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**COLD OUTSIDE** but warm as toast inside for thoroughbred racegoers who dine in the new clubhouse at the Detroit Race Course and watch the races at the same time. This is what the diners see in the winner's circle after completion of an event. The horses report in front of the stands to the stewards and the winner (near scales) goes into the circle to receive the accolades of the crowd.

## Plymouth Is Ready For Big Spring Program

It'll be getaway day for Plymouth High's baseball and track teams on April 13. That is, if the weather man co-operates.

The baseball team is booked for a game against Franklin on opening day and then will play Ypsilanti and Northville on the succeeding afternoons.

The track team is slated to meet Northville in its first meet.

Golf and tennis opens for the Rocks will follow on April 19 and 20, respectively.

Wayne Sparkman again will coach the baseball team with Jim Stevens in charge of tennis, Joe Calhoun coaching track and athletic director John Sandman leading the golf team.

The Plymouth spring schedules:

**BASEBALL**  
April 13-Franklin, 14-at Ypsilanti, 15-at Northville, 19-Battle, 22-at Bentley, 28-Trenton, 29-at Redford Union, 30-Allen Park, 6-at Belleville, 10-Bentley, 13-at Trenton, 17-Redford Union, 20-at Allen Park, 29-state tournament.

**TRACK**  
April 13-at Northville, 20-at Belleville, 22-at Bentley, 29-Trenton, May: 1-Observers relays, 4-at Farmington Harrison, 6-at Redford Union, 11-Allen Park, 15-Regional, 19-League meet at Belleville, 22-State meet.

**TENNIS**  
April 20-Trenton, 22-at Bentley, 27-at Allen Park, 29-Eden Ford, 4-Bentley, 6-at Churchill, 11-at Trenton, 17-Ann Arbor, 18-Allen Park, 21-22-Regionals, 25-League meet at Plymouth.  
June: 6-State finals.

**GOLF**  
April 16-Belleville, 20-Fordson, 22-at Bentley, 24-Brighton, 28-Trenton, 29-at Redford Union, May: 3-Allen Park, 6-at Belleville, 10-at Trenton, 14-Regional, 17-League meet at Redford Union, 20-Henry Ford, 24-at Thurston, 27-Dearborn, June: 7-at Northville.

### Howe Receives Award

High honors came to Mark Howe, of Lathrup, Saturday night.

The son of the great Gordie Howe of the Red Wings was named the most valuable player in the Southern Ontario Hockey Association.

He and brother Marty were named on the league's all-star team in leading the Junior Wings into the playoff finals against Guelph.

Mark also was named on junior hockey's All-American earlier this winter.

The Junior Wings fell behind in the playoffs to Guelph when beaten Saturday, 5-3.

### IN THE POCKET

By W.W. EDGAR

In the men's whirlwind league Lenny Elandt was high man with a 248 in 624. High single game honors went to Bill Eggenberger with 257 and Joe Kozlowsky landed in third place with 218.

Carol Kimmer and Helen Thiel shared honors in the Queen Bees league.

Carol had a high game of 205, while Helen had a 204 in 519 to take high series.

MARY MOHACSI, one time queen of Detroit bowlers, gained another honor during the past week when she was named "Woman Bowler of the Month" at Merri-Bowl.

She posted a 630 to gain the honor while Don Donahoe won the men's monthly honor with a 715 series.

NORMAN MOSS, a teenager, gave his elders something to think about at Oak Park Lands when he registered a 723 series - and narrowly missed a perfect game.

He opened with 203, followed with 222 and then posted a string of 11 strikes before leaving up a two pin spare for 298 and the 723.

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## Rouge Coach Steals Tournery Spotlight

By GEORGE MASKIN  
Observer Sports Editor

Observations from the finals of the 1971 state high school basketball tournament:

There's no question - there are two factions any time the finals roll around. It's the Detroit area vs. the outside, which explains why Flint Northern drew most of the cheers throughout the game while upsetting Detroit Kettering, 79-78, for the Class A title.

Not that Northern didn't deserve the bouquets. The Flint team was more poised and handled itself far better in the clutch.

Which, in the long run, is what counts.

But why should the outsiders constantly begrudge the Detroit area its deserved share of honors?

It's always been that way...and probably never will change.

THE BIG STORY of the finals, was River Rouge and Coach Lofton Greene.

The Panthers took the Class B title for the third straight time and made it 11 titles in 18 years, a mark no other school can match.

For Greene it was his 500th career victory and that, too, is a mark which stands well out parallel in the state's prep coaching ranks.

This wasn't the greatest Rouge team. But it was typical of those that Greene has turned out. With the pressure on and the chips down, Rouge was equal to the occasion.

And, for the player of the finals, who else but Rouge's Al Boswell?

THERE WAS NO question that the new Crisler Arena at the University of Michigan met with the approval of all who turned out for the four game final day.

With no affront to Michigan State's Jenison Field House, long the home of the state's prep finals - and where they'll be again next March - the Crisler Arena is far more ideal for basketball. There's not a bad seat in the arena, or an uncomfortable one.

But it would still appear that steps should be taken to eliminate the playing of four games in one day.

It's just not necessary and, perhaps, was reflected in the fact that many didn't stick around for the Class A game even though they had purchased the tickets in advance.

After all, there's only so much basketball or baseball or hockey anybody can take in one day!

As suggested in last Wednesday's Observer, why not two games Friday night and two more Saturday?

Another thought? Can't the prep finals be arranged to avoid conflicting with the NCAA title games? Many seemed to prefer to find a TV and see how UCLA was doing.

Orchids to the other state champs: Shelby and Covert.

But for the Detroit-area brigade, these games seemed to lack lustre with no teams from the big city getting very far in the tournery this year.

IT WAS A GRAND gesture to permit officials of the State High School Athletic Association to pass out the title trophies.

Jack Cotton, of Farmington schools, is the president of the association and to Cotton went the honor of handing out the Class A trophy.

And, what about the red-faced Observer sports editor who hit only 50-50 on his final day predictions. Thanks to Rouge and Covert for making us look good!

Coach-of-the-year in Michigan? How could the Swami overlook Lofton Greene?

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