



TWO POINTS IN THE MAKING—Redford Union's Jerry Petsch (54) jumps above Allen Park's Eric Agardy (51) for a bucket with teammate Gary Fulk (22) and Allen Park's Tom Agardy (53) looking on. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

# RU Cagers Stay Alive, Jar Allen Park, 72-66

By FRED DELANO

Redford Union doesn't scare easily and for that reason it will still be in contention for a second straight Suburban Eight basketball crown.

The Panthers shook off the fact that they trailed Allen Park's first place Jaguars 22-11 after a single period Tuesday and came rampaging back to take a 72-66 home court decision that keeps them alive in the title race.

When the firing died down, the Panthers still were atop the league at 9-1 with four 10 play and RU stood at 9-2 with three games left in the 10p.

Interestingly, Livonia Bentley may hold the key to the championship. Allen Park will visit the Bulldogs late Tuesday, Feb. 27 and it will be Bentley at RU three nights later in the finale.

For all of the offensive fireworks in RU's latest victory—its 14th in 16 starts—Coach Carl Andrews picked out the defensive job Gary Fulk did on Jaguar Jim Perry as being the key to the triumph.

"We decided to let the big boy get what he could get," said Andrews of the Panthers' senior center, 6-11 Tom Agardy, whose size has intimidated almost every foe as the Jaguars have rolled to a 13-2 record.

"Perry killed us earlier at Allen Park with 23 points when we lost, but the defensive job Fulk did this time was the big key. Perry scored 20 points last week against Bentley, but Fulk kept him to two field goals and just seven points."

Agardy was high man for the game with 25, backed up by teammate Mike Flood's 20, but RU put four men in double figures.

Scott Bjerke, playing his usually brilliant floor game at guard, led with 20 and muscular Jerry Petsch, who had the defensive assignment on Agardy, got 16. Fulk, besides hounding Perry, found the range for 15 points of his own.

Agardy's 11 points in the first quarter helped thrust Allen Park into its quick 22-11 lead.

THE JAGUARS still led by nine, 28-19, midway into the second quarter but a bucket by Fulk and three in a row by Bjerke made it 28-27.

From then on it was dog eat dog.

Two baskets by Agardy from under the hoop in the last 17 seconds put Allen Park on top at halftime, 32-20. In the third period the lead changed hands seven times before RU could make it stick. The Panthers led after that session, 34-31.

Allen Park made two more strong moves in the stretch, tying things at 60—all and then 66-66, but never going in front.

Petsch broke the tie at 66 when he dumped in a rebound with 1:12 left. Then, in desperate attempts to gain possession, the Jaguars were guilty of fouls in the dying moments that led to four more Panther points, all from the free throw line.

**observerland sports**

Publisher of The Farmington Enterprise & Observer, Garden City News, and Observer-Reporter, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, and Westland Observer.

ALLEN PARK (66)

	FG	FT	TP
1. Agardy	12	15	25
Perry	2	3	7
Flood	10	0	20
Bearman	2	0	4
Tschall	1	2	4
E. Agardy	3	0	6
Totals	30	6	14

REDFORD UNION (72)

	FG	FT	TP
Pomaville	2	0	4
Stand	8	0	16
Fulk	7	10	13
Bjerke	8	4	20
Fulk	6	3	15
Sander	2	0	4
Totals	29	14	22

Score by quarters:

Allen Park	22	10	15	19	66
Redford Union	11	19	24	18	72

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# Bentley Knocks Off Edsel Ford, 70-58

The Bulldogs are back on the track.

Bentley outscored Edsel Ford, 40-22, in the second half to coast to its fifth Suburban Eight cage victory against four setbacks, 70-58.

It was the Bulldogs' seventh triumph in 15 games and their second in the last eight.

EDSEL FORD hit eight of 23 from the floor in the first quarter to jump to a 17-12 lead. Bentley had five of seven.

The Bulldogs woke up in the second only to be outscored, 19-18, and trail at the half, 35-30.

Midway through the third period, Tim Bollin tied things

up his fourth foul. Coach John Farrar had his senior ace on the bench the rest of the way.

It was a strange fourth quarter for the struggling Bulldogs.

BENTLEY HIT only one

field goal in the eight minute span, 6-5 junior Randy Litke getting the solo two-pointer.

