'91 will bring more highlights

HERE COMES 1991, and looking ahead to the new year I can predict plenty of great high-scoring action around town.

Who will shoot the next 300 game? Which teams will take the league championships?

There will be tournament winners and several human interest stories.

But before we get into 1991, let's take a look back at some highlights of 1990.

January: Harry Hunter cannot see the pins or the lanes either. That's because he bowls in the blind league every Saturday at Garden Lanes in Garden City. Along with Elmer and Mae Kapp of Plymouth, Florence Cunningham of Redford, Dick Krause of Westland, Carol Gildenkirk of Westland and Pauline Brandenberger of Livonia, they all have a good time.

Livonia bowler Dawn DeVitis was the first-place finisher in the U.S. Open Amateur qualifying. She did so with a 765 series in the Thunderbowl Ladies Classic League.

Feburary: Redford's Jon Reed fired consecutive 300 games in the Michigan Bell Men's League at the West Bloomfield Lanes. He had a string of 28 strikes in a row.

March: Oak Lanes in Westland expanded by adding 16 new lanes.

Cass Sicilia announced his retirement as executive director of the bowling centers after 20 years of service. Scott Bennett stepped in to serve in that capacity.

April: There was hot scoring in the State Youth Championships at Drakeshire Lanes in Farmington Hills.

Mark Alexander scored 625 with games of 245, 250 and 290. Tamika Glenn shot a 240-240-255 and Julie Wright of Farmington had a 270 game.

The Michigan Cancer Foundation held its Fourth Annual bowling benefit at Plum Hollow Lanes in Southfield.

May: This was the banquet and awards month. (Where to put that new trophy?)

Dana Miller-Mackie won the U.S. Open for the Ladies Pro Tour at the Satellite Bowl. She also became an honorary citizen of Livonia.

10-pin alley

Al Harrison

GHBA awards of service honored yours truly at the annual meeting.

June: Summer leagues are in full swing.

Wonderland Lanes in Livonia has new owners, Ken and Sue Bashara.

Franko's Bar team wins the "Champions of Champions" tournament with a team total of 3,468.

Lawn Bowling in the great outdoors at the Westland Lawn Bowling Club was a subject of a column.

Woodland Lanes in Livonia held its second annual Children's Hospital bowling party and tournament, complete with a disc jockey and refreshments. Proceeds benefitted Children's Hospital.

July: The Michigan-Ohio rivalry continues with the Michigan vs. Ohio youth bowlers at Plum Hollow Lanes in Southfield for the annual competition between the top YABA bowlers. Unfortunately, the Buckeyes won this time.

August: The usual league meetings were held to get ready for the start of the 1990-91 season.

Many of the local houses were offering "Good Old Days" bowling and snacks at bargain prices to welcome back the regular bowlers and introduce the sport to people who want to give it a try.

September: The Detroit Bowling Council selects new members for the Hall of Fame.

The inductees are: Harry Campbell, Terry Grant, Margaret Lewis, Bob Kwiecien, Jim Bennett, Ron Seibel and Judge Richard Maher.

October: Redford's Pam Morgan shot a set of 244-269-244 in the "Over and Under" mixed league at Merri Bowl in Livonia.

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation had its annual Bowl for Breath event to generate funds for the cause.

Gary Nikkila didn't even have to roll a ball. He just filled out the right coupon in winning the $10,000 prize in Bowling For The Fun Of It.

Terry O'Neill of Southfield took home first-place money in the Mid-States Masters at the Avon Recreation Center in Rochester Hills.

November: Bruce Falcon of Rochester Hills made the collegiate all-star team.

The Miller Genuine Draft "Cold Patrol" gals were taking photos at Merri Bowl for the benefit of the Cerebral Palsy organization.

Tamika Glenn of Farmington won the girls division of the MJMA in Midland.

Fred Ramirez got his 300 game in the Ford Wixom League at Drakeshire Lanes in Farmington Hills.

The Old-Timers tournament took place at the Thunderbowl with yours truly coming in second.

Story of the year: Paul Koenig bowls a 300 game for his friend, Bill Stewart, who had passed away. Stewart's wife had asked Koenig to bowl in his place in the Our Lady of Sorrows League and then told him to "bowl a 300 game for him", and he did just that!

Cheryl Slipek of Woodland Lanes in Livonia won a trip to Reno, Nev., to compete in the Cambridge Pro-Am tournament.

December: Butch Clark rolls the first 300 game in the Sunday Youth Classic Travel League at Drakeshire.

James Pierce, 60, of Garden City hits 300 at Mayflower Lanes in Redford.

Mayflower Lanes is red hot as Butch Cook shoots 300 in the Monday Keglers, followed by Joseph Park's perfect game in the Thursday Men's League.

