

# Bentley Rebuilds; Franklin Sights Big Year

If the weatherman doesn't make it too cold Tuesday and keeps snow and rain away, the high school baseball season will open with Bentley opposing Franklin.

They'll naturally have to share the spotlight with the Tigers, who also have their opener scheduled Tuesday.

But for coaches Marty Klozik of Bentley, and Ron Heller, of Franklin, there has been no such thing as

spring training—at least, not in Florida. The two prep teams have been working out mostly in their respective gyms, although each has managed a couple days outdoors.

FOR BENTLEY, this shapes up as a year of rebuilding after winning the Suburban Six League title in 1970.

For Franklin, this could be the year of emerging as a powerhouse with 16 returns available from the 70 team which placed fourth in the Northwest Suburban League.

Klozik has lost all of the pitching along with star catcher Jim Erwin who helped Bentley roll to the league crown a year ago.

But he's hopeful that three graduates of the Livonia summer baseball program will give him the mound replacements he so desperately needs.

One is Bill Duncan, the other Brian Dismore, and third Joe Kearney. Of the trio, only Duncan pitched on the varsity a year ago and efforts were limited to two games.

But they look impressive, says Klozik.

## Bentley, Plymouth Swimmers Top All-Star

Bentley High's swimming team, which swept the Suburban League title during the recent season, dominated the loop's all-star squad picked by the coaches.

Bentley placed 11 men to seven for runnerup Plymouth. Redford Union came up with three on the honored list.

### Harrison Coach, Swimmer Honored

Orchids to Mark Holdridge and Mark Rado of Farmington Harrison High School.

Rado, a freshman, was the individual star of Harrison's team. He won the state Class B titles in both the individual medley and the backstroke.

They've been singled out — Holdridge as Oakland County's swimming coach of the year and Rado as the county's individual swimmer of the year.

He thus became one of the few freshmen in the history of state competition to swim came up with a strong team

Holdridge, in Harrison's first winter of competition, came up with a strong team

HERE ARE the swimmers from the Observerland schools who were honored:

MEDLEY RELAY: Plymouth (Larry LeBlanc, Mark Kindree, Matt Kraay and Ed Norman.)

200 FREESTYLE: Mike Stokley (Redford Union).

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: Roger Simpson and Steve Grant (Bentley).

50 FREESTYLE: Steve Finley (Plymouth) and Kyle Connolly (Bentley).

DIVING: Randy Schulz (Redford Union).

100 BUTTERFLY: Grant (Bentley).

400 FREESTYLE: Steve LeClair (Plymouth) and Mike Stokley (Redford Union).

100 BACKSTROKE: Steve Powless and Blake Lawless (Bentley).

100 BREASTSTROKE: Kindree (Plymouth) and Simpson (Bentley).

FREESTYLE RELAY: Bentley (Connolly, Lawless, Lou Molnar and Powless).



BUNTING TIPS are given to two candidates for the Bentley High baseball team by Coach Marty Klozik. The two are: John Gent (left) and Bill Duncan. The Bulldogs took advantage of the spring weather during the early part of the week to work outdoors. Bentley hopes to open its regular season play next week. (Photo by Tom Donoghue)

## Hockey Helps Howe Celebrate Birthday

The sports world—hockey, in general—this past week saluted Lathrup's Gordie Howe.

He celebrated his 43rd birthday before the Red Wings skated out to meet the Toronto Maple Leafs in Toronto.

Appropriate ceremonies marked the occasion and his "home" fans were to get another chance to honor Howe when the Wings met the Chicago Black Hawks at Olympia Saturday night.

Howe will finish his 25th season with the Wings Sunday night when the team plays the final game of its

1970-71 schedule at New York.

He has cracked every scoring record for longevity in the National Hockey League.

Howe, his wife and four children make their home in Lathrup. Sons Mark and Marty, who have starred during the winter for the Junior Red Wings, attend Lathrup High.

**Best In Hula**

Michigan State football line great Don Coleman has been cited as the outstanding line-man in the 25-year history of Honolulu's post-season Hula Bowl game.

## Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

Dave Garland, who transferred from the United States Trotting Association headquarters in Columbus, O.,

two years ago to become associated with the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association, is the new publicity director of Jackson Raceway.

He replaces Jack Welsh, longtime publicist and one-time announcer at the raceway.

Garland will assume his new duties immediately and start beating the drums for the April 23 and continues through June 19.

Associated with the sport for the past 15 years, Garland has edited and published the MHH monthly magazine since mid-1969.

Prior to joining the MHH, he was transferred from more than 10 years in the public relations department of the USTA where he was a staff writer for Hoof Beats magazine, the monthly publication of the Association.

A former sports editor for the Hampton (N.H.) Union, he began his harness racing writing career in the publicity department of Rockingham Park race track near Salem, N. H. He later headed the publicity department for the Winston-Gorham Raceway in Maine and still holds the post of promotion director for the Rochester, N.H. state fair.

OTHERS ARE: Baron K. Dan Koepgen, Cass City, Montana; Howard Lintz, Lapeer; Oliver Cadet, James McGarity, Fowlerville; Strong Byrd, James McCann and Jim Dolbee, Milan; Breezy Cleo, Jack McCracken, Marquette; Dick Duane, Jazzy Admiral, Richard Oldfield, Adrian; Techman, S. C. Oldford and N. R. Ruehr, Plymouth.

Cleo's Tassel, Sit Down, Nick Rotte, Howell, Our Nibbler, Ernie Schneider, Southfield; Sharkey Counsel, Adelbert Sparrow, Kalamazoo; Plantagenet, The Plantagenet Syndicate, Fowlerville; Arbor Mill, Three Guys From RPI, Ann Arbor; Able Knight, Thomas Troxell, Belleville; Varsity King, Varsity Acres Inc., Monroe; Bedford Jet, Edward Weber, Wall Lake; Al's Knight Out, Walter Widdoes, Sandusky.

INITIAL REPORTS from Hazel Park point to the harness racing operation moving along at a near record pace as far as business is concerned.

Betting was just short of \$1.3 million for the first weekend and has been averaging more than 450,000 nightly since. That's a far cry from the \$233,000 average at Northville's midwinter meeting but one has to consider that Hazel Park hasn't had the weather conditions that exist at the Downs for the entire campaign.

Most of those close to the racing picture are watching the progress of the DRC and Hazel Park meetings with a great deal of interest.

Primarily they'd like to ascertain whether a drop in business is due to the

economic conditions or the weather. The latter can be overcome as the weather gets better but the former—well that's something else.

The Michigan nominees for the Motor City are: Broad Shadow, Ada Jean Ackerman, Galien; Major Bruce, James Brown, Brown City; Erlana Valley, Brown Valley Farms, Oxford; Be Alert, Ray Forsyth, Bloomfield Hills; Spring's Pride, Hillsbrook Farm, Birmingham; and Rusty McKyle, Arnold Hurley, Sandusky.

Norman, Royal Oak; and Amy Dean, Ervin Waldo, Milan.

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