

A Hockey Glance Over The Ocean

I guess the extra long lunch breaks can still be as informative as a hidden "mike" on the pitcher's mound in the ninth inning with two outs and the

Bob Griffin, local sporting goods dealer, had just-returned from a 12 day tour to Stockholm. Finland and Leningrad, Russia so I figured it was about time for one of those "extra long lunch breaks."

I couldn't, have asked for three hours of more interesting straight talk from a man who is doing so much for sports in Livonia.

Koho Hockey Sitck Co. in Forssa, Finland invited dealers from the United States and Canada to be its guests and observe hockey across the ocean and of course to look at its equipment.

"I was just tremendously impressed with the hockey facilities overseas," said Griffin. "And all players are treated like national heroes."

Bob's greatest thrill had to be the opportunity to

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Bob's greatest thrill had to be the opportunity to get behind the Iron Curtain.

"We stayed in Leningrad two days and what a feeling of uneasiness for us," he said. "But we had the chance to see the Russian national team play Finland at the Yubilevnv Ice Palace which seats about 12,000.

about 12,000."

At this time Bob shuffled over some colorful post cards of the palace which looked like something out of a Disneyland picture book.

"I couldn't get over how clean it was and of course there is no parking problem because there are hardly any cars.

"Here it was, two national teams playing and the people just didn't seem to show any emotion. They acted like they were all in limbo or something.

"The Russians appeared intense but they sure didn't display it.

"The Russians appeared intense but they sure didn't display it.

"Except for when they scored a goal, they would all stand up and applaud and sit back down.

"The amazing thing I found was that before you got to your seat, there was a booth with a girl where you checked your coat. There was one of these for about every 100 people. So about some 12,000 people check their coats before entering the arena to watch the game.

Check then closed services the game.

"Could you imagine checking your coat to watch a game at Olympia? You have a hard enough time keeping it with you when it's on your back.
"There are no vendors in the Russian arena. with a small amount of refreshments sold in the corridors but nothing of an alcoholic nature," added Rob.

party after a victory that never came.

Sight-seeing was on a limited basis, with the guests told of a radius that they were not to cross so Griffin concentrated on the activities around the ice

ornin.

"The people are so intent on watching the game

- there's just no other 'mickey mouse' stuff going
on. You go to a game to observe and that's just the

Bob saw Russia beat Sweden, 5-1, and Finland

6-2.

"Now right across the border the entire situation was just the opposite," said Griffin.

"Everything was colorful in Finland. People are hockey crazy and aren't afraid to show it. Little even walk around with Boston Bruins jerseys."

Prep Schedule

Thurston at Stevenson Allen Park at Plymouth RU at Trenton Clarenceville at GC East

FRIDAY
St. Agatha at Bishop Fole

SATURDAY Spartan Relays at MSU

U-D vs Borgess at GC East
TUESDAY
Leithrup, Wil. Western at Fan
Tranton at Bentley
Plymouth at Redford Union
Harrison at ThrustonRobichaud at Churchill
St. Agatha at St. Clement

TENNIS

TUESDAY

BASEBALL

WEDNESDAY Bentley at Thurston BC West at John Glenn Bouthfield Lathrup at Ferndak

THURSDAY
Churchill at Bentley
John Glenn at Cherry Hill
AA Ploneer at Plymouth

FRIDAY

SATURDAY
Wayne at John Glenn (2)

Wayne at John Glenn (2)

MONDAY
St. Agaths at Redford St. Mary
Franklin at Bentley
Borgess at St. Clement
Highland Park at Churchill
RU at Farmington
WL Western at N. Fermington
Southfield at Madison
Lathrup at Kimball

TUESDAY

TUESDAT

Edsel Ford at Bentley
Borgess at Thurston |
Waterford at Harrison
GC West at GC East
Crestwood at John Glenn
Plymouth at Dearborn
Believille at RU
Berkley at Southfield Lathrup

THURSDAY
John Glenn at Cherry Hill
MONDAY
Thurston at Blahop Borges
GC East at Romulus GC West at John Glenn Thurston at Southfield Edsel Ford at Bentley

GIRLS' TRACK TRACK

THURSDAY MONDAY
Bentley at Thurston

Bentley Baseballers Upend Andover, 9-4

No sooner had Bob Wasi-lewski taken off his ice skates than it was time to skip on the baseball spikes and make Bentley High and Wasilewski a winner again.

The Buildog junior was selected to the All-Observer booker lineur scoring 22 scored four times on five hits and also made three errors.

The Bulldog junior was se-lected to the All-Observer hockey lineup, scoring 22 goals and 19 assists, and was picked most valuable player in the George Gee suburban tournament.

With a quick change of uniforms. Wasilevald cracked and to no home runs. Adoubt host and a single, collected five runs hatted in, and scored three himself to account for eight of Bentley's tallies in the Bulldogs' opening base-ball rout over Bloomfield Hills Andover, 9-4.

"Bob has to be and is the best ballplayer I have ever coached in my nine years at Bentley," said Buildog menstor Marty Klořík, whose squad finished \$-9 in the Sub-

Since this seems to be the week for baseball gripes, I wonder if I may sound off a bit. Sports Editor: Since this se

While others are com-plaining about not getting their favorite man on the all-area first team, we are con-cerned about our kid not even getting a chance to play on the high school baseball team!