Santa arrived on the night of the 24th, and I sure hope he brought along a few new bowling balls, bags and shoes and just maybe a few more strikes for all the bowlers out there in Observerland.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

Country Lanes (Farmington Hills): Jim Jamieson, 289/759, Lee Snow, 256/722, Ed Wright, 242/608, Tom Gow, 245/652, Chuck O'Rourke, 237/652, Bill Pierzyk, 223/634, Bob Mertz, 225/600, Jack Gattrell, 244/662, Kathe Stanye, 211, Barb Turner, 203, Debbie VanMeter, 203, Bob Christensen, 203, Maxine Franklin, 209, Helen Supron, 202, Gloria Mertz, 214, Carol Gattrell, 232

Jewish War Veterans League — Milton Burg, 226, Leonard Mondrow, 207, Albert Fagerson, 205, Michael Gersten, 205, Jerome Manchel, 205, Steve Haberman, 203, Michael Rosenfeld, 203, Marvin Epstein, 202, Irving Segal, 202, Mark Goldman, 256/619, Carl Berke, 233, Joey Silver, 232, Arnold Weiss, 229, Marvin Rosen, 223, Keith Rosen, 218, Edward Burg, 213, Bernard Harwood, 202

Five Seven Monday Men's League — Ron Mathours, 268/733, Sam Sciberras, 696, Kevin Heikkinen, 276/689, Stan Malberger, 266/625

Country Lanes Ladies Classic — Sherry Feltner, 287/686, Joan Schmid, 243, Sharon Derr, 222/609, Tina Schasfers, 231/623, Debbie VanMeter, 220/627, Carol Bidwell, 231

Country Keglers — Keith Brandenthal, 257/711, Dennis Harris, 267/660, Mark Howes, 264, Jerry Heath, 245

Merri Bowl (Livonia): Nottingham Mixed League — Marie Bartoszek, 241/616, Ron Bartoszek, 249/235/678, Denise Haning, 206, Karen Matthys, 406, Ron Bendrey, 219, Paul Lemieux 231

Men's Senior House League — Kevin Banksdale, 265/692, John Hutchinson, 297/727, Bob Campbell, 249/654, John Brynjelson, 238/663, Rich Iannetta, 246/653, Jim McPhail Jr., 246/693, Ed Mackey, 246/665, Paul Hutchinson, 259/688, Pat Fraser, 257/668, DJ Archer, 226/651, Bob Duman, 239/661

St Gens Men's League — Jim Johnson, 267

Saturday Bumper Bowlers — Ricky Sanlieu, 69, Megan Drost, 119, Bobby Sturdy, 103, Lenita Meeker, 105, Sarah Ellenbogt, 74, Anthony Stidfiel, 92, Andrew Ouellette, 88, Alex Medina, 111, Derek Parsons, 96, Matthew Tanski, 89, Kelly Hudden, 93

Redford Lanes (Redford Twp.) West Side Lutheran League — Ken Lavendo, 606, Mike Faith, 601

Woodland Lanes (Livonia) Men's Trio — Pat Chartrand, 268/717, Dave Nurwick, 728, John Dumsky, 709

Senior House League — Greg Wegard, 694, Ken Smoltz, 675

West Chicago — Walt "Dike" Oylland, 245/664

Thursday Men's League — Kurt Donnelly, 278, Rich Skorupski, 717, Lou Nelson, 254

Kellogg topples S'craft

By C.J. Risak
staff writer

Six weeks ago, the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team opened its season with a 108-95 win over Kellogg CC. Maybe the memory of that win stayed with the Ocelots a bit too long. In Friday's opener of the Battle Creek Tournament, host-team Kellogg CC thrashed SC 106-93.

"We didn't play well, period," summed up SC coach Dave Bogataj. "The time off (during Christmas) hurt us. They played aggressively; we didn't. They outrebounded us really bad."

On the offensive boards, in particular, Bogataj was unhappy with his team's performance. Kellogg had a 13-6 advantage. His team's shooting didn't impress him, either.

"There were too many easy shots that we missed," he said. "That cost us."

NOTABLY AT the start, Randy Watters missed his first five shots, Kwesi McGill was 0-for-4 and Harry Quayle failed on three straight. Still, SC bounced back to pull to within 44-43 at the half.

That's when Watters took command. He didn't stay cold for long, scoring 13 first-half points. After missing his first five he connected on 17-of-20, scoring 30 points in the second half and finishing with 43 for the game.

McGill also rebounded from his slow start, scoring 16 points while filling in for point guard Lynell Collins, who missed the game because of the flu. Mitch Fyke netted 12 points and Quayle had 11 points and nine rebounds.

Antone Spearman led Kellogg with 31 points. Osburn Darrough connected on six three-pointers and scored 24 points. And Hosea Barnes added 17.

Kellogg (6-10 overall) lost to Henry Ford CC in the championship game, while SC got a 17-footer from Quayle at the buzzer to edge Glen Oaks CC 96-95 in Saturday's consolation final.

THE OCELOTS (now 7-6) started quickly, going up 15-2 early, and were still ahead 57-50 at the half. With 2:00 to play, Glen Oaks had trimmed the deficit to five, connecting on eight-straight free throws in the last 10 minutes.

The final two free throws, by Jeff Ferguson, with :12 left put Glen Oaks in front 95-94. After an SC timeout, Glen Oaks strategy became evident: deny Watters and McGill (who scored 30 against Glen Oaks early this season) the ball. Both were double-teammed, so the pass went to Fyke, who found Quayle alone at the free throw line.

