

'Queen' Title Eludes Ann Again

By W.W. EDGAR

Now, another season is fast drawing to a close and it is the time when there's some one in front of her again.

For years Ann Setlock, instructor at Garden Lanes, has dreamed of the day when she would establish the top average in the metropolitan area, be crowned the "Bowling Queen" and collect all the other honors that come with the title.

Year after year she has battled valiantly to reach the top—only to find that some one was just in front of her.

No matter how she improved her game, the story was the same—she'd miss by the narrowest of margins. Several years ago she missed the goal by only several pins after 50 weeks of all-star competition.

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At the moment Elvira has a team average of 202, with 204 in the Bowlerettes and 200 in the Ladies Major. In contrast Ann has a 200 average in the Ladies Major and 191 in the Bowlerettes, giving her a 195. With only five weeks of the season remaining she has little chance of overtaking the reigning Queen.

BEING NAMED "Queen" is the only honor that has escaped Ann since she came to Detroit from Indiana, Pa., some years ago.

As a member of the Colonial Broach Team and later the Snetikam combination, she had the thrill of helping to win

the WTA (national) team championship.

She holds the all-time metropolitan Detroit high scoring record with 738 series bowled in the Bowlerettes League at Wurm's in 1953. That evening she put together games of 194, 277 and 267 to establish the record. Ironically, her closest rival is Elvira Toepler with a 732 bowled in 1953 at Motor Lanes.

Ann also was the state individual match game champion in 1959 and selected as a member of the All-City team in 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1962. No all-city teams have been selected since then.

Among her other honors Ann finished seventh in the world invitational in 1958, 10th in 1962

and 10th in the National All-Star at Omaha in 1960.

IN THE state she won the all-events crowns in 1963 and 1967, and was a member of the state match game champion team in 1959 and 1960. In the city she won the city all events in 1950 and 1963; captured the city singles in 1959 and shared the doubles in 1963.

Along with these achievements she won many other

honors in the CYO tournaments and has been an unheralded star for years.

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RUNNERUP AGAIN in the race for "Bowling Queen" is Ann Setlock, veteran area bowler. The crown goes to the feminine bowler with the highest aggregate average and Ann is second to Elvira Toepler this year. (Observer photo)

West Finally Focuses On Spring Sports

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Unbeaten in the regular season and the Tri Rivers League championship.

District and Regional chaps' Semifinalists in the state tourney.

But the show must go on and now West is turning to a full slate of spring sports with the trackman first to get started this week when they go to East Lansing Saturday for the Spartan Relays.

Basketball begins next week and the golf and tennis will follow in mid-April.

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Observing Sports

By GEORGE MASKIN

It's unfortunate that all is NOT peaceful on the state high school athletic front.

One easily could sense it when he sat face to face with Al Bush, director of the State High School Athletic Association, which governs prep sports in Michigan.

Or does it?

That seems to have become a burning question.

Time was when nobody disputed the Association.

In the era of the late Charlie Forsythe, the Association ruled with an iron hand. What was good for the big enrollment schools in Detroit, the suburbs, Grand Rapids and Flint was good for the small ones in Eau Claire, Kingsley, etc.

That very day the Friendly Free Press had carried a story about how legislators were threatening to get into the prep athletic act.

Somebody, it seems, had found some loopholes in the operations of the Association . . . that maybe it didn't have the power everybody thought it had . . . that the state superintendent of schools could change rulings (which he did), if he so desired after the Association had acted.

"WE HAVE SOME proposals suggested that could straighten out some of our current problems and headaches," declared Bush.

"It's just a shame that here and there you find people who don't want to go along with the rest . . . who feel they rate special privileges. You can't have that when you're running a mass program like we are in the state of Michigan."

So, what happens now?

Bush frankly didn't know.

"We'll have to wait and see," he added. "Maybe it'll work out the way it should . . . for the good of all the schools."

The irony of the situation is this: What the Association does has the backing of the school principals and the administrators.

