

**By George Maskin**  
**observing sports**

**Rocks Swim To Records At Belleville**

What's the University of Michigan Daily trying to prove?

First the U-M student paper slams into the fact that athletes on the Ann Arbor campus have been receiving special concessions—like free movie tickets and discounts on clothes—from area merchants.

Then, the paper turns on Michigan State with similar charges.

The net result is that both schools now are conducting investigations.

So is the Big Ten.

When it's all over, the conference may slap Michigan and MSU on the hands.

But the real culprits—actually are the "well-meaning" merchants who have doled out the "gifts" to the athletes at the two schools.

Somehow, these are the people who should get tagged with a penalty, although they will escape.

THEY'RE A LOT like the so-called good folks who every year try and pass out illegal awards to high school athletes in Michigan.

Men who run sandlot baseball teams or golf tournaments or ping pong meets just don't seem to understand the State Association code which prescribes that no prep athlete may accept any award worth over \$5 . . . and the award must be limited to a medal, badge, letter, or something like that.

A \$4 baseball mitt or sweater is O.K.

Yet, these are those who think they are smart. They try to beat the law and figure that they can get away with giving a jacket, a set of golf clubs or as once was the case, a set of fishing equipment.

THE STATE ASSOCIATION and Charles Forsythe, the veteran director, don't hop around with snooping noses. But when they hear of such violations, they act.

Who suffers?

The youngsters who took the gifts and their high school teams. More than once a prep team has been forced to forfeit a victory because a prep accepted an illegal award . . . and more than one boy has been barred from competing in high school action because he took something he shouldn't.

As long as there are sports, those involved are bound to get special treatment.

It makes no difference what the level of competition—grade school, high school, college or professional . . . people like to do something extra for athletes.

This has to be the real story of what has been happening at Michigan and Michigan State and likely at a hundred other colleges around the country.

To have an All American and his date attend your theater, or lunch in your restaurant or shop in your store for a tie has to mean something to the merchant.

The whole thing strikes of jealousy, perhaps, although we suspect that many an editor on the Michigan Daily graciously has accepted free tickets from the same shows where they insist the athletes have gone without paying a nickel either.

POT SHOTS: Good friend Duke Fisher at J. L. Hudson's passes along the word that the giant department store will televise this year's State Class A basketball finale into the Detroit area. On the same night, fans here also will be treated to the NCAA cage finale via the tube.

In case you're wondering, the annual cage classic begins in Michigan on March 4. The pattern of play remains unchanged from the past—districts, regionals, quarterfinals, semifinals and finally the state finals. The windup again takes place at Michigan State.

It's ironic that Livonia's Alex Delvecciochio is enjoying his best season with the Red Wings, but the Wings are having one of their worst years in a long time.

Thurston High has rated among the top five in wrestling this season in the state.

Plymouth High's swimming team received a pair of record-breaking performances Thursday in winning over Belleville, 68-33.

The Rocks' freestyle relay team of Mark Whitaker, John Norman, Wally Englinger and Chick Porter was clocked in 3:35 to set a varsity mark. The Plymouth record was 3:37.2.

Pat McCord won the 100-yard freestyle for the Rocks in 51.6 seconds, a pool standard at Belleville.

McCord also won the individual medley in 2:15.5. Porter triumphed in the 50-yard freestyle in 23 seconds while Ed Jewkes won the butterfly in 1:05. Bob Andies the backstroke in 1:04 and Bob Riebas the breaststroke in 1:10.

The Rocks also won the medley relay as the combine of Andies, Riebas, Jim Gelbert and Whitaker clocked in 1:54.5.



**HOCKEY STANDINGS**

**EASTERN DIVISION**

Team	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	21	15	13	53
Chicago	22	18	13	52
Boston	26	19	10	62
New York	25	18	13	61
Toronto	23	22	10	55
Detroit	23	22	10	55

**WESTERN DIVISION**

Team	W	L	T	PTS
Philadelphia	23	21	8	58
Minnesota	27	24	5	51
Los Angeles	22	22	5	51
Pittsburgh	19	24	10	48
St. Louis	17	24	10	48
Oakland	12	33	11	35

**WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS**  
Montreal 4, Toronto 2  
Chicago 4, New York 2  
Oakland 4, Philadelphia 0  
Pittsburgh 4, Minnesota 2  
Los Angeles 2, St. Louis 2

**THURSDAY'S RESULTS**  
Montreal 2, Detroit 0  
New York 4, Minnesota 2

**SATURDAY'S GAMES**  
Chicago at Detroit, 8 p.m.  
Pittsburgh at Montreal  
New York at Toronto  
Boston at Oakland  
St. Louis at Minnesota

**SUNDAY'S GAMES**  
Detroit at Chicago (Channel 2, 6 p.m.)  
Philadelphia at New York  
Boston at Los Angeles

STARTING TO MAKE his move away from Redford Union's Dennis Fifeled (32) is Ken Bolfin, giant scoring star of Bentley High. He was the big gunner in Bentley's 59-49 victory.

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