with Allen Park. We just have to play our own game. If we do and to the job we should, we'll be satisfied."

Certainly, the Rocks have done the job since that defeat in the league opener to Bentley. They have ripped through eight straight rivals, including a 71-50 verdict over Allen Park Friday night.

Faulting the Bentley play likewise is difficult to do. The Livonians have taken their league opponents in stride, except for Plymouth.

And, when they have had to, the Livonians have been equal to the occasion, like they were Friday in staging a dramatic finish to slip past Redford Union, 72-70, in a cliff-hanger to end all cliff hangers.

**BENTLEY LED MOST** of the way against Redford Union. In the third quarter it was Bentley by 10 points, 54-44, behind some fine shooting by Lou Lovett and Brian Dinsmore.

But with Gary Bevington and Kirk Taylor leading the way, RU rolled back to take 70-69 advantage with six seconds to go.

Then Craig Rosenthal, Bentley's 6-8 center, tipped the ball to Lovett, who in turn passed to Tom Guilfoyle, who slipped in a basket.

As he did, Guilfoyle was fouled. He made the conversion to pull Bentley out.

Lovett led Bentley with 26 points, followed by Dinsmore and Guilfoyle with 12 apiece. Rosenthal added 11 and Harold Hay eight.

Kirk Taylor shot in 25, Bevington 13 and Keith Evert with 12 for RU. Gary Zajac and Dennis Genge each added seven while Doug Graff added four and Randy Taylor two.

**COACH DAVE MATTINGLY** of RU declared afterward:

"We got beat by a great team. And it's a great representative team for our league."

Mattingly praised his team for "great hustle," adding:

"A break or two and we would have won."

Bentley coach Timmons likewise felt that RU "hustled greatly" and added that his own teams played very well and never lost its poise in the closing moments."

As for Plymouth and its closing game Friday with Belleville, the fact that the Rocks won earlier in the season, 86-84, at Belleville and now will be playing at Plymouth should make them a heavy favorite.

**BEARUP CAN'T AGREE.**

"You have in this league teams that can rise on any occasion and surprise you," Bearup said. "We have to be ready—mentally and physically—and we can't expect that Belleville will come out and take it easy."

"Belleville, you can bet, will be up for us. It would be a great way for them to finish their regular season by keeping us from winning the title."

Winning at Allen Park wasn't easy for Plymouth. Although the Rocks led, 15-11, after the first quarter, and then 34-25 at the half, the gap was reduced to 48-44 at the end of three periods.

"Then we got some momentum going for us again," said Bearup. "We jumped ahead by 15 points and held them off the rest of the way."

Charles Wolfe and Pat Cunningham provided the one-two punch for the Rocks. Wolfe has a personal season high of 27 points and Cunningham 19.

Wolfe scored five points in the first quarter, seven in the second, six in the third and nine in the final period. Cunningham came through with six points in the fourth period.

Casey Jones scored 13 points. Howie Schryner and Scott Taylor three for the Rocks.

# North Jolted, Groves Captures Crown

They've hailed up the Northwest Suburban League basketball flag over Birmingham Groves High School.

Groves had to beat John Glen while Oak Park jolted North Farmington Friday to give the Birmingham team the title outright.

That's what happened... but how it happened easily might make a book in itself or a first-rate story for a Hollywood movie.

There was Groves, for example, rallying in the last minute to nip Glen, 58-57.

There was Oak Park topping North Farmington, 58-54, in a game in which a total of 10 points—four by Oak Park and two by North Farmington—were scored in the fourth period.

**AS A RESULT** Groves has the title locked away with an

8-1 record while Oak Park and North Farmington are tied at 6-3 with one game remaining for each before the regular-season curtain drops Friday night.

Glen, which has played brilliantly in recent weeks, appeared on its way to a stunning upset win over Groves.

The Westland capped 27-22 at the half and 43-38 after three quarters. They were on top, 56-53, with a minute to go when Steve Brown, their No. 1 player who had scored 25 points and led them in rebounding, fouled out.

This was the break Groves needed. The equally outstanding Scott Love of Groves responded with two rapid-fire baskets, the second with 13 seconds to go, to pull out the game in dramatic fashion.

Glen still had time for another shot and popped one in.

**AS DRAMATIC** as that finish was, it was tame compared to what transpired between Oak Park and North Farmington.

Let's set the stage for one of the most unusual final periods played anywhere in the country this season. North Farmington exploded into a 24-14 lead in the first quarter with Ken Kilka, Craig Dhue and Steve White each scoring 10 points.

