observing sports

So what happens now to Denny McLain?
What happens to the Tigers?
What happens to baseball?
The developments of the past week have rocked our national pastime more than anything else since, perhaps, the Black Sox (Chicago White Sox) scandal over 50 years ago.
Baseball, of course, bounced back. So did the Chisox. The players involved for the most part suffered heavily. Few played agaim... in the majors.
It's to be hoped that again baseball will show its might, although we now have radio and television and the Jumbo Jet which spreads the McLain story faster than anything that existed when the Black Sox rumpus evolved.
There's no enestion the Tigers will suffer with-

rumpus evolved.

There's no question the Tigers will suffer without McLain. You can't take away their best pitcher...perhaps, the best pitcher in present baseball, without difficulties setting in:

Besides, the impact of what's transpired in the McLain case undoubtedly will joit the team tremendously... at least in the immediate future.

Besides, the impact of what's transpired in the McLain case undoubtedly will jolt the team tremendously... at least in the immediate future.

AND. DENNY?

I frankly feel sorry for the guy. I can't say I knew Denny that well. But we have known each other well enough so that we chatted many a time before a Tiger game in the clubhouse as he sat there alongside his old pal from Livonia; Joe Sparma. Sparma, like McLain, won't be around the Tiger clubhouse this seasoh. Sparma's story is different. He's been traded to Montreal after some lean days with the Tigers.

As for McLain, well, in my book it's the old story of a young man being misdirected....and some-body taking advantage of him.

Sure, you can say anybody who's over 21... and Denny is... should know better. But that's not the way life is.

There are those when just 18 who can handle personal situations far better than a 25 or a 35-year-old. We've all known such cases.

Denny has been just too nice a guy from everything I've heard about him. And, that's a major reason why he's in the jam he is in today.

He obviously did what he shouldn't have...if the statement issued by Baseball Commissioner Bowle Kuhn was accurate: Khn delivered his indefinite suspension ruling, based on what McLain said, and not what the Commissioner read in a magazine or the newspapers.

There's this to be said, too: under the law of the

suspension ruling, based on what McLain said, and not what the Commissioner read in a magazine or the newspapers.

There's this to be said, too: under the law of the lad, one is innocent until proved otherwise.

Lets capitalize the word "PROVED."

NOBODY HAS PROVED anything yet in the courts about what Denny did. So, it's to be welcomed that the Commissioner inserted "indefinite" into his sentence against McLain.

This could mean a matter of weeks, a year, two years...for life...as far as McLain's suspension is concerned.

Hopefully, it won't be permanent but

concerned. Hopefully, it won't be permanent, but everybody I've lalked to figures that it'll be at least for a $RU\ To\ Host$ Meantime, there's little else for McLain to say

year.

Meantime, there's little else for McLain to say than: "I'm sorry."
All of us have heard that before, especially those of us with youngsters in the household.
The kids pall off they retailate: "I'm sorry."
But, maybe there'd be less need for the kids to get themselves into such situations, fi, in many instances, adults didn this datumatage of them. I sit here are standout schoolboy athletes. How many times have I noted in this column how mangers of sandot baseball teams have literally tricked preps into accepting awards contrary to the state-schoolboy rules.
You have situations in many of our college recruiting programs. There are regulations set by a league like the Big Ten or even the overlooking MCAA.

league like the Big Ten or even the overlooking NCAA.
Yet, in desperation to get a certain standout, a college goes beyond the rules...goes under the table, as it were, in dishing out special considerations.
Do you call this good and the right approach?
Certainly, it isn't. In the long run, a lot of people suf-

fer.
SO, NOW WE GET BACK to Denny McLain.
He was too smart for his own good, obviously.
People with ill motives in mind could see that. So

People with ill motives in mind could see that. So they pounced upon Denny.
Where does all the fault lie?
It could be in our system of education. It could be in the way we as parents treat our youngsters. The way we handle them.
Goodness knows, we tend to spoil them rotten at times. We try to be too nice.
Hopefully, the doors of baseball will again soon for McLain.
And when they do, I'll bet you that Denny will be a different guy. He'll have learned the hard way how to handle himself financially...how to treat people...how not to fall to the whims of so-called goodnatured guys who have madness in their hearts.
In the meantime, that corner in the Tiger clubhouse where Denny and Joe Sparma used to sit side by side won't be the same any more.
And maybe the Tigers won't be the same either.



MERLE NORMAN COSMETIC STUDIO

595 FOREST • PLYMOUTH • 455-9110 Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Sunday and Menday

It's Official! West Repeats As Cage King

Once more it's Garden City West, the champs of the Tri River League in basketball. A year 'sago West won the laurels with a 13-1 crown. Now with a game left on Friday night, they've locked up the 1989-70 flag with a 13-0 confer-ence mark.

A fourth period rush won for West, 74-60, over Crestwood and settled the league title.

It marked the 19th straight win over two seasons for West in regular-season action. In the period, the only loss came in the 1969 state regionals.

CRESTWOOD CAUSED
West more problems than the
Garden City cagers expected.

