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Rocks Open Title Fight At Bentley

One of the hottest year-in and year-out rivalries within the Suburban Six Conference will be renewed on the basketball court Friday when Plymouth's defending titlist invade the stronghold of the traditionally powerful Bentley Bulldogs.

The game will mark the conference debut of Bentley's new

coach, Ken Timmons, while Plymouth mentor Dick Bearup will pose the challenge of whether his Rocks can pick up where they left off in league play last winter.

The fact that Plymouth dropped its first two decisions by a combined total of only five points and that the Bulldogs were nosed out in their open-

er by one point in a match with Farmington only whets the appetite of each team for a victory Friday.

PLYMOUTH CAME within a whisker of whipping Walled Lake Central in its last outing, losing in the last three seconds 63-61 after falling prey to Stevenson in the season's opener, 60-57.

Howie Schryer paced the Rocks in the scoring table with 16 points, while varsity newcomer Casey Jones and veteran Charlie Wolf each popped in 15.

Plymouth led Walled Lake 26-25 at the half, but a dry spell in the third quarter saw the Rocks fall behind by 10. From then on it was an uphill struggle, but Plymouth finally pulled even at 61-all in the final minute of the game.

A clutch basket by Bob Sierra of the Lakers, who led both teams in scoring with 21 points, accounted for the final outcome. Walled Lake shot 37% from the floor to only 53% for Plymouth.

3 Observerland Schools Join New Conference

Three Observerland high schools from Livonia, Farm-

ington and Plymouth, will become members of the new Western Six Conference slated to begin operations at the start of the 1970-71 school year.

The trio includes: Plymouth's new Canton Center school which opens next fall; Livonia Churchill, which had its first year of varsity competition this fall; and Farmington's new Harrison High, scheduled to open in the fall of 1970.

Other schools in the conference are: Northville, Waterford Mott and Walled Lake West.

The new circuit will operate with four schools: in competition during 1970-71 and the other two will start varsity sports in 1971-72.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR John Sandman, of Plymouth High stated that Canton Center and Harrison will wait one year before sponsoring teams.

Competition will be in all sports including: football, cross country, swimming, wrestling, basketball, baseball, track, tennis and golf.

There is a possibility that gymnastics will be added after the second year, depending on the number of schools deciding to compete in the sport.

Plans for the new conference were made in a meeting of school representatives a week ago. The complete list of officials will be available in the near future.

"We are starting the task of arranging league schedules," said Sandman, "but we can't move too fast at this time until we are absolutely certain that Harrison and Canton Center schools will be ready as scheduled."

SKI TIPS

By Jay Stokan

How about a ski vacation? Almost every area in the United States offers some kind of vacation package plan. These are usually called Ski Weeks, or Learn to Ski Weeks. At some areas, the packages include every expense short of transportation. At other areas, the plan will cover only lifts and lessons. Some ski weeks are a full seven days, others are five days (Monday-Friday), you pay full rates Saturday and Sunday.

To budget your expenses for a week, write to the area you are thinking of visiting and ask them to send you all information on their package plans. Using the plan you select as a guide, make a itemized list to include the following: transportation, lodging, meals, lifts and lessons, rentals, automobile rental and entertainment expenses.

At D.J.'s Ski Shop we will help you plan your ski vacation and take care of any equipment or clothing needs you may have.

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DEFENSIVE TIPS are given to Franklin High cagers by Coach Bob Vitscher during a time out in the season opener against Romulus. The Patriots found the veteran, rangy Romulus quite a bit more than they could handle.

(Observer photo)

Raiders Breeze Past W'ford Mott, 76-55

Waterford Mott, a new school was hardly a tuneup for North Farmington's basketball opener.

KEN KILKA scored 11 points in the first quarter and Drew Mahalic checked in with 10 to account for all but two of North Farmington's 22 points as each personally outscored the opposition in the period.

The Raiders moved in front, 23-8, after one quarter and scored at will the rest of the way to register a 76-55 triumph. North Farmington led 38-18 at halftime and 56-34 after three periods.

Kilka finished with 23 and Mahalic 17, before retiring to the bench in the second half. Jim Talis scored 10 points and Doug Gilmour added eight to pace the winners.

Greg Piza wound up with 19 and Steve Miller, 11, to lead a major portion of the second half.

Tigers Open 1970 Action On April 14

Opening day at Tiger Stadium in 1970 will be Tuesday, April 14, and the Tigers' opponent will be a traditional one, the Cleveland Indians. The season will close, also, against the Indians, Oct. 1.

Details of the home schedule for the coming season were announced by Jim Campbell, executive vice president and general manager, disclosing that the Tigers will play their 81 home games on 77 dates, including 49 at night for a club record. The previous scheduled high was 85 in 1968 and 1969.

Daylight games will be continued largely to weekends, with the only mid-week afternoon games following Opening Day scheduled for April 18, April 17, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1—which is also the final day of the American League season, to be followed by East-West playoffs. The weekend daylight play will embrace 12 Sundays and 11 Saturdays, with one other Saturday game to be played at night against the Minnesota Twins Aug. 1. The first night game of the season is set for May 6 against the Twins, the final night game for Sept. 29 against the Indians.

BASKETBALL

Friday

Plymouth at Bentley
St. Agatha at Lourdes
St. James at Sorrows
Bishop Borgess at Pontiac Catholic
John Glenn at North Farmington
Farmington at Walled Lake
Churchill at Waterford Mott
Belleville at Redford Union
Clarenceville at Brighton
Shaler at Garden City West
Garden City East at Lutheran West
Franklin at Oak Park

Saturday

Redford Union at Thurston

Tuesday

St. Agatha at St. Francis de Sales
St. Rita at Our Lady of Sorrows
Bishop Borgess at Dearborn Sacred Heart
Southgate at Garden City West
Franklin at Edsel Ford

SWIMMING

Thursday

Bentley at Plymouth
Glenn at Inkster
Redford Union at Belleville
Churchill at Garden City West
Robichaud at Garden City East

Saturday

Suburban Relays at Redford Union

Tuesday

Garden City East at Annapolis
Bentley at Pontiac Northern
Farmington at Flat Rock
Garden City West at Franklin

WRESTLING

Thursday

North Farmington at Redford Union

Brighton at Clarenceville

Friday - Saturday

Garden City East Invitational

Tuesday

Walled Lake Western at Redford Union
Garden City East at Stevenson