

IN THE POCKET

By W.W. EDGAR

Ever so quietly there is a revolution taking place in bowling.

It started several years ago when the Professional Bowlers Association discarded team play and concentrated on head to head competition.

Such major events as the National Match Game Team Championships and the National Doubles were cast aside.

On the local scene the leagues retained their five-man format on the traditional lines of matching total pins. But even that format was changed last season when the All-Star Classic that once drew capacity attendance at the

various establishments was bowling almost in secret.

Something had to be done and the move was drastic.

Without sacrificing the total pin competition of both teams, they added individual match games and awarded a point for each game won by both the individuals and the teams.

Now, on the bowling front, comes another, and more daring, change in the format.

A group known as the Tri-County Proprietors League - Wayne - Macomb and Oakland - bowling on Sunday mornings has broken down each of the three league games in separate competition.

They start with a regular five man combination as of old. Then, in the second game, they split into two doubles teams with the fifth man sitting out, and close with man to man battling in the third game - all in point competition.

Thus far the league has had only three shifts, but the bowlers seem to like the change.

RON FOURNIER was top man in the Wonderland Classic with a 678, with Billy Mull in second place with 672 and Jack Currier third with 667.

Other high scores in the circuit included Allen Brass 660, Chuck Kuczyda 658, B.C. Nunney 655, Ed Dyles 654, Don Dentam 649, Chuck Stanley 644.

Gordon Cantwell's White Elephant team took team honors with a 3125 score.

In the Chevrolet circuit Don Leichtwas was high with a 678 and was followed by Dick Wood with 674 and Steve Kozar with 677.

Lois Merriman showed the way to the women with a 527-108-655.

IN THE TEEN Classic at Merril-Bowl Gary Allen outscored all rivals with 213-217-166-596. Closest to him was Marty Bacon with 219-206-155-580.

The Plymouth Newcomers got started at Plymouth Bowl and Tom Morse set the pace in the inaugural with 191-156-169-406. Karen Abgreca showed the way to the women with a 478.

Erv Watson's Cliff Tire team set two season marks at Bel-Aire with a 1102 game in a 325 series in the Senior House League.

Norm Strudzel was high with a 254 in 882 and Jerry Hay had a 276 in 677 to tie Howard Zaske for second place.

In the Businessmen's League Tom Kimjorski was the pacer with a 879. Harold Weckesser took high game with a 258.

AT FARMINGTON LANES where the high school bowlers hold forth each week Tim McKendry topped the main division with a 582.

In the Junior High Girls Mary Gzadzecy was high with 167 and Colleen Flynn was high among the prep girls with 167.

In the other divisions Brent Kennedy paced the Prep Boys with 184 and Kelly Harrington was high in the Peanut division with 140.



WILLIAM CRITCHER of Farmington Township shows the string of seven coho, averaging 15 pounds each, which he caught on a weekend fishing trip near Ludington.

Prep Schedule

SATURDAY

Plymouth at Farmington, 2 p.m.
Walled Lake Central at North Farmington, 2 p.m.
Churchill at Grosse Pointe South, 2 p.m.
Our Lady of Sorrows vs. Royal Oak St. Mary's at Royal Oak Dondro, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

Bishop Borgess vs. East Catholic at Jayne Field, Detroit, 2 p.m.

FRIDAY

Allen Park at Bentley, 8 p.m.
Redford Union at Trenton, 8 p.m.
Belleville at Plymouth, 8 p.m.
Farmington at Stevenson, 3:45 p.m.
Farmington Harrison at Galesburg-Augusta, 7:30 p.m.

Bishop Borgess vs. Aquinas at Shafer, 8 p.m.
Clarenceville at West Bloomfield, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY (Oct. 3)

Franklin at North Farmington, 2 p.m.
Glenn at Thurston, 2 p.m.
St. Agatha vs. St. Andrew at Hammburg Field, 2:30 p.m.

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WHILE LOW SCORING still was the order of the day at Wonderland, John Cox paced the Classic with a 694 and his team posted a 2099 series.

Bert Nort followed Cox with 681 while Vito Pitull added a 634, Bob Schon a 599 and Buzz Hansen had 694.

LYTLE JOHN SIETZ, a 10-year-old was the hero at Livonia Lanes. Carrying an average of 80 in the Kids Mixed League he banged out a 185 game.

Single game honors in the adults league went to Terry Donaldson of the Whirlwind League with a 223. Joe George and Dave Stuck tied for second at 213.

Schools Victors In X-Country Meets

Opsummer eighth for Stevenson.

Bentley triumphed over Thurston, 24-37, although Thurston's Basler was the individual winner with a 12:51 clocking.

George Munday of Bentley was second. Then came Thurston's Meredith, before Bentley took the next six spots with John Taddonio, Paul Bortell, John Boegler, John Thompson, Ken Dreyer and Paul Speaker. Jim Truesdale of Thurston was tenth.

