## ROAD PAST ST. GREGORY

OBSERVING SPORTS By George Maskin

ton hells will toll. But this also was the year when at 3 a.m. on a Tuesday morning in late September, the phone sounded. It was Sportswriter Jerry Green of the Detroit News on the other end.

Detroit News on the other end. "Have you heard?" a broken-voiced Green asked. "Heard, what?" we countered. After a few seconds pause, Green spelled out the shocking news: Don Wattrick, the Pistons' executive manager and our immediate boss, had been stricken with a fatal heart attack an hour or so earlier and was dead on arrival at the hospital. This secmed unbelieveable. Just before we had retired before midnight, we had talked with Wattrick and he had said: "We've got some things to do tomor-row." He never got to them ...

He never got to them . . .

Sports, nor the world, of course stops for any man as all of us so vividly recall two years back when a builtet snuffed out John Fitzgerald Kennedy in Dallas. As they say on Broadway: "The Show Must Go On." I tidl.

As they say on Broadway: "The Show Must Go On." it did. More people saw sports events in Michigan ... in the United States than ever before. There was the end of the monopoly of the New York Yankes ... the closing of a fabulous career for Casey Stengel... the brilliance of Sandy Koufax, especially on fhat night you picked up the broad-cast when he was pitching a nethtiter. The "tragedy" which befoil the Baltimore Colts in losing both their quarterbacks ... the departure from our local sports scene of a gent named Al Roscoe who did so much to promote baseball and other activities for leenagers ... There were the difficulties encountered by Jack Nicholas and Arnie Palmer in golf ... the raps directed at Harry Glimer and Milt Plum of the Lions ... the perfect seasons enjoyed by Bentley and North Farmington in football ... the reversal owner Fred beleq most turned him down on his first bid to land Michigan's Cazie Russell for 1966-87. You remember sitting in Yankee Stadium and

You remember sitting in Yankee Stadium and seeing Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris unable to leave the bench ... and watching Al Kaline hobble through his paces at Tiger Stadium.

the bench ... and watching Al Kaline hobble through his paces at Tiger Stadium. The hockey world went imad the night that Gordie Howe scored No. 600 of his carcer. It took awhile coming, but where in the world will you find a greater athlete than genial Gordle? Horse racing flourished like never before. At the Defroit Race Course with its new clubhouse and other facilities records were set both in wagering and in crowds. It was the same way when the troiters held their season at Middlebelt and Schooleraft. Some very excellent men left the schoolboy coaching ranks in our area. Were thinking of Mike Hoben at Plymouth and John Hayes at Farmington High, to mention a few. One could go on, reflecting and reminiscing ... like the happiness that the Pislons experienced when they made Michigan's Bill Builtin their No. 1 draft pick in May ... but just the other day Buntin was scratched from the active roster.

It's been customary that we end a year by listing what we consider the top sports stories. This time we have grouped 'em under two' categories — the first dealing with the State of Midhigan as a whole, the other with the area serviced by the ever-growing Observer Newspapers.

Other with the area serviced by the everypoints Discreter Newspapers. HICHICAN'S BEST 1 — The all-winning season, in football at Michigan State and the Spartans march to the Big Ten and national titles run next Saturday's appearance against UCLA in the Rose Bowl. Ddfy Daugherty's forces came literally from nowhere. They were ranked in none of the preseason polls. Most figured they'd be fortunate to linish in the middle of the pack in the Big Ten. The Spartans footde the world. 2. — The hot spree of the Red Wings in January, February and March, as they leaped from well down in the National Hockey League race to capture the 1964-65 title and then earn a glace in the finals of the State? Cup. The Wings, like Michigan State, didn't seem to have what one might consider "the champion-ship stuff" when the going began. 3. — The disappointment of the Tigers and the Lons. Here were two teams which were supposed to make serious bids for title honors. Neither did. What went wrong with them? The best answer: A lot of things.

