## First Time Since The '30s

## Girls Sports Make A Comeback In Suburbia



STORY:

R. T. Thompson

PICTURES:

James Hubbard

which teams played as many as four games over a period of as few as 10 days, and which eventual-ly led to the movement to bar varsity athletics for girls in the high schools.

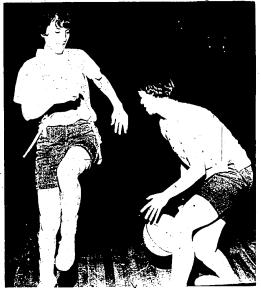
RAINA SMITH (Plymouth) looks for a teammate to pass the ball but finds the way barred by Mary Jo Jorgenson while Janie Holbert stands back watching the action.



HAIR FLIES HIGH as Bentley's Gloria Houdeshell prepares to pass ball to one of her teammates during the 36-19 victory over Plymouth.



EVEN THOUGH her hair is over her eyes, Plymouth's Bev Dundow (42) manages close in on Nancy Kline as she attempts to dribble away. That's Plymouth's Raina Smith helping her teammate check the Bentley star.



RACING UP to fight Plymouth's Barp Rickard for possession of a loose ball is Nancy Kline (23) of Bentley.



PLYMOUTH'S JUNIOR VARSITY nibble on bits of oranges during a rest period and receive in-structions from the woman coach. The Jayvees

did alright on defense but only scored five points in the 16-5 defeat.

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THE RISE STARTED three or four years ago when Girls Athletic Associations in many of the area schools began scheduling basketball and swim meets on an informal basis.

The MISAA stepped into the picture three years ago with an addition to the state rules covering activities of girls athletics and setting a guide-line.

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Thus when Plymouth and Livonia Bentley varsity and junior varsity teams met last week on the Livonia court for the mythical championship of the GAA teams in the Suburban Six League, it marked the first time since the '30s that a title had been at stake.

The MHSA rules state that all games must be governed in the same manner as the varsity and junior varsity athletics — the schools must exchange eligibility lists, the games must be handled by registered, paid officials, and the teamsmust be coached by femiline members of the stat Juder this code, teams from Plymouth, Livonia Bentley, Redford Union, Gardeh City East, John Clenn, Thurston and Ypsilanti have arranged ragular schedules, starting this season.

THE BENTLEY-PLYMOUTH contests cli-

THE BENTLEY-PLYMOUTH contests climaxed the league activities and found Bentley winning twice. The varsity whipped PHS, 36-19, and the jayvees romped to a 16-5 triumph. The Livonia varsity went through the season with an unbeaten record and the jayvees won five

with an unbeaten record and the jayvees won five of eight contests.

Both Bentley and Plymouth have scheduled games remaining, and won't end season play for another two weeks.

The Bentley varsity includes Gloria Houdeshell, Karen Jameson, Carolyn Paterson, Debby, Stoianoff, Nancy Klein, Mickey Kocenda, Sally Goettleman, Mary Liddill and Nina Truchon.

The junior varsity lists Terri Pavlinski, Laura Toy, Marie Flahigan, Debbie McCune, Becky Adams, Carolyn Wood, Denise Rolfe, Mary Jo Jorgenson, Janie Holbert, Sue Genslak, Judy Frederige, Karen Bulke, Kathy Boone and Colleen Avery.

Avery.

THE GIRLS' PROGRAM may be accelerated in the months to come and athletic directors are discussing plans of widening the scope to include golf and tennis in the spring, field hockey and swimming events in the fall.

Plymouth Athletic Director John Sandmannindicated his school is prepared to join in any of the activities and did have a field hockey team on an informal basis last fall.

"We are arranging schedules for the girls teams in the same manner as boys," he said with a strength of the same manner as boys, and the same manner and the same manner and the same manner and the same and the same manner and the same mann

