# Snow, Cold Retard Prep Athletes

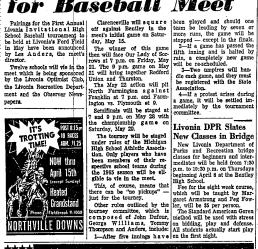
Most of the schools also have their reserve teams and all the junior highs have at least a baseball team hopeful of performing.

Observer Sports News



BASKETBALL is the topic of a discussion between this trio as they sat at talks by (from left) Co-Chairman Joseph the speakers' table for the first annual blida, Ray Scott, star center and forward banquet of the Plymouth Community of the Detroit Pistons, and Co-Chairman Junior Basketball League at the Elks John Van Wagner.

## Announce Pairings for Baseball Meet



1-After five innings have on the first night.

the ground is snow.

Some of the track teams have had a chance to do a little in the way of competition. Thurston and Farmington went to the Huron Relays last Saturday and two or three others are going to Michigan State this Saturday.

These are indoor carnivals
... and the outdoor seasons
for most of the area teams
are supposed to open next
week.

week.

Athletic Directors like
Howard Kraft at Redford
Union, John Sandmann at
Plymouth and Les Anders

looked at the fine schedules they have prepared for their various teams.

It suppose we'll have to cancel some of the events booked for early. April," Is mention that the search was a consensual to the search was a co

#### **OBSERVING** SPORTS

Pull out all the superlatives and you still won't find enough to describe the performance turned in by the Detroit Red Wings in their drive to the 1984-65 National Hockey League championship.

This was the team that the experts called "too old and too young" . . the team few thought would even make the NHL playoffs.

make the NHL playoffs.

There were laughs and giggles back in October when Manager-Coach Sid Abel pulled the surprise of the sports season by announcing that Ted Lindsay was coming out of a retirement after a four-year absence from the pro hockey wars.

from the pro hockey wars.

President Clarence Campbell of the NHL reportedly minced no words when informed Lindsay would play again. Others agreed.

Fortunately, at the time for the Wings, the Detroit News and Free Press weren't operating. Otherwise, the Wings management probably would have been chewed apart in the local press.

The radio and TV sportscasters did take their pokes at Abel and Co.

That was in October. Now it's April — or it will be Thursday — and very appropriately on this April Fool's day, the team that followed them all starts in its quest for the Stanley Cup against the Chicago Black Hawks.

The community has gone wild about the Wings.

for the Stanley cup against the Wings.

The community has gone wild about the Wings.

Why not?

It's been eight years since Detroit — and when we say Detroit that goes for the entire community — has enjoyed a sports champ on the pro level.

The Wings go blazing into the cup round. The world "guys like Gordle Howe, Lindsay, Alex Delvecchio, Norm Ullman and Bill Gadsby operate on the lee with the same brilliance they did 10 years ago.

Howe remains the most amazing player—in any sport, He's still the Spark of the Wings, the way we see the club, He's the leader.

Lindsay, we should have noted earlier, scored 15 goals in his comeback. Ullman, Delvecchio, Gadsby all had banner years. Great years.

Crozier has made Detroit forget about Sawchuk.

When it comes to slipping out some orchids, Al Roscoe of Livonia's Recreation department was on the phone asking if we could say a few nice words about all who had a part in the success this past winter of Livonia's recreation basketball program.

"We had 90 teams' said Roscoe. "The teams ranged from youngsters 13 and under up to adults.

"The programs moved along with no trouble in all of the divisions. Not enough in the way of thanks can be expressed for the men who worked with the kilds, in particular.

Livonia's Junior Football Learue also drew the

Livonia's Junior Football League also drew the praises of Roscoe.

"The Football League foots the bills for the 27 minor teams (boys 13 and under) who play basketball in Livonia. John Hubert is assigned by the Football League as its basketball commissioner. He turned in a tremendous job this past season."

Rospoe added that the commissioner is the same of the past season."

Roscoe added that there were many teachers in the Livonia school system who stayed late each day or came back in the evenings to help with the kids basketball detailed.

Besides the minor-division teams, there were 12 for seventh graders, 12 for eighth graders, 19 for high school students, seven for those at Schoolcraft College, nine for Class B men's and eight for Class A men.

Roscoe didn't limit his conversation just to basket-

"We're finishing up our men's volleyball program this Wednesday night at Franklin High School," Roscoe rambled on.

rambled on.

"We had eight teams in our 'A' division and 12 in our 'B'. We've had a big upset in Class A. The perennial champion St. Andrews team was detironed in the regular-season race and has been knocked ont of the playoffs. It will be Colonial Lounge vs. the Franklin Reachers for the title in Class A.

"And in Class B, the Clifftangers are going to play for the title Wednesday night. They're a bunch of school teachers and principals from Livonia.

In his next breath, Roscoe was talking about base

"Despite all the snow on the ground at this time of the year, we have found an upsurge in interest in both our baseball and softball programs.

"We get calls every day from managers and sponsors, who want to enter a team. I think that the lights we have at Ford Field (for baseball and softball) have had a lot to do with the greater interest in the two sports."

sports."
It's to be noted that the lights will burn every night at the Farmington Road sports grounds. Roscoe and John Dufour, who bosses Livonia's recreation department, are planning a variety of extra events to start with the area high school tournament in mid-May.

Incidentally, we have a note from Mr. Dufour reminding us that the meetings for Livonia umpires have started at Bentley High School.

The expansion of the baseball and softball programs means one thing: Livonia will need more umpires this summer. You may not like sports officials—the kind who blow whistles and call guys out whom you think are safe — but you can't play a game without an ump or a referee.

From experience, we can say that sports officialing.

out an ump or a referee.

From experience, we can say that sports officiating has its bright side. If nothing else, it helps a guy keep young.



VETERAN MEMBERS of Redford Russ Pulyu, Jim Bleberick, Back row—
Union high's baseball team which hopes Jim Johnston, Ernie Bourassa, Bick to repeat school's performance of 1844 Barryman, George Little and Cary Dewhen RU shared the Suburban Six Loye. Bob Atkins is head coach of the League championship. From left: Front Redford Union team.

—Larry Dennis, Ed Piette, Curf DeLoye,

### Summer Play Big Aid **To R. Union Mentor**

# Franklin Favored To Keep Crown From near bottom to the top, ule a year ago because of an It could be that way for John Hartisg, a member of the coaching staff at Franklin high across the summer a and lot program school. During the recent basketchast scrool, all the summer as and lot program school. Bruce Berger and Mithe Said if the swow permits one), although Akkins pricts Trenton and Akkins freis are stored by the sum of the plans of Hartisg who was witched to guid in the plans of Hartisg who has switched to guid in Franklin in basechal. The diamond story sparkles will be held for Hartisg a New ago Franklin and the sum of the Piymond story sparkles for Hartisg, A year ago Franklin and the sum of the Piymond story sparkles will be held of the Piymond story sparkles for the sum of the Piymond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday, API and a story all the pixmond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday, API and a story should be supported by the pixmond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday. API and a story should be supported by the pixmond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday. API and a story all the pixmond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday. API and a story all the pixmond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday. API and the pixmond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday. API and the pixmond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday. API and the pixmond story sparkles will be held on Tuesday. API and the pixmond story sparkles will be held on the pixmond story sparkles

in an exciting dual.

Franklin again shaper up as the team to beat for the pension from the service state of the pension from the '64 winner and They'll be missed.

But Tom Cannon and Kern Bruther of the '64 winner from the winner from

Atkins has found that the added baseball has helped to pay off for him at Redford Union.





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