A lot of things. All the best answer:  $4 - \text{The charge of the 1964-65 University of Michigan basketball team to the Big Ten title, the regional crown in the NCAA and finally a shot at UCLA in the NCAA final out on the coast.$  $<math>5 - \text{Beautiful Peaches Bartkowicz of Hamtramck being named the No.1 jundr tennis player in the country. This is an honor which never before had come to a male or female tennis player who called Michigan their home.$ 

## THE AREA'S BEST

THE AREA'S BEST 1 — Franklin's Bernie Carbo being named No. 1 by the Cincinnati Reds in the first professional base-ball draft of amateur baseball players. This honor enabled Carbo to sign a fancy five-figure bonus contract.

enabled Carbo to sign a rancy live-figure bonus contract. 2 — North Farmington winning nine straight in football to wind up among the first five in the State Class A ratings. Biggest victory of all, of course, came against Denky, the team which copped the Detroit Public School championship. 3 — Bentley turning in its first all-winning grid season by taking eight straight. 4 — Frankin Bigh copping the Observer's first annual high school baseball thurnament. 5 — The records set at the Detroit Race Course — both by the runners and the Troiters. Yes, Auld Lang Syne . . . and the Happlest of New Years!

East Cagers Get Revenge

Revenge..., reveng

on Observer \_\_ THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS \_\_ Redford Observer, Nankin Observer, Garden City O

Franklin

**Kecords** 

Sets Swim

PAUL MARTINI is rated as the best freshman backet. The best freshman backet. The server server server server server fact ligh School in Garden City, he is averaging about 14 points per game and is one of Adrian's leading re-bounders. The GS' freshman is No. 1 substitute at the cen-ter and now has moved up to the first team.

**Plymouth** Junior Cage Standings

Class A (Standings)

BOBERT D. COTTER, 74, of 43230 11 Mill Rd., Novi, they and any Derived form a best allock A bettered form a best allock A bettered form to be any and the area for 25 years. Was Conter to survived by he yames and Elizabeth He is also survived by six grandchildra are six grand grand best and are survived by six grandchildra are six grand grand best and wire the superior services Dec-zi at the Custerille Funeral Home in Northwile.

DEDEGE AR THUR SHERINAN SR. 53, of 22020 Dardancila, Li-vonia, died suddenty Dec. 21 of a coronary thrombosis. A native of Ulah, he had resided in Li-dit and the and testing of the Grover Co. He is surveined to the of Ulth, he had resure in the other could way increase years. More the Grover Co. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, and two children, George Ann, and two children, George at Star, Mar, Blanche Barretes a sister, Mar, Blanche Barretes and a brother, Joseph. Services were conducted par-neral flome by Exhop, koy Wal-ret die Church of Josse Christ of a harvon of charge Christ of a harvor of charge Christ of a harvor of her charge

IELVIN EMERSON AULT, 72, of 20117 Mayfield, Livonia, died Dec. 23. A resident of Livonia for 43 years, he was an ordnance pack-aging specialist for the U.S. Gov-erminent prior to his retirement in 1963. Mr. Ault was a member of the Farmington Masonic Lodger, isi FRAM. He is survived by his wife, Hannah E., and five children: Robert M. Hunler of Detroit; For-rest E. of Lavonia; Mirs, Edwin L. (Fern E.) of Lavonia; Mirs, Johnson G. (Juno) Fortre of New London, Ohio; and Mirs, Thomas W. (Lora Anne) Roberts of Mon-W. (Lora Anne) Roberts of Mon-

Bone in Syminación, Burnal was n Con Bor Comerz.
Strett GOX SR. Services for Rr. former by Partice View of Stretter, Burnal forme

charge of Rev. Paul Greer with burial in Acacia Park Cemeiery in Birmingham in Birghing and Cometry Br. Thompson died Dec. 24 at his home following a lengthy III-pess. He was an industrial super-visor and had resided in Liveai the Newburg Methodist. Church, Plymouth Rock Lodge 47, F&AM be mouth H1 22 Club the width of the state and Plymouth H1 12 clubs.

Area Obítuaries

clubs. Surviving are: hts wife, Lillian Thompson; three sons, Keoselan Lawrence of Livonia; nor daugh-ter, Mrs. Laurel Darr of Jackson; we brothers, Raymond of Detroit are, Miser Vof Fiymouth, Sersi Ji-lian Wiasuk, Mrs. Edna Silvester and Mrs. Mabel Kleabit, all of betroit; and ohse grandehildright.

and the grandful disc grandful disc. 105EPHINE HINTON, Services for Mrs. Barnard, Services for Ala, arranged by the Caldwell Functal Home, 2511 Ford Road, Garden City.

