

# RU, Bentley Top All-Area Selections

Meet the 1969 Observer Newspapers' All-Area High School baseball team. It's the cream from the best overall season Observerland prep has enjoyed in baseball. It was a season in which the competition was less than ever... a year in which our Lady of Sorrows won a divisional title in the Catholic League... Thurston shared the crown in the Northwest Suburban League and Garden City East gained the co-championship in the Mid-Wayne League.

As in past years, the all-area team is based on selections submitted by coaches, scouts and reporters who have followed the games throughout the spring... In regular-season as well as in tournament competition, the team is studied with excellent pitchers, one of the finest prep catchers to perform in these parts in many years, a strong infield both from an offensive and defensive standpoint and a crack outfield.

Meet the 1969 All-Observerland team:

**Pitchers**

DALE BJERKE, Redford Union: The second member of his family in recent years to win all-area acclaim. His brother, Leland, now at Eastern Michigan University, won similar honors a few years ago... Leland during his three-year varsity career at RU posted a record of 23 victories against only five defeats. He

was 10-1 as a sophomore, 8-2 as a junior and 10-2 as a senior. During his final season he fanned 102 in 76 innings and posted a spectacular 0.45 earned run average... team-mates voted him the most valuable member of the RU team which just missed the Suburban Six League title and gained the Andersens meet final against Wayne before losing.

**Second Base**

JERRY COOK, Redford Union: His batting average of .250 wasn't anything to write home about, but Coach Bob Atkins declared: "Here's the boy that provided the spark as our team runner-up... Wilkinson starred as an end foot and a starter at forward in basketball... Stands 6-2, weighs 185... can run the 100-yard dash 10.1 seconds... Has won a scholarship at Kansas State University for his baseball ability... One of the truly great all-around athletes in Observerland prep circles... captain for us to compile a 7-9 record during the season."

**Shortstop**

PAT McHUGH, Garden City West: One of the smoothest fielding shortstops in the district. Knocked out 20 hits for a .317 batting average. Was

on base (via hits, walks, errors, etc.) 42 out of a possible 63 times... Made only one error in the field... Struck out only three times... Also pitched... had a 6-4 record, fanning 80 rivals in 70 innings of work.

**Third Base**

JERRY DETTER, Stevenson: A four-sport athlete who capped a brilliant high school career by gaining All Inter-Lakes Conference first team honors in his senior year. Batted .450, led team in stolen bases, sparked in the infield and even took a turn pitching for Stevenson. Used mostly in relief on the mound, but in his one start he pitched a no-run, no-hit victory... Played football, basketball and ran on track team during his prep action at Stevenson... Was voted the athlete-of-the-year for 1968-69 at Stevenson High.

**Outfielders**

WALTER LEE, Plymouth: A senior who clubbed the ball at better than a .350 clip... Sparked defensively... Excellent man in the pinch with eight RBIs to his credit... One of the fastest men in the league... Also pitched for the Rocks, BOB CASCADEN, Bentley: While he was on a spring trip with a school musical trip, Bentley lost three straight. When he returned, Bentley caught fire and made strong runs for Suburban Six League honors... Finished season with a .386 average and eight RBIs... Didn't make an error during the season in the field. Also played football for Bentley, standout in the backfield, DENNIS FISHER, Franklin: As versatile as they came on the Franklin team. Played mostly in the outfield, but also was team's No. 1 pitcher with a 4-2 record and a 2.15 earned run average in 39 innings of work. With the bat he averaged .429 for the season in the Northwest Suburban League and had a .315 mark overall. Drove in six runs in league action and added two more in the team's other contests. A senior.

## Pitchers

IT WAS THE YEAR senior league scouts flocked more and more to check performances by Observerland teams and individuals.

IT WAS A YEAR which proved that baseball truly is ALIVE as a sport in Observerland with crowds soaring with each season.

DALE BJERKE, Redford Union: The second member of his family in recent years to win all-area acclaim. His brother, Leland, now at Eastern Michigan University, won similar honors a few years ago... Leland during his three-year varsity career at RU posted a record of 23 victories against only five defeats. He

was 10-1 as a sophomore, 8-2 as a junior and 10-2 as a senior. During his final season he fanned 102 in 76 innings and posted a spectacular 0.45 earned run average... team-mates voted him the most valuable member of the RU team which just missed the Suburban Six League title and gained the Andersens meet final against Wayne before losing.

