

# Thurston Wins Track Crown

Undeclared Thurston High put the finishing touches on a championship track season with 72 points in the North-West Suburban Conference meet, to win the league crown.

John Glenn gave Thurston a battle with 61 points, followed by Oak Park with 54, Franklin 32, North Farmington 31, and Garden City 20.

Thurston captured six firsts and Glenn won five.

Steve Hunter scored a first in the high jump with a leap of 5-4, and Dale Woodruff an Eagle victory in the pole vault at 11-0.

Thurston's Bill VanAlsten swept to double honors with a 19.6 in the high hurdles and a 15.5 in the high hurdles.

Rick Westphal also scored a double for the Eagles with 10.1 in the 100 yard dash and 22.9 in the 220.

## Observerland's Top Hitters

	ab	r	h	bi	ba
ROY, Thurston	74	17	32	15	430
FRANTZ, Franklin	61	18	28	22	426
BOEGLER, Bentley	36	3	15	10	416
FOSTER, Churchill	55	17	22	24	400
NICOLLIN, Farmington	49	10	19	12	388
WHALEY, GC East	49	10	19	12	387
KELLY, Churchill	55	18	21	17	382
DREHER, Churchill	57	17	21	12	382
LIVESAY, Franklin	50	11	22	11	367
McBRIDE, John Glenn	52	14	20	10	365
WATKINS, Franklin	52	14	20	10	358
WASLEWSKI, Bentley	42	15	10	15	357
HERBST, GC West	42	12	18	18	353
ANLEITNER, GC East	52	10	18	11	348
BLAISE, Churchill	58	19	20	12	345
PAULINE, Farmington	41	7	14	8	341
HODGKINS, John Glenn	65	13	22	8	338
WATERSTONE, Franklin	68	17	23	11	338
BRITTAIN, John Glenn	60	11	20	9	333
McLELLAN, GC West	54	10	18	9	333
LINTON, John Glenn	48	8	15	8	333
KARR, GC East	42	8	14	7	333
REED, GC East	39	7	13	8	333
FORM, Redford Union	43	10	14	6	326

## Glenn Cindermen Fall To Trainers

Thurston upended Westland John Glenn in a Northwest Suburban track meet, 66-57.

Glenn's disqualification in the 800 yard relay paved the way for the victory with the Eagles chalking up nine firsts.

It was Thurston's fourth straight league win against no defeats with Glenn slipping to a 3-1 mark.

Glenn's Wayne Clemens broke his own record of 53.3 in the shot put toss with a put of 53.9.

Thurston had two double winners in Bill VanAlsten and Rick Westphal.

Van Alsten won the high hurdles in 19.6 and the 100 yard dash in 10.3 and the 220 dash in 22.2.

A Thurston win in the 400 relay sewed up the victory with the farmingtonians, Westphal and Wenzig clocking in at 15.9.

Meet results:

SHOT PUT: 1-Wayne Clemens (J) 53.9; 2-Tom Hester (J); 3-Glen O'Grady (J).

LONG JUMP: 1-Rick Westphal (J) 19.4; 2-N. O'Grady (J); 3-Tom Zakowski (J).

HIGH JUMP: 1-Scott Hunter (J) 6-2; 2-Korynn (J); 3-Dan Payson (J).

POLE VAULT: 1-Woodruff (J) 11-0; 2-Mike Kurl (J); 3-Forbes (J).

100 YD DASH: 1-Thurston (Elihu, A.) 10.3; 2-Tom Hester (J); 3-Glen O'Grady (J).

200 YD DASH: 1-Rick Westphal (J) 22.2; 2-Wayne Clemens (J); 3-Matt Westphal (J).

400 YD DASH: 1-John Woodruff (J) 52.6; 2-Dave Lusk (J); 3-Jerry O'Brien (J).

800 YD DASH: 1-John Woodruff (J) 2:03.2; 2-Tom Zakowski (J); 3-Rod Berger (J).

1600 YD DASH: 1-Rod Berger (J) 5:05.5; 2-Jerry O'Brien (J); 3-John Woodruff (J).

3200 YD DASH: 1-Rick Westphal (J) 12:2.2; 2-Wendell (J); 3-Rod Berger (J).

5000 YD DASH: 1-John Glenn (Lusk, Kirt, Mike, Lusk) 23:36.2; 2-Thurston; 400 YD RELAY: 1-Thurston (Westphal, VanAlsten, Wenzig, Westphal) 1:55.2; 2-John Glenn.

## 7 Home Games

Michigan will play seven home football games this fall, its 94th intercollegiate season.

## RU Clobbers Plymouth

Redford Union won the Panthers' third straight field event and won five of eight individual track events to topple Plymouth in a Suburban Eight meet, 94-29.

