

# Trapnell Captures Badminton Title

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Sports Editor



Wednesday, March 28, 1973 Page \*\*18  
observer newspapers

Badminton is defined by Webster as a game in which a feathered cork is batted back and forth with light rackets across a net by opposing players or pairs of players.

Thurston High's 18-year-old Pat Trapnell does just this, batting a feathered cork across a net.

But Trapnell just happens to do it better than any other junior in the country.

The Thurston High senior captured the United States Junior Badminton Championship in the 18 and under singles, defeating No. 1 seeded Ron Beck of California in the national finals held at Cranbrook Institute.

Farmington's 14-year-old Paul Rogind also won national acclaim as he and his doubles partner, Jean Miller of Buffalo, N.Y., defeated Creighton VanHorn and Robbie Hanks in the finals of the 15 and under boys' doubles.

Two other area youths, Chris Saxton (13) of Plymouth and Erik Rogind (17) of Farmington fell in early rounds of competition at Cranbrook, host of the 27th Junior Nationals.

Smashing the "birdie" around the badminton court is nothing new to Trapnell. The new singles champion picked up a badminton and tennis racket at the age of 10 and has excelled in both sports.

At the age of 13, Trapnell won the national title in his class in the boys' doubles and mixed doubles. At 15, he was national runner-up in the singles and doubles and last year lost in the singles quarter-finals and in the national doubles semi-finals.

Trapnell has won the Midwest Singles and Doubles title, the 18 and under bracket the last two years, the Ohio Open Men's Tourney in Cleveland and the Mott Tourney in Flint.

Pat was not even seeded for this year's nationals but this didn't bother the Thurston student as he won four straight matches to capture the national championship.

In the first round, Trapnell trounced Mike Kelly of California, 15-10 and 15-11.

Second round action saw Pat blitz California's Gilmour 15-4, but then fall 15-13, before taking honors in a close 18-15 affair.

Then came the semi-finals against No. 2 seeded Pete Steinbroner of California. Pat won the match handily, 15-6 and 15-13.

First seeded and heavily favored Ron Beck moved into the national finale against Trapnell and upended the Thurston senior in the first game, 17-4.

But Pat regained the composure he was showing throughout the tourney and rebounded with 15-8 and 15-9 victories to claim the 18 and under national crown.

Trapnell thus won a \$250 college scholarship offered by General Sportscraft Co., and gets his trip paid for to the Senior Nationals to be held in Conn. April 12-15.

Westwood Tennis and Badminton Club is the home stomping ground for the 18 year-old racketeer who is No. 1 in tennis in the 18 and under class in Southeast Michigan.

Trapnell is also eyeing the state championship in prep tennis this spring.

Robbie Hanks, 15-11, but came on to win the next two games, 15-10 and 15-2 to win the national championship.

"Badminton and tennis are both my sport," said Trapnell. "It's all tennis in Owens of Warren, Mich. in the summer and all badminton in the winter."

Pat combined with Joe Rath of Detroit in the boys' doubles in the national at Cranbrook but fell to Bib Gilmour and Mike Kelly of California in the quarter-finals, 17-14 and 15-8.

Trapnell and Yggilianti of Pat Tryon of Delaware, 15-11 Barbie Bell were defeated in the mixed doubles semi-finals against Mike Kelly and Sara Thabes of California, 18-16 and 15-4.

Paul Rogind of Farmington, who last year won the National Boys' single championship in the 13 and under bracket, lost in the semi-finals of the 15 and under class to Matt Fogarty of Mass., 15-5 and 15-10.

But the 14 year old Rogind bounced back in the boys' doubles with teammate Gene Miller of Buffalo, N.Y.

Rogind and Miller lost the first game to Washington's of New York, 17-14, 11-15 and Creighton VanHorn and 15-6.

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NATIONAL JUNIOR CHAMPION — Thurston High's Pat Trapnell captured the 18 and under boys' single championship in the Badminton Nationals held at Cranbrook Institute. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)



Someone had best do a little revamping into the operations of the Farmington Little League Baseball program.

It seems like only yesterday we were discussing the parent's "ego extension" role in hockey and here we are into baseball.

Danny Connolly is 12 years old, hoping and wishing to play Little League baseball in Farmington. But Danny is faced with a dilemma he doesn't quite understand. It is going to cost him \$120 to play baseball this year.

