

Vacation For Some, Not Prep Sports

For most students this is a week of vacation.

For those, however, who are seeking to represent their high schools in varsity sports competition this spring, it's a week of hard work.

There are a scattering of games in baseball and competition in track, golf and tennis on the week's docket. But in the main, the preps

will spend most their time practicing for the start of league championship play next week.

NO LESS THAN 17 games are on next Monday's baseball docket as all schools open their title drives.

The track, golf and tennis teams will start their league quests Monday or Tuesday.

Most schools contest in track on Tuesday to avoid head-on collisions with the baseball teams.

The spring lineup for league honors remains unchanged from the fall and winter competition.

Bentley, Redford Union and Plymouth will carry the area's hopes in the Suburban Six League.

In the Northwest Suburban League, it'll be John Glenn, Groves, North Farmington, Livonia Franklin and Thurston.

Farmington, Southfield Lathrup and Livonia Stevenson will be in the race for honors in the Inter-Lakes Conference while Farmington Harrison and Livonia Churchill are in the new

Western-Six League.

Garden City East and Garden City West again remain in their own leagues, East in Mid-Wayne and West in the Tri-Rivers while Southfield will shoot for title honors in the Southeastern Michigan Association.

There are four Catholic League schools in the area — Brother Rice and Bishop

Borgess in the First Division and Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Agatha in the Second Division.

THE SPRING sports schedule is in a sense a jam session.

Whereas football teams play once a week and basketball teams usually average just over one game per week,

many baseball teams play from three to four games each week.

Track teams participate in two or three meets each week while tennis and golf teams have big schedules, since it's just as easy to play another school as it is to go out and practice.

Weather poses a big problem for the spring teams. More often and spot, baseball teams often wind up playing four and five games in a row because of rainouts or postponements.

The tuneups for the start of league action present some interesting baseball play this week.

Thurston and Redford Union perennial rivals in Redford Township, are booked to meet Thursday at Redford at the same time Stevenson goes to Bentley in an all-Livonia battle and East meets West in a doubleheader for the Garden City championship.

On Friday, Farmington's new Harrison high goes against "oldtimer" Farmington and at the same time Southfield Lathrup takes on Rochester in a doubleheader. In track, several schools plan to invade Mansfield, Ohio, for the annual relays which attract the finest prep trackmen in the Midwest.

The relays are carded Friday and Saturday.

BOUNCING AROUND the various baseball leagues, here's how the experts shape up the Observers' teams.

SUBURBAN SIX — Could bet Redford Union or Plymouth will dislodge Bentley as champ.

NORTHWEST — Watch out for Franklin and Thurston.

INTER-LAKES — Southfield Lathrup has a veteran team which could cause some trouble. There's always Livonia Stevenson, which has a knack of coming up with a winner.

SOUTHEASTERN — Southfield doesn't appear to have the depth to contest for the flag.

WESTERN SIX — Waterford, Mo't heavily favored again, but Churchill is improving and Farmington Harrison may make rivals feel its sting.

TRI-RIVERS and MID-WAYNE: There's a good chance Garden City West will make a strong run while Garden City East again has power to go places.

CATHOLIC LEAGUE: Brother Rice and Our Lady of Sorrows have the best chances to ring the bell.

State Opens 3 Streams To Anglers

LANSING — Michigan anglers are reminded by the Department of Natural Resources that they may fish for steelhead, brown trout, lake trout, and salmon in the East Branch of the Au Gres River and Black River on the Lake Huron side of the state and in Luce County's Blind Sucker River which flows into Lake Superior.

The three rivers were inadvertently left off the DNR's list of about 100 Great Lakes streams which are open to action on these fish during the early spring and late fall.



FAST BALL coming up and Pitcher Mark Miller, of Thurston High, is on his way to his first victory of the high school baseball season. An unidentified Bentley batter takes a firm grip but he still missed the opening pitch of the year. That's the umpire with his huge protector at the right. Thurston started off with a 7-1 triumph. (Photo by Tom Donoghue).

