Area cage teams eye titles

There will be the scent of season by a Plymouth club. potential championships to five of Observerland's prep basketball attractions tonight and Saturday with Plymouth Salem, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Westland John Glenn and Garden City West sharing the limelight.

Plymouth has an unusual home date Saturday with Dearborn and can clinch its first Suburban Eight outright championship since 1969 by defeating the second - place Pioneers. Plymouth is 10-1 in

the league to Dearborn's 8-3.

Fred 'Thomann's Rocks also will be gunning for a school record, their present 15-2 mark matching the most victories ever posted in one

On the same court tonight, Churchill will be a strong fa-vorite to knock off Plymouth Canton and if the Chargers do they will be assured of no worse than a tie for their second straight Western Six

Churchill is 9-0 in league play and is rated No. 1 among all area teams with a 16-1 record.

Franklin will be at North Farmington for a key North-west Suburban battle and Bob Visser's Patriots need a victory in this one to be sure of at least a share of the championship. They now are 7-1 in the league and 14-3 overall.

At the same time John Glenn, second in the Northwest Suburban at 6-2, will invade Thurston hoping to keep title hopes alive with another

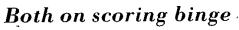
The most frantic race in-the area is that in the Tri -River League where Garden City West, Inkster Cherry Hill and Dearborn Heights Riverside share the top rung. all at 10-2. West will host Southgate tonight and knows

that a victory will mean staying alive.

Other games tonight fea-ture Bentley at Redford Union, Andover at Clarenceville, Farmington at Stevenson, Harrison at Northville, Garden City East at Oak Park, Royal Oak Kimball at Southfield and Lathrup at Eisenhower.

The regular season will end for all clubs next week-end and state tournament district action will open Mon-





West, Franklin romp to victories

Garden City West and Livonia Franklin shot the eves out of the basket, as an old cage saying goes, as they rolled to impressive victories

Tuesday. For West, the 94-52 rout of Southgate Schaefer was a milestone marking the 100th victory for Coach Chris Babler since he took over as coach seven years ago. Ra-rely, if ever, has one of his teams had a hotter hand from the floor than this one, West hitting 59 per cent of its

Franklin was almost as ef-

fective with a 56 per cent field goal average in dumping Farmington Harrison, 88-56. in another scoring binge

Other mid-week Observerland results were Thurston 71, Redford Union 68; South-field 68, Bloomfield Hills An-dover 56; Ferndale 70, Southfield Lathrup 48 and Dear-born Edsel Ford 64, Livonia Stevenson 58.

Paul Tatro led Garden City West's attack with 20 points in a game that really was no contest after West piled up a 48-25 halftime lead.

The victory kept West in a three - way tie at the top of the Tri - River League standings with Inkster Cherry Hill-and Dearborn Heights Riv-erside, All are 10-2 in the

Franklin's non - league triumph over Harrison was the team's 14th in 17 starts and saw Kevin Kaseta hit the hoop for 29 points. Kaseta went into the game as Observerland's leading scorer with an average of 22.1 per

Keith Blazaitis and Jim

figures for Franklin with 17 and 12 while Mark Brozek paced Harrison with 11. Franklin led at the half,

One of the most cherished victories of the season was Thurston's backyard triumph over RU which ended a 12 game losing streak and gave Thurston a 2-15 record compared to RU's 6-11.

Thurston broke on top by hitting the first five shots but led at the half only 35-33. Curt Beadle with 23 points, Cory Rodriguez 16, Jeff

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No. 1 is Churchill basketball Coach Pat Montagaho whose now 16-1 Chargers slipped by Ann Arbor Huron, 52-51, to make it 10 straight since losing to Franklin. Montagano's pressure is sure to mount with Plymouth Canton and Waterford Mott next in line before the state tourney kicks off. (Observer photo by Tom Do-

Prep wrestlers begin tourney action

The format is set for the 1974 Michigan high school state wrestling champion-

Eighteen of the area's 19 schools will be in competition with 24 district and 16 regional sites announced for the four classes.

Class A and B districts will be held Feb. 23 and the re-gionals March 2. Classes A, B, and C lower peninsula final wrestling tournaments will be held March 8-9 - Class A at Grand Rapids - Class A at Grand Rapids
Calvin College; Class B at
Kalamazoo Western—Michigan University and Class C
at Haslett High School.

Opening district rounds show 12 area schools in the Walled Lake Western meet.

Redford Union, Thurston, armington. Farmington Farmington, Farmington Harrison, North Farmington, Garden City East, Garden City West, Bentley, Church-ill, Franklin, Stevenson and Plymouth Salem will be up against Annapolis, Crest-wood, Milford, Northville, Walled Lake Central and host Walled Lake Western

Westland John Glenn is in_ the Trenton district along

with Allen Park, Belleville, Dearborn, Edsel Ford, Fordson, Cherry Hill, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, Monroe, Romulus, Southgate, Taylor Konnadu Taylor Center, Kennedy, Taylor Center, Taylor Truman, Temperance Bedford, Wayne, Wyandotte Roosevelt and host Trenton.

Southfield Lathrup, Southfield High and Bishon Borgess will be up against Berkley, Detroit Center Line, Catholic Central, North-western, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Highland Park, Lamphere, Oak Park, Dondero, Kimball, Warren Cousino, Fitzgerald, C.S. Mott, War-ren and Warren Woods in the Warren Fitzgerald district.

Class action Plymouth Canton in the Ypsilanti Willow Run district and Livonia Clarenceville in the Heights Avondale Auhurn

Canton will be competing with Brighton, Carleton Airport, Chelsea, Dexter, Grosse Ile, Milan, Monroe, Jefferson, Huron, Pinckney, Riv-erview, Saline, Aquinas, Schafer, South Lyon, Tecum-

seh, Lincoln and Willow Run. Ciarenceville will be run-

ning up against/Algonac, Avondale, Cranbrook, Lu-Avondale, Cranbrook, Lutheran West, Hartland, Madison Heights, Bishop Foley,

Madison, Marine City, Clemens, Chippewa Valley, Clintondale, Anchor Bay, Novi, Port Huron Central, Richmond. St. Clair

Les Anders dates set

The 1974 Les Anders Initational High School Baseball Tourney, co-sponsored by the Livonia Parks and Recreation, the Livonia Op-timist Club and the Observer Newspapers will be held on May 11, 18, 27 and 29.

A total of 20 invitations have been sent to the 19 schools in the Observerland area along with Wayne Me-

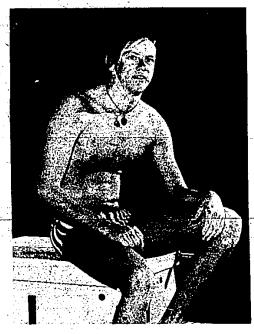
Brother act

Michigan State world-class intermediate hurdler Bob Cassleman has younger brother Chris, also a hurdler, as a teammate on MSU's varsity in 1974. Both prepped at Grand Rapids Catholic

Southfield Lathrup is the defending champion as it knocked off Westland John Glenn in the final last season. There is no entry fee but each team is required to furnish two baseballs for each game it participates in. The tourney will be a one-game knock out and team trophies will be awarded to the winner and runnerup.

Back home

Former Michigan State fullback great Bob Apisa now is back in his home area of Hawaii, coordinating Samoan affairs for the state. He also helps with Honolulu's Quick Kokua activities program for under - privileged children.



FORMER FRANKLIN HIGH TANKER Tom Segasser has made the Michigan State University varsity swim squad in his freshman season. The freestyler has been in action against Eastern Michigan and Illinois.