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Groves Storms Past Parkers To Top Loop

Don't let anybody say that Birmingham Groves is a one-man high school basketball team. Mention Groves and the name that comes to mind is Scott Love, the all-star center. But there's more to the

Groves team than Love. That became evident when Groves stormed past Oak Park, 68-52.

IT WAS GROVES' sixth straight victory in Northwest Suburban League play - Groves is still to lose in the conference - and means that if the Birmingham cagers down Thurston Friday, they'll lock up at least a share of the title with three games still to go.

The most encouraging part of the victory was that Groves didn't stumble when

Love took an elbow in the forehead in the second quarter and had to sit out a part of the proceedings. While he rested, Chip Benton came in and produced six quick points.

Then Bill Heyn gave Groves a lift with eight points while Tom Rex tossed in seven.

"It's nice to see that we are a balanced team," said Coach Al Vordermark, whose cagers now have an overall 8-3 record as they shoot for their fifth league title since 1965.

Whoever wins the league this year - and barring a collapse it'll be Groves - there'll be no trophy as the prize. Groves retired the old cup after winning a year ago. With Love scoring five points and Rex and Mike Pagano four each, Groves took a 15-10 lead in the first period. Benton then came in with his six quickies and the Groves lead went to 31-25 at the half.

The third quarter settled matters as Groves outscored the Parkers, 21-10, with Han flipping in eight points and Rex seven.

Rex wound up as the leading scorer with 19 points while Love was right behind with 18.

Rick Seid with 14 points paced the Oak Park losers. How Groves scored:

Rex	8	3	19
Love	2	0	18
Heyn	4	0	8
Pagano	5	0	9
Cheney	1	0	2
Benton	3	0	6
Jackman	0	2	2
Rosen	1	0	2
TOTALS	18	10	68
Groves	13	18	21
Oak Park	10	15	10

observing sports

So, you're planning to visit a race track pretty soon . . . Northville Downs or Windsor Raceway.

Or, maybe you already have the itch for the runners to get going at Detroit Race Course and later at Hazel Park.

How to win is the paramount issue. Everybody knows best.

There are those who study the Racing Form, or many of the other tip sheets that flood the market.

There are other ways to win at the track, too . . . like just looking down the field and picking a name that means something to you or your family.

Disagree? Don't. It works that system of picking a favorite name.

WE HAD IT HAPPEN the other evening when we celebrated Julie's birthday at Windsor Raceway.

The track PR set it all up. Well, the perfect seat at the finish line . . . Julie's name in bright lights on the infield announce board . . . all the trimmings.

But, who needed advice . . . not when there was Javelon Julie running in the fifth race and Becky's Pride in the eighth.

Javelon Julie was a natural, as soon as my wife looked down the entries.

"Must bet her strong," the other major half of the family household declared.

"Go ahead," we suggested. "How can Javelon Julie miss for our Julie tonight?"

Okay, the better half left the table. She was back soon. Down on the table she dropped three neat tickets. Two to show, one to place.

"What about a win ticket?" we asked.

No comment. The other half was a little chicken.

What a mistake. The race began and there was Javelon Julie hanging back a little. But after the first go-around Julie made her move - just like the Maskin's Julie does - and when it was all over, Javelon Julie stormed to an easy victory.

The big "tote" board flashed the prices . . . \$10.40, \$4.60 and \$3.60.

Imagine, how nice a payoff it would have been had we slapped down a 10-spot on "Julie." As it was, there was a slight profit . . . and most times for the Maskins, any profit at a track is cause for cheering.

A COUPLE OF RACES later, there was Becky's Pride in action.

"Another one I must bet," declared Mrs. M. Now, there are no Beckys in the family. At least, not officially.

The better half goes officially by the name of Elaine, but over the years, dear friend Harold Klein (whose wife Jackie sparkles on the news pages of our Southfield News-Observer) always has referred to Mrs. M. as "Becky."

Your guess is as good as any . . . why the "Becky."

This time, Mrs. M. was bold. Remembering how she had come up short changed on Javelon Julie, Mrs. M. went all the way this time on Becky's Pride.

She laid down \$2 to win and bought two tickets no less.