It was 44-41 for Crestwood late in the third period and the

Prep Standings



Suburban 6 Swim Meet

The Suburban Six League swimming meet is scheduled Thursday and Friday, March 5 and 6 in the Redford Union High School Pool, according to Howard A. Kraft, RU Athletic Director.

Preliminaries are set for Preliminaries are set for Tursday afternoon, with diving scheduled to begin at 1 pm. and swimming events to begin at 4 p.m. The final competition will start Friday evening at 1:30 p.m. "It's going to be a very close meet between Treaton, Alten Park. and Plymouth," Kraft predicted. Admission will be 50 cents for students and 75 cents for students and 75 cents for students and 75 cents for shalls in nualifying session and

for students and 75 cents for adults in qualifying session and \$1 and \$1.25 at the champion-

1-2 Punch Fails For Schoolcraft

Auburn Hills turned in a 97-91 basketball victory over Schoolcraft College. The one-two punch of Tom Carron and Hopkins wasn't enough for Schoolcraft. Carron had 39 points and Hopkins 24.

Then with the chips down, West proved why it's a champ. A 28-14 uprising in the last period left Crestwood gasping for air at the finish.

While Dennis Leszynski drilled in 12 points in the final eight minutes, Rick Drewitz gave West domination off both the offensive and defensive boards to turn the tide.

Leszynski, plagued by early foul trouble, had 20 points while Drewitz again took indi-vidual honors with 33, along with 21 rebounds.

Drewitz had the hot hand in the first half when West took a 35-31 lead. But West felt back in the third period as Dan Rus-seau paced Crewstwood. He finished with 23 points.

Borgess

Team Bows In Runaway

Bishop Borgess' basketball LaSalle in a non-league game Friday as DeLaSalle stormed to a 94-62 victory.

DeLaSalle took a 23-13 lead after one quarter, made it 48-33 at the half and coasted in.

Ray Sobocinski scored 18 points and Mark Quay 14 for the losers. John Bernard had 27 for the winners.

Hot' Wayne Blitz Nip Churchill

It was a case of hot shooting against cool shooting as Wayne High's basketball team romped past Churchill, 76-46.

The winners fired em in at a clip of 45% from the field. Churchill managed to make only 22% of its attempts.

Wayne rolled to a 23-9 lead in the first quarter, led by a 36-16 score at the half and 49-33 margin at the three quarter marker.

Merrill Collins and Jim Green had 15 points each for Wayne. Collins notched 12 of his points in the first quarter.

Bruce Van Wagoner had nine points and Pat Welch eight for Churchill.

DODGE DART

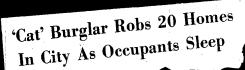
\$50 Down

\$ 79 36 per month for 36 months

Just Call 421-5700 come to your home

CRESTWOOD!



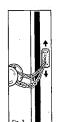


PROTECT YOUR HOME AND LOVED ONES WITH AMERICAN'S "SECURITY" ACCESSORIES!



OUTDOOR LIGHT CONTROL

\$**6**²⁵



JAX DOOR KNOB

CHAIN DOOR GUARD

Protects your home or business for so-little ...easy to install!

\$105

RITE-LITE LIGHT CONTROL

only \$625

TRAVELOK for Home or Away

Use on doors, drawers, cabinets. Take it with you on a trip. For hotel, motel, locker, garage, on desk or bureau, even on medicine or liquor cabinet. Fits purse or pocket.

1970

I price 12326.48, including taxes and 1970 Licensontes. Brand new! Never yen! Financed at 5% with toal annual rate of 11.08%.

DODGE

CHAIN DOR-LOC

only \$398

CHAIN DOOR GUARD

only \$249

WIND-O-LOK for Metal Windows

Positive locking prevents accidental opening by children. Snap on installation can't be forced. Updayou ventilate with security . . . yet protects against forced opening.

only 85°

NOW THAT YOUR HOME IS SAFE . . . LET'S FIX IT UP!

only \$4.99

LUMBER DEPT.

Also To Plumbing To Electrical Supplies



Our Farmers Almanac says, "Time to give Mother Nature a hand!"

New Fertilizer! New Polyform Process! **NEW! SUPER**

TURF BUILDER

NOW! SAVE **\$ 100**

10,000 Sq. Ft. Bag Reg. \$14.95 NOW \$12.95 5,000 Sq. Fr. Bag Reg. \$7.95, NOW \$6.95 SAVE \$100

Scotts Super Türf Builder over the snow and let it melt in! Our Almanac says you'll see the big difference!

SCOTTS SALE ENDS FEB. 28



HALTS PLUS SAVE

00

5,000 Sq. Ft. Bag Reg \$14.95, NOW \$12.95

PRICED LESS THAN



WINDSOR GRASS SEED 100

2500 SQ. FT. SIZE

FREE!

FARMERS

ALMANAC

Just for

the asking!

HARDWARE & SUPPLY CO.

You'll love shopping American style

Open Dally, 8-6 Sat, 8-5:30, Sun. 10-4