

# Falcon Vaulters, Thurston Jumpers Share Track Honors

Ron Short of Farmington shared area honors with Al Phillips and Chuck Wells of Farmington in the 100-yard dash Saturday night in the Huron Indoor track relay at Ypsilanti.

Short, one of the state's top pole vaulters last season, showed he'll be in the same class this year by soaring 13 feet to finish second behind Duane Wells of Lansing. Everett, who cleared 13 feet, 3 1/4 inches.

The Farmington pole vaulter took three cracks at the height made by Wells, but just wasn't able to clear the bar.

Meantime, Phillips and Nole combined for a second-place finish in the (broad) jump relay. They turned in a distance of 40 feet, 10 1/4 inches, as the event was captured by a pair from Pontiac Central. Phillips also tied for fourth in the individual long jump.

Bentley also gained points in the huge indoor carnival, which ushered in the track season for Michigan and Ohio Class A entries, by gaining a fourth in the shot put relay and a ninth in the shot put relay and a ninth in the shot put relay.

"We'll have to work right through Easter vacation," says Baughman. But then we have to every year."

Shotput ace Pat Brady tops the returnees. He'll be the Rocks' captain.

But aside in the pole vault, Dave Dirlan, 440; Jim Schrammen, hurdles; Don Burleson, sprints; and Bob Kretsch, 880-yard run, round out the veteran talent.

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The Bentley mile relay was comprised of Rick Dudinski, Buffalo, Tony Foley and Mark Formosa.

Larry Grim, Bentley's fine pole vaulter, pulled a leg muscle after clearing his qualifying height, and was removed from the rest of the meet.

"We didn't want to take any chances with Larry suffering a worse injury," said Coach Ron Feder.

Don Thomas of Bentley and teammate Ken Jackson each got as far as the semifinals in the 60-yard dash and 65-yard hurdles, respectively, but couldn't make it into the title race.

The team title in Class A went to Flint Central with 51 points. Pontiac Central had 34 and Farmington and Garden City East failed to score.

Several of the area teams will begin their outdoor, dual-meet schedules late next week — if the weather permits.

12 Brothers To Run for Plymouth

The Plymouth high track team again will field a brother act this spring.

They are the Warmenwedges — Larry and Jerry.

Larry runs the 440-yard dash while Jerry steps the half-mile. It's possible that in some relays the two brothers may run together, according to coach Keith Baughman of the Rocks.

The brothers are returning this spring along with six other veterans. In addition there are some 60 other candidates working daily in preparation for the season's opener against Allen Park on April 22.

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One-Two For Baseball Play, Too

In basketball it was Paul Knightlinger and Joe Huber who provided Garden City East with its one-two punch.

Knightlinger was acclaimed all-league and all-area. Huber wound up with individual honors, too.

Now as the baseball season approaches—East is due to face Franklin on April 7 in its opener — Knightlinger and Huber again figure very prominently in the school's fortunes.

They shape up as the mainstays of coach John Kulazienka's pitching staff.

Knightlinger hurried for the varsity a year ago. He finished with a 4-0 record and his achievements included a no-hit victory over Robichaud.

Huber started for the East JV team, posting a record. He also played first base and hit over .317.

The way matters appear, it'll be Knightlinger at first and Huber pitching, or the other way around when East is in action this season.

The East varsity is shy on experienced talent as the '66 schedule draws.

In addition to Knightlinger, there are only Bob Smith, a shortstop-outfielder, and Dave Ventura, a left fielder, who played on the 1965 varsity.

Smith and Ventura are a pair of sluggers. Smith pounded the ball at a 400 clip a year ago, while Ventura was a shade behind at .365.

Players up from the JV team who figure to make the varsity this season include Mike Conner, third base; Dick Sayre, second base; Norb. Podowski, catcher-infielder; George Dobry, catcher-infielder; Marvin Martin, a catcher; and Mike Spakman, Bill Painter, Dennis James and Glenn Taylor, all out-fielders.

Sophomore Bill Pike has impressed and stands a good chance of breaking into regular action either as a pitcher or infielder.

RU Slates Track Clinic For Area

Redford Union High will sponsor a track clinic Wednesday (tonight) at 7 p.m. in the school gym under the direction of Coach John Mackenzie.

