All Area Teams Ousted in State Prep Cage Tourney

Michigan's high school basketball tournament swings merrily on this week with the regional phase of operation.

But, for the first time in over a decade, not a single team from the Livonia - Plymouth - Farmington-Redford Union area is still around.

All ten area teams went by the boards in last week's districts.

The foremost casualty was Bentley, a perennial district king. Bentley lost in its open start to Farmington.

Farmington, which had won district laurels in each of the previous three years, made the best showing of the area teams in the districts, winning twice before losing in the final on its home floor.

The only other team to manage a victory was Our Lady of Sorrows, which beat St. Agatha in the Class C district at U. of D. High. Sorrow$ fell in its next start.

Plymouth, Redford Union, Franklin, Thurston, North Farmington, Clarenceville, Bentley and St. Agatha all were first-round losers.

There is a Class A regional at Franklin this week as the battling goes on to determine qualifiers for next Wednesday's quarterfinals.

Many of the state's mighty teams . . . Benton Harbor, Hamtramck, Detroit Northwestern, etc., hauled off district crowns in Class A.

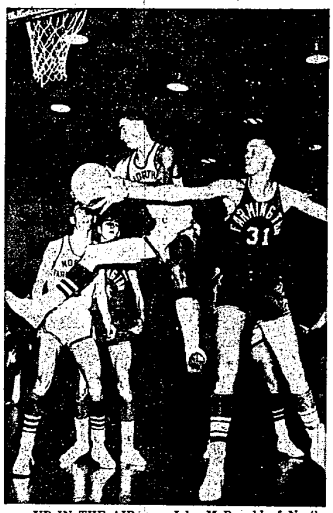
River Rouge, which dominates in Class B year after year, also came through with another district title.

The form in the lower classes also held up pretty well.

But for Greater Livonia area schools, the season is history.

The uniforms have been sent to the cleaners, the coaches can relax . . . and their athletes can think about reporting for a spring sports team.

The Observer
Sports News
Page 2-B ★ LFPR Wednesday, March 10, 1965



UP IN THE AIR goes John McDonald of North Farmington as he outrebounds Mike Ames of Farmington. Farmington came back in the contest to drown out their "brothers" in the districts held at Farmington.

Falcons Gain Finals Before Being Ousted

Farmington High's basketball team under the coaching of Jack Quiggle came within a whisker of winning its fourth straight district Class A title in the state tourney.

After pulling off upset wins over North Farmington and Redford Union, Farmington reached the end of the line in its own gym last Friday night when downed by Walled Lake, 47-41.

This was a Farmington team which during the long, regular season had won just four games. In the final Interlakes League standings, Farmington finished last.

But when the state play began, Farmington was ready.

"The kids really hustled," said Quiggle when it was all over Friday night. "I certainly was pleased with the way the boys played.

"I have no complaints."

The closest Farmington could come against Walled Lake was 44-41 in the final period.

In the last period, Walled Lake didn't make a single basket against the tight Farmington basket. All the Lakers could manage were four successful charity tosses.

But the damage on Farmington already had been inflicted. In the third period, Walled Lake outscored Farmington, 18-8, after the Lakers held only a 25-22 lead at halftime.

Sophmore Mike Ames drew high praise from Quiggle for his play in the tournament.

"The kid sure came fast," added the coach, "He'll help us a great deal in the next two years."

Roy Leach and Mike Wilson had nine each for the losers while John Olander chipped in with seven.

The trio of Jim Grant, Russ Streeter and John Huebler emerged as the big guns for Walled Lake. They scored 14, 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Walled Lake took a 12-10 lead at the end of the first period. In the second stanza, the Lakers tallied 13 to Farmington's 12.

Then came the fatal third quarter, as far as Farmington was concerned.

The Farmington box score:

Ames		H	F	P
Leach		5	2	12
Wilson		3	3	9
Habicht		3	3	9
Olander		1	0	2
Dorow		3	1	7
Miracle		0	2	2
TOTALS		0	0	1
Farmington	10	12	8	11—41
Walled Lake	12	13	18	4—47

Led by Olander

John Olander was the scoring star for Farmington in its 69-61 win over Redford Union in the semifinals of the district meet at Farmington.

Olander drilled in 11 points in the first period to help Farmington zoom ahead 22-14. By halftime it was 36-25 for Farmington.

Redford Union struck back to outscore Farmington, 16-11, in the third period, but Farmington wound up with 22 points in the last stanza to Redford Union's 20 and won going away.

Oddly enough, Farmington was outscored by one basket 24-23, from the floor.