That's right, \$120. The history of the \$120 starts in the spring of '71. One of Danny's older brothers, Timmy, was trying out for a Colt League team for 13 and 15 year olds.

Tim saved \$25 during the winter to pay for the registration and at the second practice was hit in the head with a ball. The family doctor ordered him to sit out the season.

So Timmy hung up the spikes for the year and went to the baseball officers to get his \$25 back and return his uniform.

But Farmington Commissioner for boys baseball Bob Rounds said there was no way Tim was going to get his money back. Tim, remembering how hard he had worked for that \$25, said he was going to keep the uniform until he could get the \$25.

So the uniform has sat neatly folded in Tim's bedroom for almost two years now. But a bit of discrimination has now hit the Farmington Baseball Program.

## Smelt Season Opens Early

Despite Michigan's recent snow storm, the 1973 smelting season opened early on all Great Lakes streams. The Dept. of Natural Resources moved the opening ahead because of reports that heavy smelt runs had already started surging into the St. Clair River near Port Huron.

## Trackmen Off And Running This Weekend

It's that time again! Get set for all the relays, dashes, runs, hurdles, jumps, vaults, and pites.

The '73 prep track season explodes from the blocks this Saturday, (March 31) at the Huron Relays at Eastern Michigan University with more than 80 high schools in competition.

Eleven Observerland high schools will be journeying to EMU for the day long meet.

The oldest Class A record for the Huron Relays is held by Farmington's Rex Cawley who clocked in at 27.8 in the 65 yard high hurdles in '59.

Cawley then went on to win an Olympic gold medal in the '64 Olympics in Japan.

prepping for the May 19 state meet in Lansing. Monday's dual action pits St. Agatha at Divine Child with four meets slated for Tuesday.

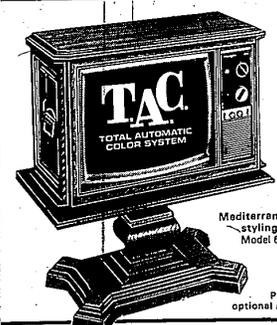
Garden City East is at Bentley, Farmington at Walled Lake Western, Walled Lake Central is at Farmington Harrison, and Wayne High is hosting a triangular with John Glenn and Cherry Hill.

Heavily favored Stevenson moves into action Wednesday with a home dual against Edsel Ford with Thurston on tap Thursday. The Thursday meet at Stevenson should be a real sampling of the top two teams in the area.

Other Thursday competition has Clarenceville at Garden City East, Allen Park at Plymouth, Franklin at Churchill, Redford Union at Trenton and Bentley at Belleville.

St. Agatha is at Bishop Foley Friday, April 6, with the first week wrap-up being Saturday, April 7, with the Michigan State University Spartan Relays.

# Magnavox .of.the MONTH

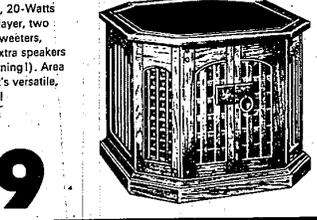


Here are some timely buys that bring you great entertainment pleasure at modest cost! So why not enjoy the look... the performance... and the reliability of a Magnavox? It might even make Spring seem just a little closer!

## 19" diagonal T.A.C. Color Table Model

Innovative in design... exceptional in performance, this outstanding Magnavox will automatically bring you perfectly-tuned, color right pictures on every channel, every time! And, it has a Matrix picture tube for far better picture contrast and far more brightness than offered by conventional tubes. Available in Contemporary, Early American, and Mediterranean styles. All magnificent!

Magnavox Drum Table Stereo: FM/AM Radio, 20-Watts IHF Music Power (5% THD), Automatic Record Player, two High-Efficiency 10" Bass Woofers plus four 3 1/2" Tweeters, built-in 4-Channel Decoder (all you need is two extra speakers... and you'll experience a new dimension in listening!). Area for record storage and optional tape accessories. It's versatile, functional and beautiful. Truly a stereo in disguise!



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QUAN.	DESCRIPTION	
1	18" DIAGONAL PORTABLE COLOR T.V. (W.A.F.T.)	\$299
2	CONSOLE STEREO RADIO, PHONO (WALNUT)	\$178
4	CONSOLE STEREO RADIO, PHONO (PECAN)	\$277

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