

# Hail Prep Cagers on All-Observer 'Dream' Quintet

By GEORGE MASKIN  
(Observer Sports Editor)

Presenting the 1964-65 Observer All-Star high school basketball team!

Selected in cooperation with the coaches, officials and others close to the prep cage scene, the Observer team carries everything a coach would want to bring home a winning team.

Represented on the first team are players from five schools. The honorees:

Fred Matevia of Bentley.  
John Olander of Farmington.  
Al Maibach of Redford Union.  
Rick Schultz of North Farmington.  
Brian Benner of Our Lady of Sorrows.

Olander, Maibach and Benner are seniors. Matevia and Schultz both will be back for another season of prep basketball competition next season.

The voting for the all the players was close, which was about the way the season went for the area teams. Here's a rundown of the 1964-65 Observer All Stars for 1964-65:

**FRED MATEVIA**  
He's lefty, who can go to his right. All of which makes him a little different than most southpaws. A junior, who stands 6-4 and weighs 180 pounds, Matevia averaged 18 points per game this past season. He also rebounded very well.

Coach George Poffles of Bentley said of Matevia: "Fred is not affected by any honors or glory which come his way. He remains a level-headed young man."

## The Dream Team

PLAYER	SCHOOL	HT	WT	AGE
John Olander	Farmington	5-11	165	17
Al Maibach	Redford Union	6-2	150	17
Brian Benner	Our Lady of Sorrows	6-0	160	18
Fred Matevia	Bentley	6-4	185	17
Rick Schultz	North Farmington	6-3	160	18



ALL SMILES is North Farmington basketball coach Dick Wilson. He was picked Observer coach of the year after turning in a fine year on the staff of the Raiders.

## Readers' Wilson 'Coach-of-Year'

Hail to Dick Wilson of North Farmington, the 1964-65 Observer Newspapers' basketball "coach-of-the-year."

Wilson rates the laurels after leading North Farmington to a share of the North-West League title for the second straight season.

In 1963-64 North Farmington finished on top with Thurston. This past season, North Farmington and Birmingham Groves finished with identical records at the top of the heap.

Each time it was necessary for North Farmington to win its final league game on the road and against the team it was fighting, for the top.

North Farmington was equal to the occasion... won when it counted the most.

Wilson's job of moulding such a team two years running, a rare feat, the high recognition as the Observer Newspapers' "Coach of the year."

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Matevia has found that work and practice had paid off for him in basketball. He keeps going at basketball the year around.

**AL MAIBACH**  
Has the rare ability of being able to get the ball off while in the air. This is something most basketball players can't do.

His greatest strength to Redford Union this season came in rebounding. He averaged better than ten per game and 50 of his 162 total were on the offensive board. This enabled Redford Union to get the extra shots up.

It is a well-known factor in basketball that it's not the first shot a team takes at the basket in a particular thrust, but it's the second and third ones "that kill you."

Maibach averaged 13 points per game this past season, but it is to be remembered that he was a member of a team which boasted a well-balanced attack.

He clicked on 86 of 184 shots from the floor for a fine 47 percent. He had troubles from the foul line, where he made 37 out of 88 for 47 percent, too.

## Observer Sports News

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HERE THEY ARE. The All Area Suburban Farmington, Fred Matevia of Bentley High, John Olander of Farmington High and Brian Benner of Our Lady of Sorrows.

## Thurston Swimmer Places 9th

**EAST LANSING** — Greater Livonia teams came up with only two places in the state high school Class A swimming meet here last Saturday night.

Gordon Miles of Thurston placed ninth in the 100-yard breast stroke in 1:07.6 as the event was won by John Johnson of Royal Oak Kimball in 1:05.6.

Plymouth's 200-yard relay team was 11th in a race won by Grosse Pointe.

Birmingham Seaholm repeated as champions for the fourth straight year with 160 points. Second was Battle Creek Central with Royal Oak Kimball third.

## Technical School Grad

Airman Third Class James L. Krueger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jean Krueger of 8825 Hemingway, has been graduated from the technical training course for U.S. Air Force jet aircraft mechanics at Sheppard AFB, Tex. The airman is a graduate of Lee M. Thurston High School.

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## All-League Prep Picks

Following are the all-star teams picked by The Detroit News for schools in this area:

**INTERLAKES LEAGUE**  
Bob Hayward, Pontiac Northern.  
Rick Ziem, Waterford.  
John Olander, Farmington.  
Mike Wilson, Farmington.  
Rick Hughes, Walled Lake.