Scott O'Grady was a

## Jaguars No-Hit Plymouth, 9-0

Plymouth High fell back to 500 in the Suburban Eight Conference with a loss to Allen Park, 9-0, behind the no-hit pitching performance of Jeff Hradicka.

It was Plymouth's fifth defeat in 10 league games and 13th overall in 19 outings.

"Next to a whipping against Redford Union," said Coach Wayne Kasper, "this has to be the worst beating I have suffered in four years."

Steve Robb and Tom Willerte, the Rock pitching two more of 73, worked on the Plymouth mound with starter Robb taking the loss. It was his fourth in the league.

The Rocks played their first round of the state tourney this Saturday, May 26, against the winner of the West Bloomfield-Stevenson game at Plymouth.

## Motorcycle Races At DRC, June 3

The 12th annual motorcycle races, sponsored by the Livonia Metropolitan Club and the Detroit Area Associated Motorcycle Clubs, will be held Sunday, June 3, at the Detroit Race Course.

Top event will be a regional championship race sanctioned by the American Motorcycle Association.

Three national races have been held in Livonia in the past two years at the race course located at Schoolcraft and Middle Belt. The remaining nine races, held at the same location, were also sanctioned by the AMA but were of the novice class.

Net proceeds from the race are used by both clubs in charity work around Livonia and the Detroit area.

Last race, held in Livonia was in 1971, brought out the largest crowd of the series with 13,000 attending. Money raised for charity that year amounted to \$15,000.

Glen Toy, president of the Livonia Metropolitan Club, said tickets, at \$4 each, are

on sale at all Livonia fire stations and at Livonia police headquarters on Farmington Rd. Tickets at the gate the day of the race will sell for \$5.

Toy said some of the top dirt track riders in the country are expected to compete.

## CC Offers Cage Clinic

The call is out for future basketball greats.

Registrations are now being taken for the Shamrocks "Pro-Kid" basketball camp to be held at Detroit Catholic Central High School.

Camp Director will be Catholic Central varsity Coach Bernie Holowicki with ages ranging from 10 to 16.

It will be a three hour per day camp, five days a week for two weeks from July 9 through July 20 and a fee of \$40 per student.

The school will feature Coach Bill McCarty of Divine Child, Coach Ron Vondette of the Saginaw Carroll Cavaliers and Tom Lagarde, Catholic Central's All-American center.

For further information contact Mr. Tymoczek at Catholic Central or Coach Holowicki.

## MSU Basketball Card Announced

EAST LANSING A 24-game schedule, featuring the heaviest home slate in years, has been approved for Michigan State's 1973-74 basketball season by the MSU athletic council.

Twelve games will be played on the Jensen Field House court, in contrast to 10 last season and 14 on the road.

The December schedule lists games with five in-state schools.

The eight home dates in January and February will

SHOT PUT: 1-Woodruff (J) 11-0; 2-Forbes (J); 3-Dan Payson (J).

LONG JUMP: 1-Rick Westphal (J) 19.4; 2-N. O'Grady (J); 3-Tom Zakowski (J).

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## League results:

Meet Results: Thurston (72), Westland 44, Glenn 31, Oak Park 24, Livonia 20, Farmington 20, Franklin 32, North Farmington 31, Garden City 20.

SHOT PUT: 1-Wayne Clemens (J) 53.9; 2-Hester (J); 3-O'Brien (J).

LONG JUMP: 1-Rick Westphal (J) 19.4; 2-N. O'Grady (J); 3-Tom Zakowski (J).

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## Major Metro Travel League Softball

STANDINGS	
WEST DIVISION	
LITTLE CAESARS.....	W 5
BRYANT-WALKER.....	4
SNYDERS.....	4
STARVIN.....	0
EAST DIVISION	
STROHS.....	W 6
DINO'S.....	4
ALL PRO.....	2
MARATHON.....	0
SCORES	
Snyders 7.7 Caesars 6-15	
All Pro 12.5 Dino's 12.5	

## THURSDAY'S GAMES

AT WESTLAND JAYCEE PARK 7:30 p.m.

AT FARMINGTON K of C FIELD 7:30 p.m.

AT OAK PARK 7:30 p.m.

AT WESTLAND JAYCEE PARK 7:30 p.m.

AT FARMINGTON K of C FIELD 7:30 p.m.

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AT OAK PARK 7:30 p.m.

AT WESTLAND JAYCEE PARK 7:30 p.m.

AT FARMINGTON K of C FIELD 7:30 p.m.

AT OAK PARK 7:30 p.m.