Well, to make the story short, but not happy, Becky's Pride rolled around and placed second. The payoff for place was \$7.50, for show \$4.80.

Well, we came up empty-handed . . . because of the boldness shown by Mrs. M.

But she did prove with her selections that you don't have to concern yourself with past form, past victories, past defeats. Just gaze down at the names. That's what counts.

It's not as funny as it may sound. Behind sat two gents who talked like they knew what they were doing.

They bet every race and after blowing one . . . they were heard to remark:

"This doesn't make sense. Every other horse in the field has run faster than the winner . . . by two and three seconds. . . How could this happen?"

But, it did . . . just as Javelon Julie and Becky's Pride surprised.

Ocelots Lose To Leaders; Maul Monroe, 107-101

Schoolcraft College played two different brands of basketball at home over the weekend with league foes and lost one game and won the other.

Friday the Ocelots embraced the ball control method and dropped a 67-63 contest to league leading Highland Park in the last half.

The victory and defeat left the Ocelots with a 9-8 overall mark, the school's best ever, and gave them a 3-4 record in competition in the Michigan

Community Junior College Athletic Conference.

With an eight-point lead just before the half, Schoolcraft failed in a stall against the Parkers and trudged to the locker room down 38-32.

THEY COULDN'T overtake Highland Park in the last half, but Ocelot coach Tom Roncoli said his team performed much better than earlier when suffering an 88-56 drubbing on the Parkers' floor.

Schoolcraft canned 26 field goals to Highland Park's 25, but the visitors dumped in 17 of 26 field shots converted to eight of 11 by the Ocelots.

Desmond Denham paced the host team's scoring with 22 points, Rod Shafer got 13 and Wally Sechara 10.

Five Ocelots counted in double figures in Schoolcraft's win over Monroe.

John Jetchick notched 23 points, Denham got 20, Jeff Taylor 18, Jerry Hopkins 12 and Shafer 11.

Winter Racing Opens Tonight In Northville

With snow all over the place, an ice-slick racing surface and the temperature down below zero, Michigan's first winter racing meeting opens Wednesday (tonight) at Northville Downs with a crowd of more than 5,000 expected to view the return of the pacers and trotters.

Never did a winter campaign open in more wintry weather but the heated glass-enclosed grandstand and clubhouse are expected to overcome the fears of even the most skeptical patron.

Although most of the stables that competed during the early winter Jackson - at - Northville meeting were still on the grounds, "Racing Secretary Harry Peterson found it necessary to call drivers and trainers at most of the Midwest track's in operation to ship in for the meeting.

"IT WASN'T that we didn't have horses on the grounds,"

he said. "We encountered some problems in getting horses that are ready to race. The two month layoff from December to February found many of those at the track a bit short of racing form."

However, thanks to the work of Peterson and his aides, the entry box was filled when the draw was made for the opener.

He had more than enough for the 10-race card which is headed by the \$1,600 inaugural pace that attracted such speedy standbys as Lovergirlink, Midnight Johnnie, Buckeye Red Barron, Janddawn, Hudsons Laddie, Gem Knight and Ricky Worby.

The 'Downs will introduce the Big Q to area fans in its opener, a betting gimmick that caught fire along the Atlantic Seaboard last year and produced some fabulous payoffs.

The Big Q, in which bettors must pick horses to finish one-two or two-one in one race and then exchange the ticket and try to repeat in the next, will be part of the wagering on Monday through Thursday. In addition the programs will include the daily double and a Perfecta on the final race.

Executive Manager John Carlo made another change when he set the post time for the first race at 8 p.m. for the 44-night winter meeting.

HOCKEY
MICHIGAN JR. LEAGUE
EVERY FRI. 9 P.M.
FORD ARENA
FARMINGTON AND LYNDON ROADS
FEB. 5
ELLIS VS DOWN RIVER

First Period Lapse Fatal To Sorrows

St. Florian High turned loose with a 25-5 first period and then had a 26-11 second period in crushing Our Lady of Sorrows, 94-37, in a Catholic League basketball game.

The winners hit on 18 of their first 31 shots while Sorrows managed only five out of 31 during the first half.

John Cyranuke and Ed Smendrak each had 18 points for the winners and Don Blouin had 15, Chris Centers and Bill Boyle had 10 each and Ross Bergeron nine for Sorrows.