State Sets Schedule For Baseball Tourney

The format of Michigan's first state high school baseball tournament is set.

Long encouraged by prep coaches — including all in the Observersland area — the state tourney will begin on May 29 with pre-district play, then continue with the districts on June 5, the regionals on June 12 and the finals on June 19.

The tourney will follow the pattern of the long successful basketball meet.

Teams will be split into four classes and vie for titles according to their enrollments.

SIXTY-FOUR SITES will host district meets, one of which is Southfield with Ed Bryant, the school's athletic director, in charge.

It is expected that other Observersland teams will play Belleville, Henry Ford in Detroit and possibly in Berkeley in Class A, Madison

Heights in Class B and Dearborn in Class C.

The pre-district play will serve to cut down the fields for the district proper and schools may play such games between May 17-27 to set up the qualifying for the districts.

The ultimate district winners will advance to the regionals and Southfield also has been awarded a Class A regional tournament.

The "A" winners from four

regionals will advance to the state final tournament at Wyandotte while the Class B title will be staged at Battle Creek, the Class C at Marshall and the Class D at Mt. Pleasant.

MANY OF THE regulations which have been used in the Livonia Les Anders Invitational in recent years have been adopted for the state tournament.

These include:
1 — A pitcher is limited to 10 innings of work in each tournament phase, starting with the districts. In short, one pitcher can't carry a team to the state title.
2 — All protests must be settled immediately before the next pitch.
3 — Only those students who were eligible on the last day of the semester will be eligible to continue into the state tourney. (In many locations, the tourney won't begin until after school has been closed.)
4 — The 10-run rule will be in effect. The game shall end after five innings if a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its time at bat.
5 — If a game has to be halted before completion, because of weather, etc., it'll be resumed from the same point as soon as possible.

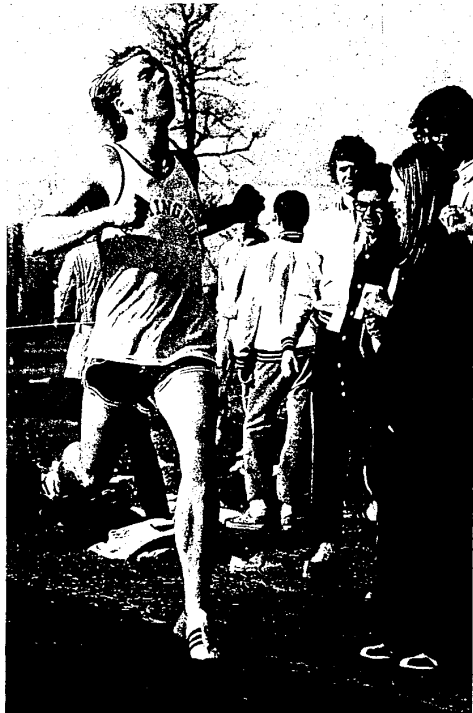
The state rules specify no night games are to be played.

1,000 Coaches Will Attend Grid Clinic

ANN ARBOR — More than 1,000 high school coaches are expected to attend the third annual University of Michigan Football Clinic April 16-17.

Michigan Coach Bo Schembechler and his staff have included 10 lecture sessions, a field practice and a Wolverine scrimmage game in the free clinic. About 1,100 high school coaches attended the two-day clinic last year.

The program opens with a Michigan practice session 4 p.m. Friday, April 16, in Michigan Stadium with registration of coaches scheduled for 5 p.m. in Crisler Arena. Schembechler's entire staff will participate in the clinic.



SNAPPING TAPE for an easy victory in the 880-yard run in the season's first triangular meet at Farmington is Kim Hildebrandt, of the Falcons. He was clocked in a fast 1:59.2 to demonstrate that he'll be heard from in major competition later in the season. (Photo by Tom Donoghue)

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F 78-15	4 for \$148.60	4 for \$100.00	\$48.60	\$2.62
G 78-14	4 for \$161.80	4 for \$110.00	\$51.80	\$2.69
G 78-15	4 for \$161.80	4 for \$110.00	\$51.80	\$2.80
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