

from our readers

# Rice principal calls 'controversy' on injustice

Editor:

There have been innuendoes, rumors and doubts cast of late concerning Brother Rice High School's athletic program and use of such alien words and phrases to us as "controversy sizes," "public boycott" and "athletic recruitment."

This undercurrent does an injustice and great harm to the reputation and spirit of a fine school, its more than 1,000 students, faculty, parents and friends of Brother Rice High School. It is on their behalf and that of the school that I should like to set the record straight.

In the sense that anyone connected with the school — be it pupil, parent, teacher or booster — who would recommend attending Brother Rice for its excellent educational and character-building capabilities, I would say, yes, that is recruitment.

If the term is used in relation to dollars or scholarships or other inducements to lure outstanding athletes to Brother Rice, then the answer is no. It does not now nor has it ever existed. I never will.

There is no need for recruitment. Brother Rice's scholastic and athletic achievements are ample attractions. About 95 percent of our boys go on to higher education, and the name of the school is well recognized when it comes to considering college scholastic and athletic scholarships.

The main criteria for enrollment is an entrance examination, and each fall we have so many applicants that re-

grettably we must turn away 400-500 boys.

The only financial assistance a boy might receive is towards his tuition in the event of his father's death. The Dads' Club will assist so the youngster may continue in school, but that is only if the surviving guardian has a definite need and consents to assistance.

Before we open our regular parochial league football season, Brother Rice traditionally plays three Class A public schools. For the upcoming season, we have had a number of invitations received in what some call a boycott because they feel they can't compete against Brother Rice and that we have an unfair advantage. They point out the advantage is in the fact that as a private school, we have no restrictions on our enrollment boundaries while the public schools are limited to enrollment within their districts.

That there is an advantage is certainly true. It has always been so. We are a private school and as such may draw from all over the area. At the same time, the "disadvantages" include payment of tuition and lower coaching staff salaries.

Some suggest that we be included in a league for private schools only. That would be regrettable because it would limit competition.

Maybe the rules need revamping. Brother Rice High School would be most happy to assist in determining an equitable and fair solution.

It was not my intent to defend Brother Rice High School because it

needs no defense of its reputation or integrity. I just wanted to present our side of the story.

BROTHER JOSEPH A. GRIMALDI, C.E.C.  
Principal  
Brother Rice High School

## Exasperated parent

Editor:

I am exasperated! And let me tell you why...

I am the mother of two students in the Birmingham School District. Both children participate in a variety of sports. They enjoy the programs from a developmental standpoint, both in learning skills and social growth. Sports ideals should foster a positive attitude at all times. Personally, their experiences have been good. That is until...

On Mondays and Thursdays we all look forward to receiving our Eccentric and always check to see the reporting on our school teams — all of them. It is an interest of the family to see how all our teams at any time of the year are progressing. It was with horror several weeks ago that I read your article about a basketball game. I hope the coach or an administrator at Lakher High School called you personally with displeasure. Let me refresh your memory.

It was not my intent to defend Brother Rice High School because it

can beat," was the lead sentence. What a dreadful statement! How wonderful was the team victory for the coach and the boys, but how destructive those nine words were to their self-confidence. In Monday's paper, there was an article about the Groves-Lathrup (basketball) game of last Friday, and the lead was again appalling: "What a blow-out." However true your reporter felt the outcome of the game was, his words did little but antagonize this reader.

We read your paper for its reporting, not editorials on its sports page; please save your editorials for the proper location on the proper page. As a parent (or any reader) I think it is absurd to consider such reporting to be of any value. It does nothing for the self-esteem of the students involved and can only be awkward for them as young men. Your reporter and your staff should be embarrassed!

We feel sports endeavors for our youth should be positive experiences, a way of learning lifelong habits of cooperation, participation, hard work, setting goals, showing enthusiasm and loyalty for school and teammates, developing skills and confidence. Your articles seem to want to destroy in nine or 10 words the very ideals coaches and athletes work year round to achieve.

I know there must be many, many other subscribers to the Eccentric who feel the same. Report, do not editorialize, at the expense of our super young

people. Let's applaud their efforts, not tear down their hard work. I think you owe the great kids an apology; you've really done a disservice to some immensely dedicated teams.

CAROL A. NORMAN  
Bloomfield Hills

## Graduate responds

Editor:

This is in response to your Jan. 29, 1981, articles regarding the "Brother Rice controversy." I am a 1966 graduate of Brother Rice, and I have previously coached for two years in the Bloomfield Hills school system. My biggest question is: What has become of the concern for quality and pride in education in the public schools? It appears as if the public school athletic directors in the Detroit area would much prefer mediocrity and socialism, rather than instilling a sense of pride and competitiveness in the students in their districts. Their attitudes appear to be: "If we can't beat Brother Rice, let's change the rules so that it will be mediocre, too."