Born Leader

Michigan assistant basketball coach Fred Snowden was captain of both the basketball and baseball team while an undergraduate at Wayne State.

Prep Schedule

BASKETBALL
FRIDAY Garden City West at Southgate Glenn at North Farmington Clemensville at Glenview Poniatz Northern at Southfield Lathrup Southfield at Birmingham Seaholm Glenview at Thurston Bellefonte at Redford Union Phinckale at Bentley Churchill at Waterford Mott Garden City East at Ann Arbor Farmington at Walled Lake Central Farmington Harrison at Walled Lake Westland Brother Rice at Austin Bishop Borgess at Pontiac CC TUESDAY Delta State at Brother Rice WRESTLING
THURSDAY Farmington at Lathrup Redford Union at Redford Union 11 North Farmington at Glenview Churchill at Harrison Ann Arbor at Garden City East Clemensville at Brighton FRIDAY Stevenson at Pontiac Northern Wayne at Garden City West SATURDAY Novice tournament at Garden City West Thurston at Groves North Farmington and Redford Union at Great Ford Institutional Berkley at Southfield TUESDAY Stevenson at Churchill Glenn at Garden City East Walled Lake Union at Lathrup Redford Union at Franklin N. Farmington at Walled Lake Central THURSDAY Harrison at Bentley Garden City West at Churchill SWIMMING
THURSDAY Miami at Clemensville North Farmington at Glenview Churchill at Harrison Redford Union at Bellefonte Plymouth at Bentley Inkster at Garden City East FRIDAY Lathrup at Pontiac Northern Thurston at Groves TUESDAY Garden City East at Stevenson Riverside at Garden City West Poniatz Central at N. Farmington Northville at Harrison Dearborn at Bentley Erie-Mason at Churchill Ann Arbor at Clemensville HOCKEY SATURDAY Berkley-Stevenson at Ford Arena GYMNASTICS Friday-Saturday - Farmington, North Farmington and Harrison at North Farmington.

Lathrup JVs Hike Win Skein

A 27-13 outburst in the final quarter enabled Southfield-Lathrup's junior varsity basketball team to whip Walled Lake Central, 52-43. Coach Bill Dougall's team has a 2-2 record, a perfect 6-0 Inter-Lakes Conference mark, and seven straight victories.

After scoring only eight points in the third quarter to have their lead reduced to six points, 36-30, the Charger JVs exploded in final period.

Guard Neil Gorosh continued to lead team scoring with 19 points, and Andy Tracy added 14.

Tankers Set 8 Records

By STEVE STEIN

Southfield Lathrup's swim team won and lost meets last week, but set eight pool and varsity records in the process.

Lathrup lost to Royal Oak Kimball, 53-48, and defeated Rochester Adams, 57-44.

Against Kimball, Dave Weinstein won the 200-yard individual medley with a then-varsity record of 2:16.8, and also won the 100-yard butterfly in 1:00.2.

Rica Forest set a varsity record, although finishing second, in the 100-yard freestyle in 4:15.5.

LATHRUP took two other firsts. Bob Schmidt won the

100-yard backstroke in 1:04.4, and the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Greg Hamilton, Carl Hill, Gary Streby and Paul Heaton won in 3:43.1.

Four varsity and two pool records were set against Rochester Adams.

Forrest won the 200-yard freestyle in the varsity record time of 1:58.2. Weinstein set both a pool and varsity record time of 2:14.9 while winning the 200-individual medley, breaking his own mark.

Cliff Shekter won the 500 freestyle in 23.9.

Weinstein, a senior, set another varsity record in the 100-yard butterfly in :58.6.

Forrest then came back in

the 400-yard freestyle to set both a pool and varsity record. The senior was the winner in 4:14.3.

Schmidt won the 100 backstroke again in 1:03.6, and Vic Dorer took the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:12.3.

The Chargers will face Pontiac Northern there Friday, Feb. 5, in an Inter-Lakes Conference meet.

Clutch Cager

Sophomore forward Carl Lett twice hit winning baskets for Wayne State University during the first month of the 1970-71 season, scoring with one second to play vs. Friends University and with 48 seconds to go vs. Akron.