**NORTHWEST**  
Len Cushman, Oak Park.  
Sam Antonazzo, Oak Park.  
Rick Schultz, N. Farmington.  
Rick Lorenz, N. Farmington.  
John Page, Thurston.

**SUBURBAN SIX**  
Fred Matevia, Bentley.  
Al Maibach, Redford Union.  
Dave Fisher, Trenton.  
Bill Cabana, Belleville.  
Orville Newton, Redford Union.

The Northwest Catholic League Division choices included Brian Benner and Miles Kearney of Our Lady of Sorrows and Mike Roemer of St. Agatha.

## Frost Junior High Cagers Unbeaten in League Play

Coached by Ralph Springfield, the Frost Phantoms, Frost Junior High's first basketball team, scored an undefeated season by beating the five other teams in Livonia's junior high circuit in a ten-game season schedule. Downed in double succession by Frost were squads from Whittier, Riley, Emerson, Whitman and Bryant junior highs.

Basketball squad members were Jim Powers, Ken Rollin, Dan Doyle, Kim Wilson, Tom McGhie, Bill Roberts, Mark Beatty, Jack Hoffman, Mike

**JOHN OLANDER**  
Here's a young man who came to Farmington high from Highland Park where he was indoctrinated into the winning and sound cage atmosphere.

Although he stands only 5-10, Olander has been a standout on Coach Jack Quiggle's Farmington varsity. He was acclaimed as the standout player in the recent district tourney at Farmington, although his Falcons were beaten in the championship game by Walled Lake.

Olander was a versatile prep performer. Quiggle switched him from forward to guard to center. Wherever he played, Olander did the job.

He averaged 20 points per game this past season. He has an excellent outside shot, drives well and boasts the natural instinct Quiggle and other coaches look for in a cager.

Fine leader on the court. Also good passer.

**RICK SCHULTZ**  
He's destined for even greater things next year, according to his coach, Dick Wilson.

As a junior this past winter, Schultz averaged 18.4 points per game. He also was one of North Farmington's top rebounders.

"Rick is a great scrapper," said his coach. "He also was a fine competitor for us all season."

Wilson also said his junior another high compliment:

"He could play badly, but still look good."

**BRIAN BENNER**  
One half of Our Lady of Sorrows' fine brother act. Mike Benner was a starter all season, too, for the

Farmington parish quintet which placed second in its division.

Brian was a three-year veteran for Sorrows. As a senior he averaged 22 points and was one of the most consistent marksmen in the area. He averaged 55 percent from the floor.

Standout playmaker and also a fine hustler. Performs in baseball for Sorrows.

The following players rate honorable mention:

**PLYMOUTH**—Gary Grady and Jim Lake.  
**REDFORD UNION**—Mike McCrea.  
**THURSTON**—John Page.  
**NORTH FARMINGTON**—Rick Lorenz.  
**ST. AGATHA**—Mike Roemer.  
**CLARENCEVILLE**—Danny Freels.  
**BENTLEY**—Nick Bonder.  
**OUR LADY OF SORROWS**—Miles Kearney.  
**FRANKLIN**—Sam Antonazzo.

## OBSERVING SPORTS

By George Maskin

"We live in fear..."

One of our community's veteran high school sports figures was doing the talking.

It was the morning after—after nine youngsters were stabbed following Highland Park's upset victory over Northwestern in the state Class A regional in the University of Detroit High school gym.

"No, we haven't had any trouble around here," said the man on the other end of the phone, who chose to remain anonymous because of his "live in fear" remark.

After all, if we disclosed his name, somebody might say: "I couldn't happen here. Why does this man stir possible trouble?"

As our friend added:

"You never know."

And, you don't... in this world in which we live.

Who was to blame for what happened at the University of Detroit High School?

Students? Teachers? Police? The State Prep Association?

Take your pick. We suspect all had a part in the matter.

To start with, the State Association didn't take the necessary precautions "to police" the game. There was no call put out to either school to make certain that a full complement of teachers was present to sit among the fans... and try and keep the fever down.

From what we understand, the city of Detroit assigned only four or five police to the game.

The students were left free at the end of the game to flood the floor and jam and push... and stab with knives.

The repercussions of what happened in Detroit literally were heard 'round the world.

In the last few days, this reporter has bounced freely around the northeast and eastern parts of the country.

In stops at such places as Providence, R.I.; Ashburham, Mass.; Boston, Mass.; Philadelphia, Pa.; and the great Madison Square Garden in New York, the subject constantly was brought up.

"What happened in Detroit?"

We tried to explain... but not with very good answers. Who really has the answers?

In Detroit, the school administrators are concerned... deeply concerned... over what to do with athletics.