I went to Brother Rice when it was a new school. That was when a winning season in any sport was considered a championship. Brother Rice basketball coach Bill Norton didn't have much talent to work with in those days, but he did instill in each of us a fierce desire to be the best at whatever we attempted, be it in athletics or life itself.

Brother Rice has developed successful academic and sports programs because of this great pride to be the best.

Never during those early years did Coach Norton avoid playing certain local public schools because they might be better than a Brother Rice team. Instead, he always brought in the best teams to play Brother Rice. In 1965, Pershing High School (with Spencer Haywood and Ralph Simpson) came to scrimmage the Rice basketball team that went 9-10 that year.

It is very sad to see such a defeatist attitude in today's public schools. How can today's public school students be taught a winning attitude when they are being influenced by coaches and athletic directors who would rather be mediocre than play and beat the best?

I am very proud to be a graduate of Brother Rice. It is not surprising to me at all that good quality athletes would rather go to Brother Rice. Why go to a public school with a "loser" attitude? Why not go with a winner?

DR. JAMES HURRELL  
Veterinarian  
Clarkston

Letters must be original copies and contain the signature and address of the sender. Please limit letters to 300 words.

## wrestling

Following are the Observer & Eccentric wrestling rankings as compiled by Bloomfield Hills Lakher coach Al Kehl. Coaches with additions, corrections or comments are encouraged to call Kehl at 625-1446 Sunday afternoons.

### OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC WRESTLING RANKINGS

98 pounds: 1. Mark Fine (Southfield); 2. Steve Brown (Troy); 3. Al Weissman (Andover); 4. Todd Snooks (Brother Rice); 5. Mike Groen (Lakher); 6. Jerry Danavan (North Farmington); 7. Allen Keyes (Troy Athens); 8. Bill Day (Cranbrook); 9. Kevin Dier (Farmington).

105 pounds: 1. Pete Cuffe (Brother Rice); 2. Scott Panser (West Bloomfield); 3. Pat Cosgrove (Avondale); 4. Bill Raymer (Troy Athens); 5. Mark Reiser (Lathrup); 6. Gerry Leato (Andover); 7. Bill McDonald (Rochester); 8. Mickey Lowe (Troy); 9. Steve Wilkins (Adams).

112 pounds: 1. Dave Denny (Farmington); 2. Druex Nelson (Brother Rice); 3. Craig Yeston (Lakher); 4. Andy Tucker (West Bloomfield); 5. Dan Frank (Lathrup); 6. Bill Harris (Rochester); 7. Mary McDonald (Andover); 8. Bob Kider (Avondale); 9. Keith Kilmer (North Farmington); 10. Pat Schutte (Adams).

119 pounds: 1. Chris Parent (Lathrup); 2. Dave Stone (Southfield); 3. Tom Shaza (Avondale); 4. Roger Pendry (Troy); 5. Dave Segala (Lakher); 6. Paul Randall (West Bloomfield); 7. Matt Alcantara (Farmington); 8. Dave Ricey (Rochester); 9. Ken Berman (Detroit Country Day); 10. Mike Huber (Adams); 11. Mark Majors (North Farmington); 12. Tony Elder (Brother Rice); 13. Craig Turk (Andover).

126 pounds: 1. Tim Berry (Seasholm); 2. Curt Coughlin (Athens); 3. Bill Anglin (Farmington); 4. Matt Mittelstadt (Andover); 5. Brian Grant (Adams); 6. Jim Ricey (Rochester); 7. Andy Jammo (Southfield-Lathrup); 8. Paul Mecher (Lakher); 9. Alex Brannan (Brother Rice); 10. Deith Wadde (Country Day).

132 pounds: 1. Mark Denny (Farmington); 2. Paul Otter (North Farmington); 3. Allen Weiner (Lathrup); 4. Phil Biland (Avondale); 5. Kerry Gordon (Adams); 6. Marty Maskil (Rochester); 7. Don Gully (Farmington); 8. Darl Leason (Troy); 9. Tony Nolan (Seasholm); 10. Brian Tracy (Groves); 11. Paul Culley (Southfield).

138 pounds: 1. Bob Petrillo (West Bloomfield); 2. Marc Kornmesser (Country Day); 3. Ed Dabko (Lathrup); 4. Joe DeRohman (Southfield); 5. Matt Venica (Adams); 6. Jerome Malczewski (Brother Rice); 7. Jack Binder (Cranbrook); 8. John Dumas (Lakher); 9. Paul Swoboda (Seasholm); 10. Tony Bolden (Adams).

145 pounds: 1. Bob Cushing (Farmington); 2. Mike Thompson (Adams); 3. Ed Carpenter (Rochester); 4. Mark Bartman (Farmington); 5. Dave Kayak (Brother Rice); 6. Ken Campbell (Avondale); 7. Eric Johnson (Seasholm).

155 pounds: 1. Barry Bausano (West Bloomfield); 2. Bill Fagan (Adams); 3. Phil Bolice (Rochester); 4. Pete Stouffer (Avondale); 5. Jim Caverly (Brother Rice); 6. Jim Scully (North Farmington); 7. Ed Chase (Lathrup); 8. Steve Leigh (Adams); 9. Kevin Keyes (Athens); 10. Dan Steberg (Country Day).