Dennis Kuris finished first and Ian Burrell second as Churchill downed Crestwood, 24-32. Tony Wisniewski was fifth, Kevin O'Hagan seventh and Rich Kahn ninth for Churchill.

Spartans Take League Opener

Stevenson High's cross country team downed Waterford Township, 25-25, in an Inter-Lakes Conference opening meet.

After Waterford took the first two individual places, Stevenson captured the rest six in a row. Wayne Ananain, Bill Locker, Mike Opsummer, Paul Walchski, Pat Opsummer and Greg Wilson finished in that order.

Chris Danielson, of Waterford, was the individual winner in 13:06.

observing sports

Maybe it depends on which part of Oberverland you're in.

In some areas the high school football coaches have no complaints about the numbers who turned out for their teams this season.

In others, like Stevenson and North Farmington, in particular, the squad totals are disturbing.

The coaches are puzzled. Or are they?

Some express mystification on why turnouts are down, not only in football, but for the other major sports, like baseball, basketball and track.

"Why should it be that way?" said one coach. "You'd think that the boys would be more anxious than ever to play sports these days."

YET ANOTHER COACH puts it bluntly:

"The day when every kid who was out for a sport team in his school was an athletic hero has vanished. Somehow, you're a hero when you engage in other activities... some of them off beat." Still another coach groaned:

"It's requires work to be an athlete. A lot of kids gave me the impression they weren't interested in the extra four hours of early football this fall. So they stayed away."

Over at another school, a coach said:

"There's no question about it: The kids seem to have found other interests."

Operating an auto has knocked many boys out of football, according to one coach.

"It's expense as well any auto owner knows," the coach said. "Many parents have made it possible for their sons to have their own cars, with a couple of stipulations - pay the insurance and all the other expenses like gas."

"So, to make money, a kid must work. Which is fine... except that when he works there's no time to play on

athletic teams and still maintain decent grades in school."

Yet, as stated at the outset, the drop in player turnouts doesn't exist everywhere.

AT FRANKLIN the interest hasn't slackened. The same holds in the Garden City schools. Nor has there been any complaints around Southfield High, Southfield Lathrup, Brother Rice and Birmingham Groves.

"It seems to run in cycles," one coach explained. "We have a bad class one year, but then the next we have one that more than makes up for it."

Sports enthusiasm and participation down?

"Hardly," came the strong voice from another sector. "We have as many out, if not more, than usual."

"Maybe it's the approach of a certain coach which has some affect on the turnout," said one member of the profession said. "Certain coaches are known as tough guys and hard drivers. The word gets around. The kids figure they can find something better to do."

Regardless of which way you see things - on the subject of boys turning out - the overall schoolboy athletic program in these parts never had it any better.

Of the 23 high schools in Oberverland, virtually everyone has a COMPLETE sports program.

By "complete," they sponsor teams in football, cross country, swimming, basketball, wrestling, baseball, track, golf, tennis, skiing and row some even have added skiing and ice-hockey.

If there weren't enough boys coming out, well, somebody would make certain that the teams were knocked out, considering how money-conscious the school administrators are these days.

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Squirrel Luck Fair

Generally good fishing reports and a fair hunting report came last week from the Pontiac district office of the State Natural Resources Dept.

Pontiac Lake was still yielding good black bass, and Maceday Lake was still producing Lake trout, although with cooler weather the trout have moved out of the deeper water.

"Crappies were hitting minnows at night on Maceday,

which is northeast of Pontiac Lake in Oakland County.

One squirrel hunter in the Pontiac district reported, Squirrel season began Sept. 15.

Rifle ranges have been busy in the Pontiac Lake, Pontiac Lake and Bald Mountain state recreation areas. Gunners who need more time to sight-in their firearms were advised to use the ranges on weekdays.

W. Suburban Jr. Football

SATURDAY

Ypsilanti at Livonia Orioles, 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

(All games at 1 p.m.)

Northville at AA Junior Wolverines

GC Panthers at Plymouth Lions (Plymouth High)

Homus Flyers at Livonia Eagles (Bentley High)

Livonia Falcons at Westland Meteors (John Glenn High)

Westland Rockets at Livonia Cardinals (Stevenson High)

Livonia Hawks at Eden Heights Cubs (Crestwood High)

Westland Jets at Livonia Blue Jays (Franklin High)

Belleville Cougars at GC Tigers (GC East High)

Farmington High's cross country team made it six straight without a loss by crushing Walled Lake Central, 18-41.

John Donahoe, Nick Burton, and Kim Hildebrandt led a one, two, three sweep for the Falcons. Donahoe's winning time was 12:51.

Kim Jaske placed fifth and Kevin Rylance seventh for the winners.