All winter, the boys have been looking forward to play-ing in the spring. They know the game – play if very well – have not missed a single practice session as the hard nosed coach insisted, having no consideration for boys at-tending driver's training classes and yet they were cut from the team.

One of my sons has a case full of trophies, played on tournament teams ever since he started in the Little League. He can play any position well including pitching and the coach has the nerve to tell us the boy is not qualified to play.

If the man was honest with us and admitted he had to make room on the team for friends of friends and favorites from his football team, I would admire his honesty but I cannot accept his decision on the basis that our boys are not good enough.

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fied to play.

My Kid Didn't Politics At Have A Chance! Franklin?

Klozik utilized 20 of his 24 players in the seven inning contest in preparation for a run at title.

Bentley plays at Thurston this afternoon (Wednesday), hosts i Churchill tomorrow (Thursday) and entertains Franklin on Monday (April 9) before its Eight opener with Edsel Ford on Tuesday (April 10) on the Bulldog dia-mond

Doug Macklon singled and stole second and third. Brent Boegler followed with a walk and stole second.

LETTERS to Sports Editor

SPORTS EDITOR:

I thought that story you ran about the Farmington boy was very good, and should ishow the greed that goes on, as well as politics in sports today. But this brings another story that has recently ioccurred at Franklin High School.

This is in regards to an incident involving reserve basketball Coach Tom Niemi. Principal David Amerman, and varsity Coach Bob Visser.

and varsity coats asser.

Mr. Niemi was fired, I think very unjustly. Apparently from what I gather, Mr. Visser does not like Mr. Niemi, so he went to Mr. Amerman and got him respected.

SPORTS EDITOR

With one out, Wasilewski connected on a 310 foot drive over the left field wall for a three run home run, his first trip to the plate in 73.

The top of the third saw Wasilewski power another over the wall in left, this one a line shot down the third base line and Bentley was up 4-0.

Andover came back with one in the last of the third on a hit and two errors to make it 4-1 after three innings.

A walk to Dave Waldock and a double by Mark Newell made it 5-1 in the fourth with Andover scoring twice in bottom of the stanza on wo walks a hit and an error, to make it 5-3.

A two out double by Wasi-lewski and single by Bruce Boudnek pushed the margin to 6-3 after five.

Andover added another in

DAN OTTMAN

P.S. I realize that I am putting my neck out this case, but I think it ought to

case, bu be done.



BOB WASILEWSKI Smashes Two Home Runs

The Bulldogs completed heir offensive assault in the seventh with three tallies

Dan Cramb and Tom Duprey walked, Wasilewski collected a bunt single and with the infield pulled in, Boudnek lashed a single into right to score Cramb and Duprey with Wasilewski scampering around to score on a throwing mishap.

Klozik called on four of his hurlers in the opening clash of 73.

Boegler got the starting duty and picked up the win, retiring the six batters he faced all in a row. striking out one.

Dan Vizina followed with two innings of work, striking out three and Archie Welch worked the fifth when Ando-ver collected three of its five hits. center this year for Frank-lin? Niemi had them both be-fore Visser even got to them. So, if Mr. Niemi is fired, and it sticks, and he does not come back as head coach of the junior varsity next year, it will be a cold day in you know where before I watch another Franklin basketball game.

Duprey worked the final two innings for Bentley, striking out the side in the last of the seventh.

Wasilewski finished with a perfect afternoon, four for four, and Klozik couldn't have thought of a more per-fect way to start a new sea-

Swimmers Win

EDITOR'S NOTE: Franklin basketball Coach Bob Visser had no comment on the
stitution at Franklin but
Franklin Abbletto Director
Wall Cousins stated | that,
We here at Franklin field it
is wrong to discuss personnel
problems publicly. If someone wants to air it, fine, but
we at Franklin have nithing
to say." Michigan State frosh swimmers Glenn Disosway of Clarendon Hills, Ill., and Brice Wright of Birmingham, Mich., won sprint titles in the 1973 Big Ten championships. Disosway took the 50 freestyle in :21.48 and Wright the 100 freestyle in :46.56



Irate Farmington Parent justice had he won his championship again.

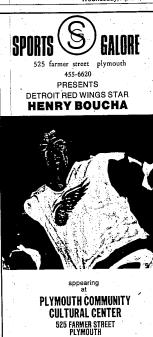
EDITOR'S NOTE: I am student in the squad their sons cut from the squad feel this way but one must remember that as an individual climbs, the steps become steeper and the competition tougher. Past trophies don't mean a thing. INFORMATION/RESERVATIONS ... GA 1-7170

Thank-You, Plymouth

Sports Editor:
A note of thanks to the many Plymouth people who have sent words of congratulations to us regarding Churchill's basketball season. Their thoughtfulness to us at this time reflects not only good manners but fine sportsmanship. It is with pride that we speak of teaching and have coached in Plymouth and it's nice to know that old friendships are still intact.

PAT & DIANE MONTAGANO Churchill Basketball Coach





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