It even has the support of most of the coaches, who through their own association in recent years have recommended several changes (like extended football practice and more basketball games) and approval has been forthcoming.

There can be no speedy or rash actions by the Association's Representative Council which, incidentally, includes Farmington's very capable Jack Cotton, who knows prep sports like nobody else in the business.

For a state association rule to become effective, it must get sanction first from the schools themselves and then must become part of the state's official law -- which takes a year to happen.

There were rulings that irritated some. A few on the journalistic beat (including one character named Maskin) would take some pot shots.

But, in general, and for the good of most athletes, most schools, most coaches and most fans, the State Association has always done a terrific job.

SUDDENLY THINGS have changed. A couple of recent situations involving eligibility for athletes in Detroit have stirred the pot, as it were.

Then, too, the decision by the Association to alter the format of future state basketball tournaments by turning them into four instead of three week events . . . by eliminating the big weekend for semifinals and finals at East Lansing-Lansing and altering the schedule so now the semis will be held one Saturday and the finals the next.

Little wonder, as Bush sat there reminiscing . . . recalling the "old" days when he coached in Dearborn and would write about his teams, he looked across the table with worried expression:

"Maybe, George, I'd be happier back in the classroom, teaching math again . . ."

WHAT OBVIOUSLY worries Al Bush is that if everytime the Association rules on one of the many frequent eligibility cases it, tackles, or some other matter, appeals will be made . . . will the structure of school sports as we know them now in Michigan survive on the same lofty level?

It's certainly a matter worth thinking about, before any of us gets too huffy about what's going on in Bush's headquarters across the street from the State Capitol.

As far as changing the setup for the state tournament in basketball (and we have criticized same), Bush explained:

"The tournament keeps growing bigger and bigger. We need more and more space to accommodate the fans."

"We feel that by scattering the semifinals we can permit more people to see the games in the semis."

He explained that next year the semifinals in both Class A and Class B would be held at Michigan State on a Saturday while the C and D semis would be held in different locales.

All the finals would be held the following week in the new Crisler Arena at the University of Michigan which can seat almost 4,000 more than MSU's Jenison Field House.

BUSH REALIZES that it might lead to extra travels. He knows that Upper Peninsula schools have sounded off because of a possible second trip below the Straits and threaten to boycott the state tournament.

My, what silly talk. They'll be there.

Pin Record Third Best

Second high score belongs to Elvira Toepler who rolled a 732 during the 1965-66 season in the Bowlerettes League at Motor Lanes.

With these two big series Miss Richardson high count has been relegated to third place.

No records for state competition are available, but it is believed that Ann Setlock's 738 is high in Michigan sanctioned competition.

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Ski Heil

By "BILL" CAMERON

That was a short two-week vacation, but another memorable one — a definite fracture.

The thought of all that light, powdery snow; those delightful five-mile long runs; the excellent French cuisine; the fresh unpolluted air; the congenial group of people traveling with us; and the six pounds I lost should keep me going for another year.

VAL D'ISERE and its sister village of Tignes still have to be rated one of the top ski areas in the world. The threat of avalanches hung over most of the ski resorts in Europe this year. We saw the best where 20 persons were killed when an avalanche came down the mountain, crossed the road, and crashed through the front doors and windows. It was a freak accident, to say the least. Business was reportedly off 40 per cent as a result. Fortunately we had five glorious days of sunshine — most of the time. Weather conditions this year were very unpredictable all over Europe. The sun might shine for several hours and then suddenly the shadows would disappear and a condition called "flat light" or "white act" would occur. A condition such as this would necessitate side-stepping and side-slipping down the mountain!

For those of you concerned about broken bones, we only had two broken ankles out of 300 people, and one we're not certain of a definite fracture.

We were short one passenger on our return flight. Without checking my roster of 140 people, I knew who it was. Remember in one of my preceding articles I mentioned the fellow who showed up at Metropolitan Airport without his passport? It was he!

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