The big margin didn't hold up very long. Oak Park, paced by Larry Sherman and Larry Foote, bounced back to tie the score the Raiders, 27-24, in the second period and held a 41-38 edge at the half.

The Raiders cut it to two points (54-52) at the three quarter mark.

Then to begin the final period, Oak Park quickly grabbed the ball. With North Farmington in a zone defense, Oak Park "sat on the ball."

**FOR 6 1/2 MINUTES**, the Parkers passed the ball among themselves, never shooting, never doing much else. The Raiders laid back.

Finally, North Farmington stole the ball. Kilka drove for a basket that tied the game at 54-54, with just under 30 seconds left.

Once more Oak Park resorted to control tactics. North Farmington had to foul and the result was Sherman and Joe Daniels made one charity each and Nate Kerman two to wrap it up for the Parkers while North Farmington wasn't able to score again.

Kilka and Drew Mahalik each had 13 points for the winners; White and Dhue contributed 10 each for North Farmington, now 10-3 overall for the season.

Sherman pumped in 23 for the winners, while Foote added 13.

**MEANTIME**, in a battle of Northwest Suburban League tailenders, it was Franklin over Thurston, 69-60.

Franklin, in scoring its third win against 13 losses, jumped ahead, 20-12, in the first period when Mike Lehto and Frank Kasperek each scored six quick points.

After that the team played on even terms. Thurston topped the second quarter, 16-15, while Franklin had 19-18 and 15-14 edges in the final two chapters.

But Thurston never was able to reduce the deficit.

Randy Lee and Kasperek paced the winners with 19 and 17 points, respectively. Chuck Mallon had 15 and Larry Marshall 10 for Thurston.

# Stevenson Again Rules The Roost

It's official now...Stevenson High reigns as the Inter-Lakes League's basketball champion.

For several weeks, it had appeared Stevenson would haul in the honors, but not until the Livonians stormed in the second half to beat Lathrup, 57-51, did they wrap up the undisputed crown.

Thus with an 8-1 league record and a 14-3 overall standing, Stevenson's final regular-season game Friday merely will serve as a warmup for next week's district tournament at Franklin.

**LATHRUP MADE** matters

tough for Stevenson pretty much all the way.

After Stevenson gained a 15-10 lead at the end of the first quarter, Lathrup tied it at 23-23 at the half.

Then Stevenson went in front for keeps in the third period as Ted Exarhos led the way.

"We came out more determined and with a better attitude to get the job done in the second half," explained Stevenson Coach George Van Wagner, who has turned out cage champs now two years running at Stevenson.

Exarhos again was the big man for Stevenson. This time he tipped in 20 points and hauled down 19 rebounds.

Steve Brodski had 10 points

Rusty Gregg and Mike Swift each contributed 10 points for the winners.

Stevenson, now 14-3 overall, will rank as co-favorite with Garden City West in the district meet at Franklin.

to pace Lathrup. He made six in the second quarter and Lathrup rallied to force a tie at the mid-way in the game.



CAUGHT IN THE ACT—Stevenson's Mike Swift (45) barreled into Southfield Lathrup's Bob Brodski (21) and both went to the floor. But the referee is pointing the finger at Mike as the guilty party. (Observer photo by Gozda)

# Churchill Takes Parade Of Fouls

Title it the "Parade of Fouls"—meaning the 76-75 victory Churchill scored over Annapolis.

It was a game marred by 63 personal fouls—34 against

Churchill, 29 against Annapolis. Six Churchill players fouled out.

Annapolis made 29 out of 52 charity shots. Churchill 22 out of 39.

Churchill led most of the time, but when the fouls started to deplete its roster, troubles set in.

**THE LIVONIANS** were in front, 24-15, after one quarter; 36-27 at the half and 58-46 at the three quarter mark.

Annapolis came back in the last period to get even at 65-65 when four of Churchill's men fouled out in quick session.

But Alex Mills, a reserve, got his chance to become a Churchill hero when he made a basket and two free throws, then Keith Armstrong added what proved the winning basket in the closing seconds.

Armstrong had 22 points for the winners. Jerry Oljace and Bruce Van Wagner scored 12 apiece for Churchill which was winning for the fourth time in 16 games.

Jeff Korte's 23 points topped Annapolis.

ger at Mike as the guilty party. (Observer photo by Gozda)

# Sorrows Finishes Perfect

A perfect season has ended for Our Lady of Sorrows' wrestling team.

Sorrows made it 11-0 by crushing Country Day School, 38-6.

Barry Walsh, Sorrows' heavyweight, ran his perfect streak to 24-0, while Capt. Pat Kern, at 137 pounds, made it 14 in a row without a defeat.