## Swim coach needed

The Beechwood age-group swim club of Troy is searching for a coach.

Beechwood will swim in the class A bracket of the Northwest Suburban Swim League (NSSL) this summer. The club will swim against such established teams as Bloomfield Surf, Rochester Heart of the Hills and Farmington Glen.

Beechwood advanced to the upper bracket after winning the Class B division last year with an undefeated record.

Anyone interested in the coaching position should contact Diane Stockard (649-0052) or Chris Wiltse (649-3075).

### CURLING CLUB TOURNEY

How would you like to witness a bonspiel? Or would you like to know what a bonspiel is before making your decision?

If you're a curler, this isn't news to you — but for you non-curlers, a bonspiel is Scottish for curling match.

Your chance to see one arrives this weekend at the Detroit Curling Club's fourth annual Champion Spark-Spiel men's bonspiel tournament, sponsored by the Detroit Ceramic Division of the Champion Spark Plug Co.

Six U.S. rinks from Midland, Detroit and Birmingham plus 13 Canadian teams from Toronto, London, Woodstock, Chatham, Sarnia and Windsor will compete from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday.

Sunday's rounds start at 9 a.m. with winners advancing to the finals at 4 p.m.

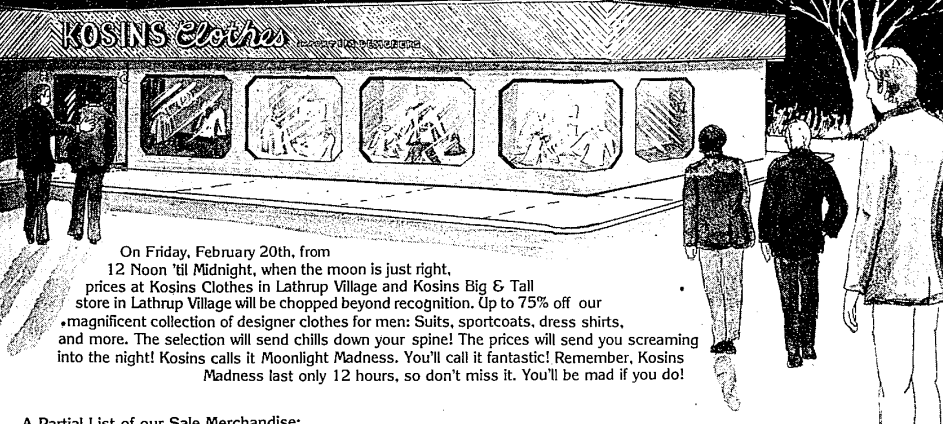
There's no admission charge for bonspiel aficionados who turn up at the Detroit Curling Club at 5600 Drake Road in West Bloomfield.

For further information, call 661-2850.

ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20th, FROM NOON 'TIL MIDNIGHT,

# KOSINS PRESENTS AN EVENING OF MADNESS!

SAVE 50-75%  
DURING THEIR MOONLIGHT MADNESS SALE



On Friday, February 20th, from 12 Noon 'til Midnight, when the moon is just right, prices at Kosins Clothes in Lathrup Village and Kosins Big & Tall store in Lathrup Village will be chopped beyond recognition. Up to 75% off our magnificent collection of designer clothes for men: Suits, sportcoats, dress shirts, and more. The selection will send chills down your spine! The prices will send you screaming into the night! Kosins calls it Moonlight Madness. You'll call it fantastic! Remember, Kosins Madness last only 12 hours, so don't miss it. You'll be mad if you do!

A Partial List of our Sale Merchandise:

Designer <b>Shoes</b> Values to \$145 Now <b>\$39</b>	British Manor <b>Suits</b> Reg. \$295 Now <b>\$139</b>	Imported <b>Neckwear</b> Values to \$20 Now <b>3 for \$10</b>	Italian Designer <b>Overcoats</b> Values to \$295 Now <b>\$98</b>	Designer <b>Sportcoats</b> Values to \$245 Now <b>\$79</b>
Cashmere & Lambs Wool <b>Sweaters</b> Reg. \$75 Now <b>\$19</b>	Imported Designer Collection <b>3 piece suits</b> Reg. \$375 Now <b>\$169</b>	Designer <b>Dress Shirts</b> Values to \$60 Now <b>\$14</b>	Imported Designer <b>Sport Shirts</b> Values to \$45 Now <b>\$12</b>	Cassini "Down Style" <b>Jackets</b> Reg. \$95 Now <b>\$39</b>

Alterations at cost. Not all Merchandise available at Kosins Big & Tall.

Special Sale Hours:  
Friday, February 20th,  
from noon 'til midnight  
Kosins Uptown & Big & Tall Stores will be closed 'til Noon on Friday to prepare for its Fantastic Moonlight Madness Sale!

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