Coach Lyle Bennett and several of his top performers from Central Michigan University will put on a demonstration of all track events. There will be a question and answer period for coaches and officials.

The RU tracksters, defending champions of the Suburban Six League, will open their outdoor activities Thursday in Ann Arbor in a dual meet against the powerful Ann Arbor Pistons.

Looking back on the 1965-66 cage wars, there can be no disputing the point Michigan's Cazzie Russell was "the player of the year" in the college basketball wars.

Nor is there any question Cazzie will go No. 1 in the May 11 pro basketball draft. The Pistons want him desperately. So do the New York Knicks.

Who'll get him will depend on a flip of the coin. If you have any idea on the odds of a Kennedy half dollar turning up heads or tails . . . let the Pistons know. This shapes up as the most important coin toss in the history of the Pistons — and the NBA.

Speaking of Russell, he rates a flock of extra orchids along with Oliver Darden, Dorrie Morrey and the others who formed the Ford Mustangs who zoomed out to Denver last week and brought Michigan the National AAU title.

The Mustangs were put together at the last minute. They had to go against established teams like the Phillips and Goodyear clubs.

But the Michiganders showed their class — in a big way.

Reflecting for a moment on the 1966 state high school basketball tournament, the two unhappy moments for us at East Lansing came when East Detroit lost to Ferndale in the Class A semifinals and River Rouge succumbed in the Class B finals.

We'd have like to have seen East Detroit give Coach Fred Lee a great going-away present, his first state title. Lee is retiring from coaching wars. A shot (Continued on Page 3-B)

Jack West sez . . . SLATE POOL TABLE AND ACCESSORY CLOSEOUT

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JACKPOT WAS HIT by Bowler Dick Beattie, Beattie receives \$400 in savings bonds from the Drewry team in the Fisher Body-Livonia Cincy Sachs, of Griswold Sporting Goods Co. Leonard Schemanske (right), representing the American Bowling Congress and the Darts Bowling Association, presented Beattie with the sponsor's plaque for Drewry's while diamond ring, a lapel pin and shoulder patches.

Franklin Prepared To Defend

It pays to come prepared! That coach John Hartwig of Franklin high's basketball team is as he gets his forces ready to engage Garden City East a week from Thursday (if the weather allows).

Franklin under Hartwig boasted one of the state's greatest prep teams last spring.

The Livonians lost their first two games, then rebounded to a 17-17 in a row before the campaign finished.

2—Captured the Northwest Suburban League crown with an unblemished mark.

3—Rode through the Great-Livonia-Observer prep tournament to down Redford Union in the title game.

Most of the performers on the 1965 Franklin powerhouse have been graduated.

Gone is the great Bernie Carbo, a third baseman who commanded a big bonus from the Cincinnati Reds who made him their first draft choice in baseball's new grab bag last year.

Carbo, according to Hartwig, now is in the Reds' training camp and doing "a great job." He may make it to the big league in less than a year.

Departed, too, from Franklin is slugger Paul Hartig and Sam Antonazzo and standout pitchers Ken Graber and Tom Cannon.

"The fact is we lost seven of our starters," says Hartwig. All of which would make most coaches cry. (Maybe Hartwig does a little when nobody is looking.)

But, Hartwig knew what was in store for him in 1966.

That's where he made preparations.

He worked all summer in Livonia's recreation league with boys who would be coming back to Franklin in the fall.

The list includes two regulars — shortstop Gary Birkett and catcher Mike Stachurski. Gary batted around .300 last year as a prep and Mike was a power-house with a .330 mark.

Both should have great seasons for us this spring," Hartwig already predicts.

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## OBSERVING SPORTS

By George Maskin

There's one piece of unfinished basketball in these parts. The Harlem Globetrotters come to Olympia Saturday night and a lot of hearts will be heavy.

Abe Saperstein, a little guy who became very big and very successful, is gone. He passed away from an ailing heart not too many days ago.

Who'll get him will depend on a flip of the coin. If you have any idea on the odds of a Kennedy half dollar turning up heads or tails . . . let the Pistons know. This shapes up as the most important coin toss in the history of the Pistons — and the NBA.

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