Men Hinton Markan Andrew State Memorial Gardens, Weil, Jackies Mrs. Snow was born April 24, 1885 in Decator, III, and had lived Shiha stea for over 40 years. Memorial and the state of the state of Lincoln Park, and John kloyd Snew of Garden. Circ. Three advances of the state of the state of Artic, Lucille Bogeis and Iva evolution of the state of the state advances of the state of the state advances of the state of the state of Parkiston. Sci. Viewie grand-children and fifteen great grand-children and fifteen great grand-children and fifteen great grand-

London, Ohio: and Mr. Thomas With Gara Annel Boerts of Jose Also surviving are three broth-en Lordt Z. of Wahlington, P.J. With Massan, T.2 of HERS Billionro. Garden City, who ided in Billionro. Garden City, who ided in Billionro. Garden City, who ided in Billionro. Devis J. Atti book of Livonia. A Werk hadde a book of the State reat grandchild also gurvive. The Rev Josh Control, Burneral Bine is Parameteris. Journal Bine Bine y Schweiser Bine Schweiser Bine Bine Journal Bine Bine Journal Bine Jour





Garden City Sextets

City was khoades, with hereit soring for Plymouth. In other Midget games, Dear how Reights defaued lakses, Dear how Reights defaued

In other Midget games, bear for Heights detailed last fragmes, bear for Nakin keal/Allen Park 54 of Nakin Keal/All

Win 3 Puck Contests Mine 3 Puck Contests Generation City hocky teams incled with there vitations and there of Nankin 11, Alten Park incled with there vitations and there of Nankin 11, Alten Park incled with there vitations are 2 Permuth 2 0, Livronia 2 Permuth 2 City on a pair of goals by Mcluch, Mine Back, Saylor, Kam Shelly. In the Jevenik League, Gar-den City anashed Plymouth, 72, Goals for Garden City were by Price vitation of goals by Mcluch, Barnes (RU), Time: 1076. With assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of the Saylor Karl City mashed Plymouth, 72, Goals for Garden City were by Price vitation of goals by Mcluch, Barnes (RU), Time: 1076. With assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of the Saylor, Karl in the Jevenik League, Gar-with assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of goals by Mcluch, Barnes (RU), Time: 1076. With assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of the Saylor, Karl in the Place Assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of the Saylor, Karl Barnes (RU), Time: 1076. With assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of the Saylor, Karl With assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of the Saylor, Karl Barnes (RU), Time: 1076. With assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of the Saylor, Karl Barnes (RU), Time: 1076. With assist form Kosik. Our Jonation of the Saylor, Karl Plymouth 30. YEAR-IN-REVIEW Mine decided Plymouth 52. The Mindege Division, 52. The Mindege Di

SIX in accuents. Michigan's 88,175 fires i 1964 claimed 232 lives, bot totals setting new annual re-ords, and caused an estimate \$55 millious in property dan are.

CONVERTIBLE TOPS

Another Special I \$1874 REAR CURTAINS 1874

ABC AUTO GLASS & TRIM CO. Auto Glass - Accessories - Auto Trim 8124 MICHIGAN AVE, 21308 W. McNICHOLS RD. LU 1-7273 KE 3-1701

For This Bargain

\$55 millious in property dam-age. The per capita loss was \$7.04. Compared with 1963, there were nine more dealbs which included four firemen, the first such loss since 1961, 197 other adults and 81 children. cars, issued 289,000 or al warnings to drivers, and made 181, Ob property and 31,000 Bruor Bill Scott of England In Column 1965 Figures in the second scott of a softward Carlot and 1965 Figures in the second scott of a softward Carlot and Scott of a softward scott of a softward Carlot and Scott of a softward scott of a softward Carlot and Scott of a softward scott of a softward Carlot and Scott of a softward scott of a softward Carlot and Scott of a softward scott of a softward scott of a softward Carlot and Scott of a softward scott of a softward scott of a softward Carlot and Scott of a softward scott of a

Elight persons, three of them children, were killed and 540 persons injured in 575 rural school bus and related type accidents in the state in 1964. Compared with 1963, these were increases of five in deaths, 121 in injured and six in accidents.