Quayle hit the game-winner to tie his season-high for points — :21. Watters led SC with 25, Fyke had 18, Dave Hamilton had 14 and McGill finished with 14 and nine assists. Fred Ferguson topped Glen Oaks (7-9) with 22; Scott Miller had 21, Jeff Ferguson 17 and Kardel Gimess 12.

SC resumes its Eastern Conference schedule at Alpena Saturday.

Shorians shoot down Shamrocks

By C.J. Risak
staff writer

Wanted: One moderately adept point guard. Good defender. Shooting ability a plus, but not required. Send resume to Bernie Holowicki, basketball coach, Redford Catholic Central.

Well, why not? Holowicki has tried just about everything else. Everybody else, too. On Friday, it was Bob Kummer's turn to bring the ball down court. Kummer, you might recall, started as a sophomore for CC last year — at center.

Against Saint Clair Shores Lake Shore, Kummer should have stayed at center. Examine the scoring summary and the obvious conclusion would be the difference in the game, which the visiting Shorians won 65-57, was Matt Trombley: 31 points overall, 16 in the fourth quarter.

Hard to argue with that. But put the guy Trombley shares the team captainship with — point guard Ryan Conlan — in CC's backcourt, and the Shamrocks would have won. Easily.

CONLAN DIDN'T score all that much — 12 points. But he took care of the ball against CC's pressure — (Lake Shore only committed 10 turnovers in the game) and got the ball to Trombley. That was the difference.

As Holowicki noted after the loss, the Shamrocks' third in a row (2-3 record), the problems at point guard "continue. They're getting worse.

basketball

"We've tried. We've tried so many different things and combinations. I know Bobby's playing out of position."

Problem was, Lake Shore coach Greg Esler knew it to. The Shorians (3-2) pressured Kummer from the start and never let up. In the first quarter he had the ball stolen three times and committed four turnovers. CC lost the ball seven times in the period and was fortunate to be trailing just 13-12.

"We took advantage of (Kummer)," said Esler. "We knew Kummer is a great player, but we thought we could pressure him."

STILL, LAKE SHORE continuously failed to take advantage of its first-half opportunities. Missed shots (11-of-27 in the half, 41 percent) and missed free throws (six-of-11, 54 percent), together with CC's superior inside game, kept the contest close through the second and third quarters (29-27 at half, 43-39 after three).

The Shamrocks' chance to take command of the game came midway through the third quarter. Trombley was whistled for his third personal foul with 4:50 left in the period, and the Shorians — ahead 40-35 — went into a shell. For 4:43, they did not score a point; they committed four turnovers in that span.

And yet, CC couldn't catch them. The Shamrocks scored just four points, missing two-of-four free throws. Conlan got three points for Lake Shore in the last minute to push its lead back to four.

Trombley did the rest. He was averaging 26 points a game entering the contest, but CC limited him to just eight in the first half. A short talk with his coach between halves got him going.

"I got him at halftime and told him I thought he was playing soft inside," said Esler. "He came out and played great in the second half. He's a gamer."

INDEED. TROMBLEY had scored seven points before drawing his third foul in the third quarter. In the fourth, he simply could not be stopped, inside or outside. When Kummer was called for his fourth foul with 4:15 left, Trombley attacked.

"We said the ball's going inside, and it did," said Esler. "When Kummer got his fourth, (Trombley) went to work on him."

Eight more points went on the board, courtesy of the 6-foot-4 senior center, before the game ended. CC did make a run, thanks to freshman Chris Chichila's six points and five apiece from sophomore Bob Schneider and Kummer. Schneider's three-pointer with 3:31 left tied it at 55.

But Lake Shore outscored the Shamrocks 10-2 the rest of the way. Chichila led CC with 16 points; Kummer had 14 and Schneider finished with nine.

St. Joe's nips Oakland

A three-point play by Mike Kosky with five seconds left provided St. Joseph's College (Rensselaer, Ind.) with the winning margin in its 75-73 triumph over host Oakland University in the final of the Oakland Holiday Classic Saturday.

Kosky's game-winning points came after the Pumas (now 4-4) broke the Pioneers' pressure, resulting in a two-on-one break. Kosky got the ball from teammate Damone White, powered past OU's Anthony Soule for a layup and was fouled; he converted the free throw to increase St. Joe's lead to two.

OU's Eric Taylor got a shot off at the buzzer, but his 27-footer missed. Just moments earlier, Taylor — who finished with 29 points — had given the Pioneers a 73-72 lead with :15 left, sinking a 16-footer.

It was a back-and-forth struggle throughout the second half. An 8-0 streak put OU up 59-50 with 10:30 left. However, before the run ended, Taylor picked up his fourth personal foul and went to the bench.

THAT HELPED ignite a 9-0 Puma run, tying the score at 59-all with 5:27 left. Neither team had much of an advantage the rest of the way; in the final 2:30 there were seven lead changes.

OU (now 4-6) led 36-35 at the half.

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