## First Base

PAUL MILLER, Bentley: A junior who was called by his coach, Marty Kozak "as the best 11th grader I ever have handled." Miller was the big man with the bat for Bentley, reaping the best results as he compiled a .450 average. He drilled in 12 RBIs during the season... and in the field he

was errorless... Made All Suburban Six League's first team... Unfortunately, for Bentley, he won't be back at school next fall. His father is being transferred to Houston and Paul will be playing his senior high school year in the shadow of the famed Astro-dome.

## Observer All-Area Baseball Choices

FIRST TEAM		
POS.	PLAYER	SCHOOL
Pitcher	Dale Bjerke	Redford Union
Pitcher	Tim Carr	Thurston
Catcher	Kevin Wilkinson	Garden City East
First Base	Paul Miller	Bentley
Second Base	Jerry Cook	Redford Union
Shortstop	Pat McHugh	Garden City West
Third Base	Jerry Detter	Stevenson
Outfield	Bob Cascaden	Bentley
Outfield	Walter Lee	Plymouth
Outfield	Dennis Fisher	Franklin

COACH-OF-YEAR — Emil Majeski, Thurston

SECOND TEAM		
Pitcher	Greg Main	Sorrows
Pitcher	Tim Whiston	Garden City East
Catcher	Rick Horstman	Stevenson
First Base	Jay Hazelroth	N. Farmington
Second Base	Joe Berg	Bentley
Shortstop	Jim Cron	Stevenson
Third Base	Bob Briggs	Glenn
Outfield	Gordon Eszes	Thurston
Outfield	Ross Patton	Sorrows
Outfield	Randy Taylor	Redford Union

COACH-OF-YEAR — John Kulazenko, GCE

## 'Return' Happy; Cardinal Wins Pair

Happiness is doing something you enjoy... and for Lucky Birkett of Livonia "love" and happiness come with running teen-age baseball teams.

He was thinking of quitting

After last season. In fact, he announced he was "through." But during the winter, things happened to get him to change his mind.

After the first two games

played by his Cardinal Decorating team of Livonia in the Free Press League, Birkett must be rejecting that he didn't make his retirement stick.

His player's too, have to be

happy Birkett's back.

CARDINAL STARTED BY DOWNING the new Farmington entry, 8-2, and 8-1, in a doubleheader at Henry Ford Field.

Stellar pitching by Paul Tonemacher, the ex-Stevenson star who has been attending Western Michigan University, and Dave Paden, fresh off the Schoolcraft College campus, helped Cardinal in its last start.



OUT!!! The expressions and actions of the umpire tell the story of this unsuccessful slide by Farmington's Rick Knock as he's tagged by

## Sandlot Schedule

**CLASS A**

Tonight — Redford vs. Plymouth KC, Henry Ford, 6 p.m.; Northville vs. Livonia-Hubert, Ford, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday — Northville vs. Plymouth KC, Haggerty, 2:30 p.m.; Village Ramblers vs. Livonia-Hubert, 1:30 p.m.; Thurston: Redford vs. Hubert, 3:30 p.m.; Monday — Northville vs. Redford, Ford, 6 p.m.; Village Ramblers vs. Plymouth KC, Ford, 8:30 p.m.

## Legion 9 Captures 1-0 Thriller

It took the Farmington American Legion baseball team three games before it struck riches. Farmington bowed to Southfield, 9-2, in its 18th District League opener with six unearned runs making matters easy for Southfield.

Then Farmington went to Clarkston for a doubleheader Sunday and suffered a 3-0 loss in the opener.

"The kids just had the but-

terflies," explained Manager Harry Kujawa.

Then in the nightcap against Clarkston, Farmington came through with a 1-0 victory, as Stan Kouris turned in a spectacular two-hit pitching effort.

KOURIS ALLOWED one hit in the first inning and another in the second.

He fanned 10 and finished in bangup fashion by whiffing the

three men to face him in the last inning.

Kouris also figured in the game's only run. He singled along with Pat Hickey and John Thomas in the third inning.

Hickey, Thomas, Jay Hazelroth and Doug Drapsalski each had two hits for Farmington in the victory.

Drapsalski had hurled a five-hitter in the opener when Farmington's only two hits were singles by Drapsalski and Kouris.

## Morrison Trips, Loses On Coast

The high school track career for John Morrison of Redford Union has ended... and not on a very happy note for him. Michigan's premier high hurdler went to Sacramento, Calif., last Saturday to race in the Golden West Invitational championships.

