

**LUSSENDEN'S PLUMBER**

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## NFWB sets clinic for roundballers

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield Junior Basketball League will sponsor a clinic for fifth-through-ninth-grade boys on Nov. 30 at North Farmington High School, 32900 Thirteen Mile Road. The clinic begins at 9:30 a.m. Registration fee is \$25 per boy.

The clinic will be operated by Ken Dean, varsity basketball coach at North Farmington. Other clinics are scheduled for later in December.



## Alma swinger

David Benham, a former North Farmington High School student, helped pace Alma College to the 1974 Michigan Inter-collegiate Athletic Association golf championship. Benham, a freshman, shot scores of 12 and 8 in the conference meet for a 72-hole total of 182. Alma coach Art Smith said: "Dave has one of the best swings in the conference. He's a very competitive, compact golfer."



## As I see it

By KEN HOFFMAN

Winter was officially inaugurated last week when I caught the season's opening snowball on the side of my head. This is not unlike the traditional first ball thrown out by the President at the first baseball game, except that I always manage to catch the snowball in the vicinity of my frontal lobe.

It isn't fair, I tell you. And it's always the same kid who throws it. He's the one who never gets picked to play in the choose-out baseball games during the summer. If he does, he winds up playing rightfield, where a ball hasn't been hit since Ty Cobb was winning batting titles in the American League.

All this brings me around to the rules and regulations of the snowball fight. But first, a brief history. In 1126, a young knight was strolling down the street when he noticed that the King's palace was on fire. The fire truck was unable to come because a faulty carburetor had it up on the racks, and anyway the fire department was busy filtering a dog food commercial.

SO THE PALACE stood engulfed with flames as the King sat eating chocolate covered sedatives by the bottle. It had gotten to the point where the King was sucking on the cotton to get the extra.

Since it was a cold blustery day, the young man used his intellect and decided to snuff the fire by heaping snow on the snow skeletal structure. He stopped down, picked up a double handful of snow and hurled it mightily.

Unfortunately, the King was on the receiving end. Right in the old kisser. He would have seen it coming, but you'll notice that this was the Dark Ages. The King's honor was definitely challenged, not to mention the accuracy of the young man's throwing arm.

The King and the young man exchanged a volley of the chilly missiles until each became exhausted and decided to go home. Unfortunately (again), the King had no home at this point and took a room at the Holiday Inn.

AND THIS WAS the first known snowball fight.

Since that time, the sport, some call it an art, has evolved and garnered the refinement due it. I'm sincerely surprised that snowballs have yet to be marketed commercially in the south.

According to the official rule book (it differs in several locales), there are some definite boundaries of practice. First of all, is the controversy surrounding the slushball. In the city, the slushball is a legal, and very effective part of any good player's arsenal. A slushball is that curious mixture of snow, water, and ice that when used properly can bring a swift end to the contest. It can also bring about a swift arrival of an ambulance.

In the suburbs, the slushball is outlawed, punishable by a stern scolding from the victim's mother. Another common punishment for this infraction in the suburbs is a 25 dollar decrease in weekly allowance.

SNOWBALLS DOWN the back are legal in all areas of play although frowned upon in the suburbs. You know how water can ruin cashmere sweaters. Snowballs carrying a lethal rock inside are illegal, and their recent wide-

spread use is discouraging to the governing bodies. It's also discouraging to the victim, who often cannot verbalize his displeasure due to his unconsciousness.

So that is a brief rundown of a few do's and don'ts regarding snowball fighting. You'll have to excuse me now, it's time for me to go home and I think I'll just sneak out the back door. You see, there's this kid outside fiddling what appears to be a slushball....

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