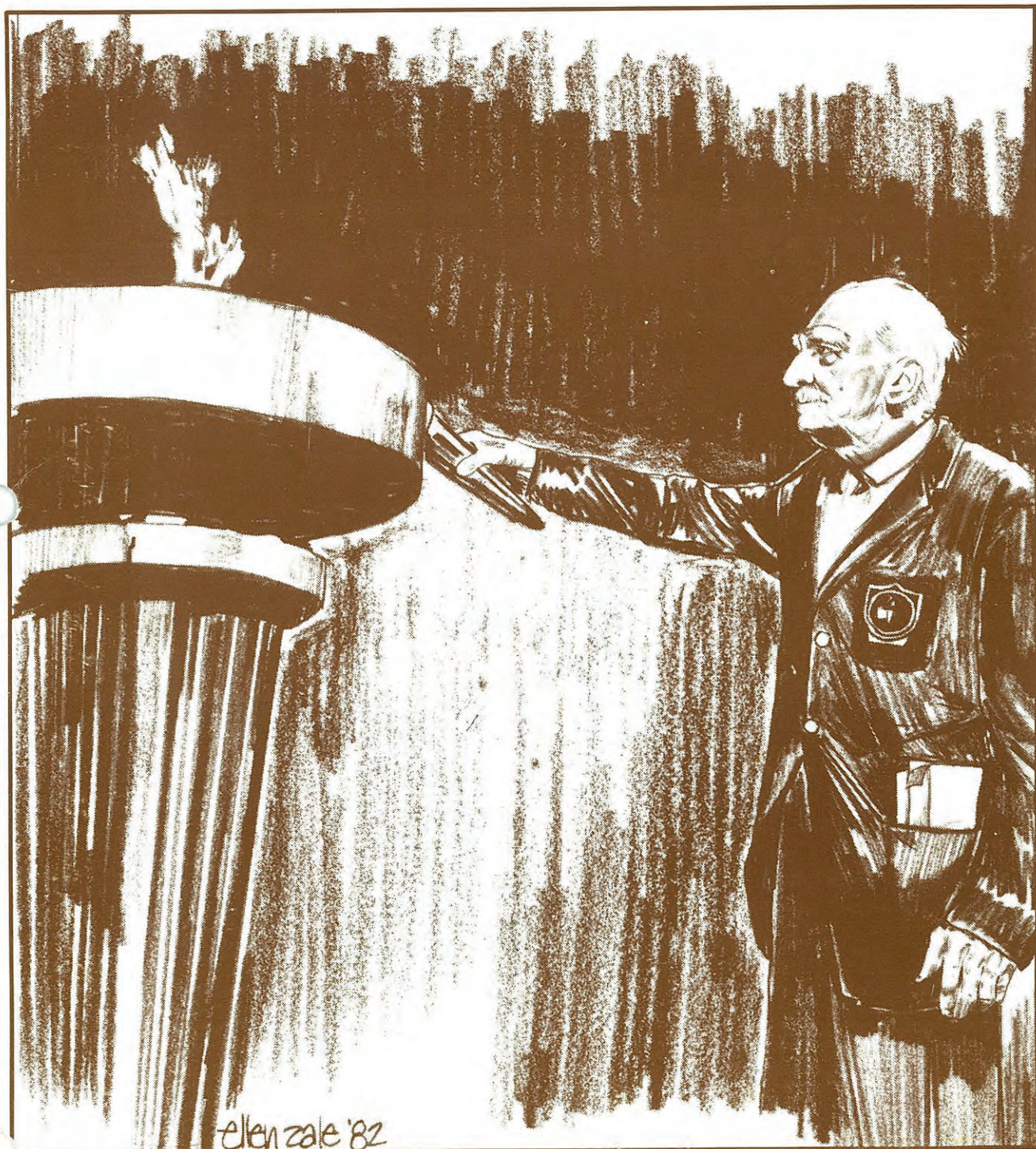


A legacy to live by...

3rd Annual Flint Area Hall of Fame Banquet

December 4, 1982

Hyatt Regency • Flint, Michigan



C. S. Mott lights the Olympic Torch
at the Flint Canusa Games

Congratulations, Everett.

It's not surprising to us
that you are being
honored with a
"Special Service Award"



by the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame.

You have always represented Citizens Bank as one of
our most resourceful people in all of your civic and
recreational activities. We are very proud and happy that
your propensity for outstanding achievement has
received the recognition you so richly deserve.

Again, congratulations.

We are very glad that we had the opportunity to know
and work with you for forty-six years.



CITIZENS BANK
Resourceful people helping you.



*The Board of Directors of the
Greater Flint Area
Sports Hall of Fame
Welcomes you to the
Third Annual Induction Banquet
December 4, 1982
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Flint, Michigan*

where tonight we honor the lives of . . .

★ *James Barclay*

★ *Floyd Bates*

★ *Everett Cummings*

★ *Sue Novara-Reber*

★ *Leo Sugar*

★ *Fred Trosko*

★ *Jim Podoley*

On this our third annual induction, the Board of the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame, wishes to thank everyone who has helped to make this night possible.

We applaud the Selection Committee for the difficult job of making this year's selections. Our appreciation also goes to the Flint Journal whose contributions make possible the plaques we award tonight, as well as the efforts of their sports staff, Dave Poniers, Doug Mintline, who wrote all the stories in this program, and Dean Howe.