The difference was the nifty free-throw shooting turned in by Farmington. The Falcons dropped 23 out of 29 attempts from the charity line.

Redford Union had 26 chances to convert free ones . . . but made only 13.

Coach Milo Karhu of Redford Union expressed satisfaction with the way his team played all season.

"We didn't have the size," said Karhu. "But our boys put

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Rocks Lose Closing Game Under Coach

The coaching career of Charles Ketterer at Plymouth high school is over.

He bowed out last Thursday when the Rocks fell to Belleville, 49-46, in a Class A district game at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

Belleville took a 10-8 lead after one quarter, made it 27-11 halftime and stayed in front the rest of the way.

Gary Grady finished as the high scorer for Plymouth with 13 points. He was the team's only scorer to hit in double figures.

The box score:

Gary Tidwell		H	F	P
Rick Jones		2	1	5
Dave Hollingsworth		3	1	7
Charles Masten		1	0	2
Jim Lake		0	1	1
Jim Scharmen		0	2	2
John Hannula		2	0	4
Gary Grady		0	5	5
Don Slamper		5	3	13
		2	3	7
TOTALS		15	16	46
Belleville	10	17	13	9—49
Plymouth	8	3	14	11—46

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OBSERVING SPORTS

By George Maskin

DOTS AND DASHES:

If you're a track enthusiast, may we suggest that you check in at Cobo Arena Friday and Saturday for the NCAA indoor championships.

This will mark the first time Detroit has hosted a major, indoor track meet.

Thanks to The Detroit News, the Arena has a brand new board oval — the best anwhere in the country.

Indoor meets have attracted capacity crowds in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, etc. We're told that there'll be a tremendous gathering at Cobo Hall both for Friday and Saturday.

Spokesmen for the News tell us that they plan to stage one indoor meet for at least five years and probably longer.

The newspaper also has plans eventually to sponsor a state high school indoor meet in the Arena. Such an attraction certainly would gain the approval of all the prep trackmen around the state.

★ ★ ★

Congratulations to Jim Knotts for the job he has done as wrestling coach at Thurston high school His team scored "a first" for local schools when they won the regional crown ten days ago.

As we have said before, wrestling has become a booming sport for the preps.

From a handful of teams which originally sponsored teams, there are now more than 200 around the state. In our particular area, all schools save for Plymouth and St. Agatha have mat representation.

★ ★ ★

Sorry, folks, we have no tickets for the state prep basketball finals.

But Tom Johnson informs us that Channel 50 will air the championship games on Saturday, March 20.

★ ★ ★

To the teachers at Farmington high, please excuse Tommy Donoghue's absence last Thursday and Friday. We took Tommy along to shoot pictures of the Detroit Pistons on the road — at Fort Wayne.

We figured we'd be back Thursday night, but five inches of snow in Fort Wayne dictated otherwise.

Tommy got to fly with the Pistons in their private plane, dine with the team and enjoy just about everything except seeing the team win.

★ ★ ★

Baseball is just around the corner, along with track, golf and tennis for the prep high schoolers.

The big question now is: "When will the weather break?"

Most baseball coaches will have their charges doing some indoor work and the same will go for the trackmen, tennis players and golfers.

But, unless you can get in some actual outdoor sessions, teams are in trouble when the start of competition rolls around.

★ ★ ★

Livonia's Paul Preuss, for many years one of the top sports writers on The Detroit News, is changing jobs. He's moving over to the Ford Motor Co.

Good luck, Paul.

★ ★ ★

John Sandmann, the athletic director at Plymouth, is working all the way in this year's state basketball tournament — as a referee, that is.

Sandmann handled district games last week . . . is assigned to the regionals this week . . . and next week he'll be handling a quarterfinal, semifinal and a final encounter.

★ ★ ★

These certainly are exciting days for Michigan basketball fans.

Not only are we in the midst of the state prep tourney, but Michigan is playing in the NCAA Friday and U. of D. goes to New York to meet LaSalle in the NIT Saturday night.

There's little doubt that Michigan is the team to beat for the NCAA. U. of D. could pull a surprise or two in the NIT competition.

★ ★ ★

Incidentally, when in Fort Wayne the other day, we learned that in sectional and regional play, Indiana teams are called upon to play twice in a single day.

In last Saturday's regionals the four semifinalists took

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WHERE DID IT GO? Players from Farmington and North Farmington highs must be asking the same question as the elusive ball eludes them all. From the left: John McDonald (14-North Farmington); Steve Moore and Greg Dorow, both of Farmington; Bill Bowles, North Farmington; Roy Leach, Farmington, and Rick Schultz, North Farmington. Farmington won the game.

