

Pitching Problem for 'Champ' Thurston
Area Preps Welcome '67 Baseball

Welcome to another baseball season. The major leaguers, the collegians... and now the high schools are swinging into their full-scale 1967 campaigns.

Area prep news are set to go, provided the weatherman gives them a break. Preparing a schoolboy baseball team is not a simple task. A coach keeps his charges on the jump... from indoor sessions in the gym to outdoor drills when the sun shines a little... back to welcomed this week's openers.

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Observing SPORTS
By George Maskin
Warm weather, the year-around, doesn't necessarily create top notch athletes.

Equally disconcerting is the fact the high school athletes down there don't have to rush in football to beat the elements. Their gridders perform as late as mid-December and they even stage a state-championship prep football tournament, something we'd like to see in Michigan.

And when it comes to prep baseball and track, the kids are in action in February and by the middle of March they're performing with most of the games under lights. Up here, the preps are slated to start their baseball this week. But it's very questionable, considering the way our weather fluctuates from day to day... sometimes even from hour to hour.

Notwithstanding the drawbacks created by the weather, the Michigan schoolboy athlete "runs away"—ability speaking—from the boys who count in prep activities in Florida. Just ask any college coach. They'll tell you there is no comparison... and the coaches should know.

So should the baseball scouts who comb all areas in their search for fresh talent. "You have to take your hat off to the kids up there in Michigan," Eddie Katalinas, the chief scout for the Detroit Tigers was saying.

"Those boys—and boys in neighboring states. (Continued on Page 3B)

DOUBLE WINNER IN TRACK: Bentley Starts Fast

The track season began on a happy note for Bentley high. Back-to-back non-league victories over Wayne, 84-7-33-1, and Franklin, 58-40, gave indications that Bentley will be tough to contend with in Suburban Six League action which starts this week as Bentley invades Redford Union.

The trio of Mark Formanna, Ken Jackson and Doug Thomas carried off individual honors in both victories for Bentley. Each was a two-time double winner.

Formanna came through each time in the high jump and the 440-yard dash. Thomas carried off the two sprints while Jackson hit the wire first in the hurdles in both the meets.

Thomas also helped out in the 880-yard relay won by Bentley in both meets while Formanna ran the anchor leg on both of Bentley's victorious mile relays.

In both meets, Bentley showed strength in the field events, taking three out of four against Wayne and scoring a four-event sweep at the expense of Franklin.

Sophomore Bob Rogalski with a first in the long jump and seconds in the two dashes stood out for Franklin in a losing cause against Edsel Ford, 65-53, in Franklin's opening meet of the season.

server newspaper area focused on Thurston High, champs of the North-West Suburban League a year ago and also winner of the Greater Livonia Invitational tournament sponsored by the Livonia Optimist Club, the Recreation department and The Observer.

Coach Emil Majeski's big problem at Thurston's center around the pitching. He has lost Vic Pilar, the brilliant peger who in '66 won half of the 18 triumphs registered by Thurston. Bob Durand and Dono Syrius, who saw mound service to some extent in '66, are back and will head the '67 staff.

Durand flips 'em right-handed. Syrius from the post side. There are three standouts on the Thurston squad—Reg Barringer, right field; Paul Santangelo in left and Bob Holmes at short. They all made All-Suburban a year ago.

Then, too, there are Barry Simescu, at third base, who was all-league in '66; Dan Harris, who can catch or play the outfield; Marty Ingelsoulain, a veteran at second, and Bill Holmes, who can do the catching if Harris goes to the outfield.

"We should have another good season," says Majeski. "That is, if our pitchers come through." Pilar, incidentally, now is at Michigan State University.

Here's the baseball story at the other area schools:

REDFORD UNION

Coach Bob Atkins boasts one of the strongest prep infield combinations in the state with Leland Bjerke at first, Rod Ferguson at second, captain Glen Buckingham at short and Bill Howe at third. The first three are seniors. Howe a junior.

All-league Dick Beckerleg has one outfield slot sewed up while Bob Fritz, Jack Dalzell, Kevin Fox and Dale Bjerke will fight for the other jobs.

Fox, Tom Booker and Dale Bjerke head the RU pitching staff. They are not too experienced. Fox and Booker are juniors with Bjerke a sophomore. RU also must count on a junior catcher in Bill Fahey.

BENTLEY

The returning of Bill McAlpine and Dave Gorton to handle the pitching chores coach Marty Klozik, Gorton pegged Bentley to eight wins last season, McAlpine three.

Title Fight Slated for Olympia TV

The Cassius Clay-Floyd Patterson heavyweight championship fight, scheduled for April 23 in Las Vegas, will be seen on closed-circuit television at Detroit's Olympia.

It'll mark the third Clay bout seen "live" at Olympia. Tickets for the telecasts will be priced at \$5 and \$6 and may be obtained at Olympia.

Other veterans include Ed Ryan at third, Greg Coleman at second and Paul Sorenson and Greg Macy, who will alternate at first. Macy may do some pitching if Gorton and McAlpine need help.

John Schroter, a sophomore, looks the best at shortstop. Returning catcher is Don Montrey is ill, which means that Bentley may have to turn Roy Krueger, an experienced senior, or Harvey Verhines up from the JV team.

There are some gaps in the outfield where McAlpine and Gorton will play when they're not pitching. A doubleheader at Port Huron Saturday starts the Bentley season.

FRANKLIN

With nine lettermen back, coach John Hartsig sees the nucleus of "a good team." Franklin, Chris Wendrick and Fred Davies are back to head the mound staff along with Rick Mack who worked as a sophomore, but saw no mound duty as a junior.

Hartsig will field a veteran infield with Mark Dornier at short and Bill Hellstein at third.

Tom Moersch, Ron Sal-hay and Dave Paden figure to do most of the work in the outfield, although the latter has been used in the infield, too.

STEVENSON

As in football and basketball and other sports, Stevenson has all its veterans back. George VanWagoner, who did a great job in moulding Stevenson into a winner in Stevenson, has taken command in baseball and looks to Paul Tonnenmacher and (Continued on Page 3B)

NEW CAPTAIN of the Thurston baseball squad under Coach Emil Majeski is Reg Harringer, all around athlete who stood out both as a football half-back and a basketball guard.

Plymouth Picks 'Ex' As Coach

Who says one must be a star athlete—or even an average athlete—to become a success as a coach? Take Tom Mosheimer, the newly named football coach at Plymouth High School.

Mosheimer never played the sport either at Plymouth or Michigan State University.

But his record as a grid leader ranks among the best in the state. He comes to Plymouth from Dundee high where his teams in the last four years finished a streak of 35 straight victories before finally being beaten in the 1966 finale by Blissfield, 14-0, on a pair of long passes.

Mosheimer has spent eight years at Dundee, compiling an overall record of 43 wins against 21 losses and three ties.

He broke into the coaching (Continued on Page 3B)



BROTHER ACT: The Rogalskis, Gary starred in football for Franklin. Brother (left) and Bob, tune up to perform on Bob is only a sophomore. Franklin high's track team. Gary, a senior.

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