The rest of the Bulldog scoring came at the charity line.

Bentley went to the line 22

times as Edsel Ford was called for 12 fouls.

Brent Bogler hit 10 of 11 from the line in the quarter and Mark Nevall six of six, with the Bulldogs making good 19 of 22.

Edsel Ford finished 22 of 71 from the field for 31 per cent and wound up taking 22 more shots than Bentley.

The Bulldogs hit 20 of 49 for 41 per cent and made good 30 of 35 from the line.

## Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

Winter arrived midway through the week, after a month off during January, and the result was a decided dip in business at Northville Downs and a big hike in activities at the Detroit Race Course and Hazel Park tracks.

Wolverine Raceway will open its 82-night harness racing meeting at the DRC in just a month and the thoroughbreds are scheduled to start at Hazel Park in three weeks.

It remains to be seen whether Hazel Park will open on time or not. The new management hired a firm to install a new racing strip several weeks ago and now has discovered the new surface is anything but suitable.

Whatever the contracting firm did wasn't the answer. Last reports from the east side were that the strip would have to be removed and the project started all over again.

Normally the plant would be opened for stables to come in and work horses on the track. As of this moment, it appears that the strip won't be ready for another 10 days to two weeks. If, then, and that doesn't allow much time for stables to check in and get horses ready.

At the DRC, Wolverine vice president and general manager Richard Wilson has had track Supt. Jim McPhee and his crew busy clearing off snow. Once the snow stops, then work will continue on getting the big mile track ready for the mid-March opening.

Out Northville way, Executive Director John Carlo reported the half-mile strip in excellent condition despite the weather conditions of the past few days.

"We believe we have the best all-weather surface in the area," proudly proclaimed Carlo. "It took a great deal of experimenting and quite a bit of gambling about what would happen but everything seems to have worked out to our advantage."

"The horsemen tell us they like this track for winter racing better than any in the Midwest. We plan to keep it that way."

IT WILL BE stand up and be counted, night Saturday (tonight) at Northville Downs for Apperition Hal and H.T.

## Sport 12-4 Mark

# Rocks Best Belleville

Belleville chose to run with Plymouth High School's basketball team and lived to regret it.

"Run and shoot" is the name of the game for Plymouth's lovers of the fast break and the Rocks boosted their record to 7-4 in the Suburban Eight and 12-4 overall with an 85-76 win over the Tigers.

PLYMOUTH'S LEAD had grown to 18 points by the end of the third quarter when the margin was 62-44. The Rocks

led at halftime, 35-31, and then poured in 26 points in the third stanza in what Coach Fred Thomann described as being "as good a period as we've had all winter."

The fourth quarter turned into one of the season's top shoot-outs as Belleville found the range for 32 points while Plymouth was getting 22 more. Together they combined for 55 in one period alone.

Tim Van Wagner led the Rocks' scoring parade with 29 points, but Kevin Moore, Steve

Robb and Ron Egloff also were in double figures. As a foursome they made 31 of their 55 field goal attempts—36 per cent.

The Tigers had three men who scored in the 20s, but their barrage came too late. Terry Pace led Belleville with 25.

"They ran with us all the way instead of slowing it down," said Thomann. "Egloff fouled out 20 seconds into the fourth quarter and then Belleville got hot. However, as a team we shot 5 per cent from the floor and they just couldn't catch us."

The Rocks have only two games left on the regular schedule, traveling to Livonia Bentley next Friday and then hosting Trenton March 2.

# Franklin Snaps Jinx, Crushes Northville

Western Six cellar dweller, home court jinx which saw them lose three straight games in '73 at home.

The Patriots also broke a

BENTLEY (70)

	FG	FT	TP
Bollin	8	9	15
Bogler	0	10	10
Nevall	1	5	7
Bracke	2	2	5
O'Connor	0	0	0
Lids	2	3	6
Chambers	5	2	12
Totals	20	30	55

EDSEL FORD (58)

	FG	FT	TP
Booth	5	3	13
Gumela	0	0	0
Gancarz	7	9	23
Boore	3	0	0
Sabo	0	0	0
Domke	1	0	2
Master	5	1	11
Bedwin	1	2	3
Totals	22	14	58

Score by quarters:

Bentley	12	18	19	21	70
Edsel Ford	17	19	6	16	58

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