The finest prep trackmen in the country were there and Morrison showed he belonged in their company until he struck the final hurdle in the 120-yard high.

He was running head-to-head with Rodney Milburn of Opelousa, La., when misfortune struck for Morrison on the final hurdle.

HE TORE A SPIKE out of a shoe, cartwheeling end over end, and got up to finish the race. But he was last.

Milburn went on to post a national record of 13.4 seconds.

Morrison expects to run in several invitational meets during the summer before he enrolls at Michigan State in the fall.

Under the new Big Ten rules, he'll be able to run as a freshman on the varsity when the winter season begins in December.

## Tomjanovich Joins In Tour

Michigan's All-American baseball player, Rod Tomjanovich, will add some international experience to his summer.

The 6-7 1/2 cornerman for Coach John Orr's Wolverines will join a group of other All-Americans in a state department sponsored tour of Europe, starting July 28.

## Friday The 13th Lucky For Them

Friday the 13th proved to be a lucky day for nine members of Livonia Women's Gold League which meets Friday mornings at Whispering Willows golf course.

Low gross honors in the A flight were shared by J. Hamel and R. E. Karanen with both women carding a 53. Low net went to J. Williams with a 36.

In B flight, O. Evans took low gross and low net with her 54.

Top honors in C flight were shared by D. O'Connell and Smith who came in with 74s.

Mrs. O'Connell also took the low net with a score of 37.

J. Lane lead D flight with her low gross of 75. Mrs. M. Pate's 37 took low net.

B flight honors for low gross were split by G. Goetz and A. Goetz and A. Van Saw who had 83's with low net recorded for Mrs. Van Saw.

So did some lusty swinging by John Schroeter and Paden.

Cardinal put together a pair of four-run innings to capture the opener.

The first uprising came in the second inning when Bill Heitstein walked, Dave Flister, Tonemacher and Mike Perino singled and Schroeter doubled.

In the fourth, Perino walked, Schroeter was safe on an error, Dennis Primeau doubled, John Webster doubled and Paden singled for the other four runs.

MEANTIME, TONEMACHER was up to his old success story. He fanned 11 and allowed two hits.

Both Farmington runs came in the fourth when Ed Snider's single followed a walk and an error.

Schroeter had three hits and scored three times while Paden had two hits in addition to pitching five innings in the nightcap victory.

Paden fanned 10, but was in trouble because of eight walks.

Cardinal had another four-run outburst in this game when Bill Rice was safe on an error, Bill Heitstein and Ken Gawkowski walked, Perino, Paden, Primeau and Schroeter all singled.

The Redford - Garden City games were called off because of wet grounds.

Drapsalski had hurled a five-hitter in the opener when Farmington's only two hits were singles by Drapsalski and Kouris.

RENT A 1969 FORD

\$9 a DAY 9¢ a MILE

WEEK-END SPECIAL

Friday Noon To Monday Noon

\$19 plus 9¢ a mile

NORTH BROTHERS LEASING 33300 FORD ROAD WESTLAND LO 5-9000

**BERRY'S CLEAN UP Sale**

FLOOR SAMPLES

28X48 FRAMED PICTURE

Come Early - These will go Fast!

**\$4.95** each

Many other Pictures & Plaques at RIDICULOUS SAVINGS

Choose From Our Huge Selection

**LAMPS**

from 25% to 50% OFF

our regular discount price

Serve and Display

See Us for that SPECIAL PIECE

to add Distinction and Beauty to Your Home...

COMPLETE LINE OF MATTRESSES and BOX SPRINGS

• KING SIZE QUEEN SIZE • REGULAR AT DISCOUNT

SOME MISMAATCHED SETS AT VERY LOW PRICES

DISCONTINUED PIECES

- ★ BUN CABINETS
- ★ BUREAU CABINETS
- ★ LIQUOR CABINETS
- ★ JURY SINK DESK
- ★ CONSOLES SOFAS

- ★ FLOOR SAMPLES
- Modern Bedroom Set
- Spanish Bedroom Set
- Colonial Bedroom Set
- ★ CHAIRS ★ PICTURES ★ LAMPS

ALL AT GREAT SAVINGS TO YOU... EASY CREDIT TERMS

**BERRY'S DISCOUNT FURNITURE**

DIV. OF BERRY'S HOME SUPPLY

25950 W. SIX MILE, west of Beech - KE 2-5933