NO FLAG FOR FIRST TIME

History for Bentley

Nobody could remember just when it had happened before—Bentley high failing to win the district basketball title.

In fact, not only did the Livonians fail this year, but they didn't even win a game.

In its lone appearance in the Class A district at Franklin, Bentley dropped a 67-66 heartbreaker to Inkster.

But as the old saying goes, "whether you win or lose by a point, it's the same as if the difference is a million" on the final score tally.

A rebound which went astray had a lot to do with Bentley's tough loss to Inkster.

The score was tied at 64-64 with around 30 seconds left.

Fred Smalley of Inkster was fouled and went to the line with an "one and one" situation. He canned the first try and received the bonus.

His second effort bounced off the rim. Bentley arms reached high, but the ball came to rest in the hands of Luke White of Inkster. He quickly put the ball back up . . . and in it went. Inkster now led, 67-64.

Gary Faulks responded with a speedy hoop for Bentley and the score read 67-66 with 14 seconds left on the clock.

The ball was put into play by Inkster and Bentley immediately committed a foul.

The hope was that Inkster would fail on the free toss. That's what happened and Bentley got the ball with four seconds remaining and instantly called time out.

A play was set up, but before anything could be accomplished the gun sounded to end the game.

The real downfall of Bentley actually had come in the third period.

The Livonians had reached halftime with a 36-34 lead after lagging 21-16 at the end of the first quarter.

In the third session, Inkster outscored Bentley, 20-11, and as matters later proved, Bentley was a to fall a point shy in the final count.

Smalley led the winners with 25 points on 11 baskets and three foul shots. For Bentley, Tim Dull had 17 points and Bob Elsner 12.

Well down in the Bentley scoring was Fred Matevia, a star all season for the Livonians. He made only six points and exited early—in the third period—with five personal fouls.

Here's how Bentley scored against Inkster:

Tim Dull		H	F	P
Nick Binder		8	1	17
Fred Matevia		3	5	11
Bob Elsner		2	2	6
Gary Faulks		4	4	12
Ken Bowman		4	0	8
Dan Sommerman		1	1	3
Greg Coleman		2	3	7
		1	0	2
TOTALS		26	14	66
Bentley	16	20	11	19—66
Inkster	21	13	20	13—67

* * *

Loses One Game

Franklin high, like Bentley, lasted only one game in the district at Franklin.

Garden City West rolled over Franklin, 74-50, in a game whose outcome never was in much doubt.

The victors led, 16-12, after one quarter, 30-23 at halftime and then broke open matters by outscoring Franklin, 30-12, in the third period.

Franklin did come close late in the second period when Al Jose led a surge that brought the Livonians to within a point (22-21) of its rivals.

But three baskets in 30 seconds restored the Garden City command to respectable portions and set the way for the team to continue its assault as soon as the halftime intermission was over.

Coach John Hartsig of Franklin praised the play of his team.

"Our kids worked hard. But they had too much rebounding for us," said Hartsig.

Paul Katosh had 12 points and Tom Cannaon 11 for Franklin. Paul Martine notched 18 points to top Garden City.

		H	F	P
Sam Antonazzo		4	0	8
Dale Lee		4	1	9
Al Jose		4	1	9
Paul Katosh		6	0	12
Tom Cannon		5	1	11
Ray Porter		0	1	1
TOTALS		23	4	50
Franklin	12	11	12	15—50
Garden City	16	14	30	14—74

HEADLESS is Walled Lake's Randy Alderson as he outrebounds a Thurston player in the district tournament at Farmington. Walled Lake took the district title.

RU Coach Named Judge at NCAA Meet

Mike Bowerman, one of Redford Union's veteran coaches and a well-known track judge throughout Michigan, has been named as a judge in the first Annual National Collegiate Athletic Association indoor track and field championships, at Cobo Hall Arena on March 12 and 13.

"Because you are one of the leading track officials in the Midwest," wrote Don Canham, NCAA Meet Director and track coach at the U of M, "we are asking you to serve as pole vault judge in this outstanding track meet."

As a college student at Michigan State University, Mike held the freshman record in the pole vault, and led the AAU in this event for three years.

His coaching record at Redford Union includes two years as head football coach and one year as assistant football coach, five years as head track coach and two years as assistant track coach, and seven years as cross country coach.

Mike has been an official for the Michigan State Relays for 12 years, and has officiated in pole vault events for Big Ten Meets held at MSU.

Marine Graduate

Marine Pvt. Thomas E. Campau, son of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Campau, 9632 Berwick, Livonia, has graduated from recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

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