Other Sorrows winners: Mark Hofess (98 pounds), 107; Paul Osetoski, Steve Theisen (115), Tom Impellizzeri (130), Paul Van Dusen (145), Brian Van Dusen (155), Mike Hajduk (165) and Jeff Main (185).

# Farmington Cager Zooms Over 1,000-Point Mark

Chalk up some more glowing accomplishments for forward Paul White of Farmington High basketball team.

White, one of the state's top prep scorers with a 30-point average, became one of the

output in three seasons at Farmington High to 1025 points.

**THEN FOLLOWED** more honors for White. He was named as the "Prep of the Week" by the Detroit Free Press, thus becoming the third Observerland prep to gain the distinction this winter.

Previously hailed as the best prep player Rick Drewitz, the Garden City West basketball star, and Tom Paulson, a gymnastic star at Clarenceville High.

**WHITE SPLIT** his scoring against Waterford with 13 points in each half as Farmington evened its season's record at 8-4.

But more important, the

Falcons now are 6-3 in the Inter-Lakes League and in second place where they hope to finish when the regular-season ends Friday night.

Farmington jumped into a 14-10 lead in the first quarter and made it 37-27 at the half.

By the end of three quarters, the Raiders had opened a 20-point command.

While White led the way in scoring, Randy Cleveland turned in another outstanding all-around effort for the winners.

Cleveland bagged 17 points and hauled down 12 rebounds. Mark Manlewski chipped in with 13 points for the winners.

Carl Whelstone scored 19 and his brother Greg had 12 along with Pat Jones for Waterford.

# Tourney Pairings

- CLASS B (At Northville)**
  - Monday, March 2
    - 1 - 7:30, Riverside vs. Northville
    - Wednesday, March 4
      - 2 - 7:00, Churchill vs. Clarenceville
      - 3 - 8:45, Winner 1 vs. Inkster
  - Friday
    - 4 - 7:30, Winner 2 vs. Winnetka
- CLASS A (At North Farmington)**
  - Monday, March 2
    - 1 - 8:00, Plymouth vs. N. Farmington
    - Wednesday, March 4
      - 2 - 7:00, Farmington vs. W.L. Western
- CLASS A (At Franklin)**
  - Monday, March 2
    - 1 - 8:30, GC West vs. Franklin
    - 2 - 8:00, Liv. Stevenson vs. Crestwood
  - Wednesday, March 4
    - 3 - 7:30, Bentley vs. Winner No. 1
  - Thursday, March 5
    - 4 - 7:30, Winner 2 vs. GC East
  - Saturday, March 7
    - 5 - 7:30, Winner 3 vs. Winner 4
- CLASS B (At Northville)**
  - Monday, March 2
    - 1 - 8:30, winner 1 vs. W.L. Central
  - Friday, March 6
    - 4 - 8:00, Winner 2 vs. Winner 3

# Trojans Top Rouge

Clarenceville High's swimming team boosted its record to 8-2 by downing River Rouge, 79-30.

Winners for Clarenceville: Medley relay: Bass, Turk, Sjogren, Ahon. Time: 1:55.3. 200-yard free: John Sydor. Time: 2:10.2. Individual medley: Dale Kuhn. Time: 2:28.8. 50-yard free: Bob Muir. Time: 25.5 seconds.

Diving: Tom Sydor. Butterfly: Carl Sjogren. Time: 60.9 seconds. 100-yard free: Ahon. Time: 54 seconds. Backstroke: John Bass. Time: 1:05.6. 400-yard free: Kuhn. Time: 4:48. Breaststroke: Daryl Turk. Time: 1:18.5.

**SAVE \$150** UP TO during our factory-authorized

**Magnavox ANNUAL SALE**

**SAVE \$50 ON THIS**

**FINE COLOR CONSOLE**



**NOW ONLY \$448<sup>50</sup>**

Automatic Fine Tuning—keeps all station signals locked-in for a perfectly-tuned picture—instantly and automatically! Model 6910 also has Chromatone for depth and rich beauty, Quick-On pictures and sound, plus highly dependable 3 I.F. Stage Bonded Circuitry Chassis for optimum performance and reliability that lasts and lasts—year after year! A magnificent Magnavox value! \*diagonal measure.

Magnavox Color Portable TV now from \$239<sup>90</sup>

**BERRY'S HOME SUPPLY**

and WAREHOUSE OUTLET

**27419 JOY ROAD at Inkster Road**

Open Daily 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m. PHONE: KE 5-5060 or GA 1-1717