Charley Forsythe, the state prep director, is worried.

It's no secret that the Detroit officials came within a whisker of tossing out all their athletics. Some advocated that they should.

But, why for the crimes of a few should many have to suffer?

Undoubtedly, school superintendent Brownell of Detroit using the aforementioned thinking in announcing: We will carry on... and play for the time being, in secret.

Meantime, closer to home... in the area served by our Observer newspapers, school administrators "are living in fear."

The same goes in Birmingham, Garden City, Southfield, Inkster, Romulus and where have you.

We could add, too, in New York City and Chicago and 'way out in Los Angeles.

In our own community, the school authorities work with police officers to take as many precautions as possible.

Les Anders of Bentley was saying:

"We always have a great many faculty members present for our games. The city supplies the police."

"When we have a tournament, or a very important game, we increase the number of faculty and police in attendance. For the most part, the chief job of the police is to direct traffic."

Anders recalls only one bit of trouble around a Bentley game. And that was several years ago. The matter quickly was taken care of.

But, we understand, there have been few post-game situations — two or three hours after the close of the operations — that have stirred the police to haul somebody in.

Milo Karhu, the basketball coach at Redford Union, told us that Athletic Director Howard Kraft turns to the auxiliary police in the Township to take care of traffic at football and basketball games.

As at Bentley, Redford Union faculty members are on deck to supervise at all home games.

Over at Plymouth High, John Sandmann, athletic chief, said that the police and fire authorities turn out for football.

"The faculty handles matters very well out our basketball games," he said.

"But, remember, the police station is just across the street," added Sandmann.

Anders and Sandmann both declared that their schools constantly are working not only among themselves and their students, but with other schools which they meet to maintain the highest and happiest relationships.

"This is one way to help avert trouble," said Anders.

"But, nothing is sure-fire," noted Sandmann.

Anders and Sandmann admit that the problems in Plymouth and Livonia "are different" from what they are in Detroit or other big cities.

They also are well aware, as are officials in Detroit, that oft times the trouble at prep games is provoked by non students, as was the case last week, Sandmann said.

"So-called friends... guys that are out of school or maybe attend another school... mess it up for the majority."

Sandmann paused:

"We talk about the majority ruling in our country. Unfortunately, it is what the minority does that affects so much of us in our lives."

It's going to be interesting to see what State Director Charley Forsythe does next year at state tournament time.

Perhaps Forsythe may elect to have more games staged in secrecy, except for television cameras.

The latter might just solve some of the problems. Just think of what developments could arise!

Bentley is to meet Plymouth. The game is played at 10 a.m. in the Bentley gym.

The players are there and the officials. Also a closed circuit television hookup.

When 11:00 time arrives, students in each study room at Bentley and Plymouth turn aside their books. The television sets come on.

Teachers announce:

"Now we'll watch the game."

When the contest is over, the pupils re-open their books and classes resume.

Nobody gets pushed around... everybody sees the game.

When parents don't have to be at the game, they can smash up the car... and moms of daughters can relax, too, because the young lady might get home a little earlier.

It's just a thought.

## Pick Champs In Plymouth Jr. League

Champions in the Plymouth Community Junior Basketball League were crowned Saturday morning in the final games at Junior High West.

The Lakers captured the title in the 'A' League and the Celtics took the laurels in class 'B'. The Lakers wound up the season with a perfect mark of eight straight victories and the Celtics led their division with one loss in eight contests.

More than 350 are expected to attend the league banquet on Saturday, March 27 at the Elks Lodge starting at 1:45 p.m. The day's activities will begin with games between the league all-star teams in the morning at Junior High West followed by a dual between coaches from the two divisions.

Highest of the banquet will be the award of trophies for standard records and the presentation of a basketball, autographed by all members of the Detroit Pistons, to some lucky youngster.

The final standings and results of Saturday's games:

CLASS A	W	L
Lakers	8	0
Celtics	7	1
Warriors	6	2
Pistons	5	3
Bulls	4	4

Saturday's Results  
Lakers 48, Celtics 24  
Pistons 41, Warriors 23  
Bulls 31, Lakers 24

CLASS B	W	L
Celtics	7	1
Lakers	6	2
Warriors	5	3
Pistons	4	4
Bulls	3	5

Saturday's Results  
Bulls 31, Celtics 24  
Warriors 23, Lakers 18  
Celtics 19, Lakers 14

**Top Bowling Score**  
In the Suburban Proprietors Traveling League, on March 8, a member of the Livonia Lakes Team Gail Haskell bowled a 287 Series with games of 276, 185-222. She carries a 165 average. The series was bowled at Garden Lane.