## TUESDAY'S GAMES

AT DETROIT 7:30 p.m.

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AT DETROIT 7:30 p.m.

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AT DETROIT 7:30 p.m.

## AT JAYNE FIELD, DETROIT

All Pro vs Bryant, 7:15

## Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

A gamble three years ago plus some smart promotions have resulted in the most phenomenal business and attendance growth of any harness racing track in North America.

That's the story of Wolverine Raceway which uses the facilities of the Detroit Race Course and currently is breaking records for wagering and crowds just as fast as they are written.

It was three years ago that Wolverine President Frederick Van Lennep told Racetrack Secretary and General Manager Richard Wilson that he wanted to change from a half-mile racing strip to a big mile track ... he asked what they thought of the change.

Both thought it would be a great move although neither had any idea how it would be accepted by the betting public. It only took the first season for both to realize that this was a move that could take harness racing to heights it had never reached before.

Business started to boom in 1971, reached new heights in 1972 and now in 1973, with 28 nights remaining of the season, has soared to levels never thought possible for a harness racing operation in Michigan.

Wolverine attained its highest levels Saturday when an all-time high audience of 14,111 gave it a third straight million dollar night ... this time with a record total wagering of \$1,114,564.

But, and better take a good grip on the armchair, Saturday's crowd was 521 more than attended the day racing program in the afternoon at Hazel Park. Sounds unbelievable, but it is true, the patrons and trotters finally beat the runners on a Saturday.

Not even the most ardent harness racing follower believed it would ever happen.

Records fell like leaves in the late fall as Wolverine hiked its nightly average handle to an all-time high of \$641,345, an increase of 8.5 per cent over the \$590,965 for 56 nights a year ago.

Attendance is up 3.4 per cent over 1972 with an average of 7,254. Also kind of out of this world since the St. Patrick's Day crowd, a Saturday when the blizzard hit, saw only 1,700 fans in the park and wagering at an all-time low of less than \$108,000. It's rather hard to believe Wolverine overcame that and is ahead of last year's figures.

Here's what happened Saturday, the \$1,114,564, highest handle ever for a harness racing track in the state; \$1,111, largest Saturday crowd in 34 years; \$92,744 nightly double pool, another high; \$104,106 trifecta pool, best ever; \$78,244 pool, a superfecta; \$121,373, most on a single race, coming in the seventh event; \$78,244 most in the seventh race; \$4,409,659, most for six nights in a week; and \$1,553,633, most in a weekend.

Just to add a bit more icing on the sweetest week of the year, the nightly average for the week was \$734,943, highest in 24 years.

The next 26 nights could be the best of the entire season since Wolverine is moving into the high points of the year ... the \$400,000 Motor City pace this Friday; the eight state Grand Circuit programs in the final two weeks; Good Ol' Times night on June 15, a Friday night that also headlines the \$400,000 Matron three-year-old pace and the \$400,000 Matron four-year-old pace.

Then there will be three nights, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, of the last full week when admission will be free. Those are nights when the track will award one automobile each evening to the winners of a season long contest.

Referring back to Saturday's program, the value of the big mile track was clearly demonstrated when the slowest race of the evening went in 2:03.1 ... the fastest was 2:00.1 in the \$8,000 preferred. That's why Wolverine's programs are so popular, fans know they're going to see fast miles and tight finishes.

Pacers familiar to local fans finished among the top five in the \$100,000 Messenger for three-year-olds Saturday at Roosevelt Raceway in New York.

The winner was Valiant Bret, owned by Perry Gray of the New England area who was a former director of Wolverine in 2:00.3.

A close second was Bret Over Again, owned by the late Ray Forsyth, of Birmingham, and his son Earl. Third was J. R. Skipper, from the J. Russell Miller stable of Dutton, Ontario, who made his 1973 debut at Wolverine earlier.

Fourth place went to Gay Skipper, owned by Jack Ackerman of Lexington, Ky., who was one of the top drivers in the 20 years before being shifted to the Chicago area.

Bobby Williams, son of the late Jack Williams Sr., of Concord Park, checked into Wolverine during the past week with a large public stable from Los Alamitos Raceway near Los Angeles, Calif.

Bobby not only has a string of fast pacers and trotters but he also came here with the honor of being the winningest driver at L.A. He had won 46 races to lead second place Jack Bailey by 10.

Oldtimers recall that it was at Wolverine during a race that Jack Williams Sr. suffered his stroke that ended his driving career. He died several years later.

## Trip Given

More than 200 friends of Michigan's leading hockey coach, Al D'Amico, attended his testimonial dinner and presented him and his wife, Marge, with a two-week trip to Hawaii. Renfrew coached hockey for the last 15 seasons.

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