The beautiful bronze plaques to be unveiled tonight will hang in the Sports Hall of Fame, located in the lobby of the IMA Sports Arena. You are invited to view them there along with those of the 1980 inductees, C. S. Mott, Frank Manley, Sr., Guy V. Houston, Lloyd Brazil, Steve Bysco, Lynn Chandnois, Paul Krause, Tom Smith and Jennie Weiss . . . the 1981 inductees Roger Bernard, Chet Lipski, Doug Blom, Merv Rettenmund, Clarence Peaks, Brad VanPelt, and Frank Sczepanski.

Congratulations to this year's inductees, their families and their friends . . . our appreciation and loyalty goes to you for adding to the rich legacy of Flint Sport History.

Congratulations, Everett.

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— PROGRAM —

Social Hour and Cash Bar — 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

"A Legacy To Live By" Slide Presentation by Bob Lamb



Introduction of Board and Nominees Pete Sark
Master of Ceremonies

Invocation Rev. Father Maurice Olk

Welcome Ernie Myers
President of the Hall of Fame

Dinner

Introduction of Officers
and Selection Committee Pete Sark

Featured Speaker Bob Reynolds

Introduction of Hall of Fame Inductees

Pete Sark

Jim Barclay by Ed Love

Floyd Bates by Bill Hamilton

Sue Novara-Reber by William Reber

Jim Podoley by Lyle Bennet

Leo Sugar by Dr. Tom Mayes

Fred Trosko by Bob Reynolds

Everett Cummings by Tom Cole

Benediction Rev. Father Maurice Olk

Reprise of "A Legacy To Live By"

Social Hour and Cash Bar Follows

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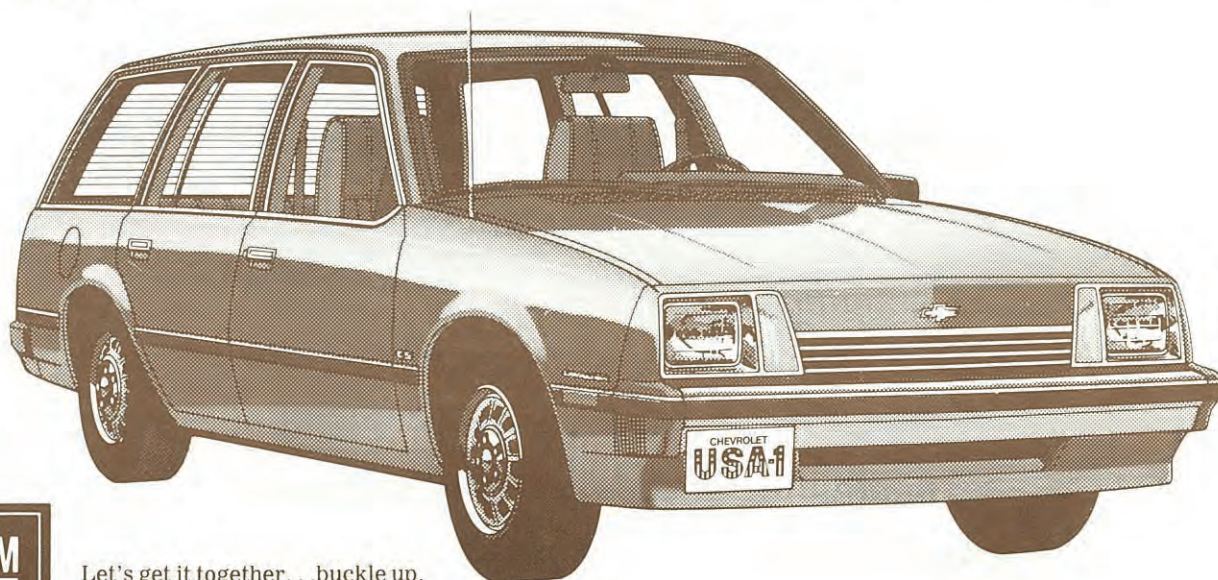
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“I have fine memories of Flint . . . ”

Bob Reynolds

Tonight's Speaker

Bob Reynolds, nationally known sports broadcaster who got his start in Flint, is tonight's speaker at the third annual Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame banquet.

Reynolds, play-by-play broadcaster for the Detroit Lions for 31 years and Michigan State football for 19 years, was sports director of WFDF radio in Flint from 1944 to 1950.

"I have many fine memories of Flint and the fine people in that community," said Reynolds.

Reynolds, a native of Massachusetts, left Flint for a job at WJBK-TV in Detroit in 1950. He stayed there until being named sports director of WJR radio in Detroit. He held that position for 25 years.

"I can remember doing a broadcast of the Northern vs. Central Thanksgiving Day game back in 1948," said Reynolds. "There were so many fine coaches and athletes in that era. Guy Houston at Northern, Howard Auer at Central, the Leach boys. I also remember Charles Stewart Mott and Frank Manley and what they meant to the Flint community."

Reynolds was primarily responsible for recruiting former Flint Central great Don Coleman to Michigan State where Coleman became an all-American lineman. Reynolds also became a close friend of former MSU coach Biggie Munn.

"I'd say the highlight of my career was my relationship with Biggie," said Reynolds. "That, and broadcasting some Rose Bowl games Michigan State was involved in."

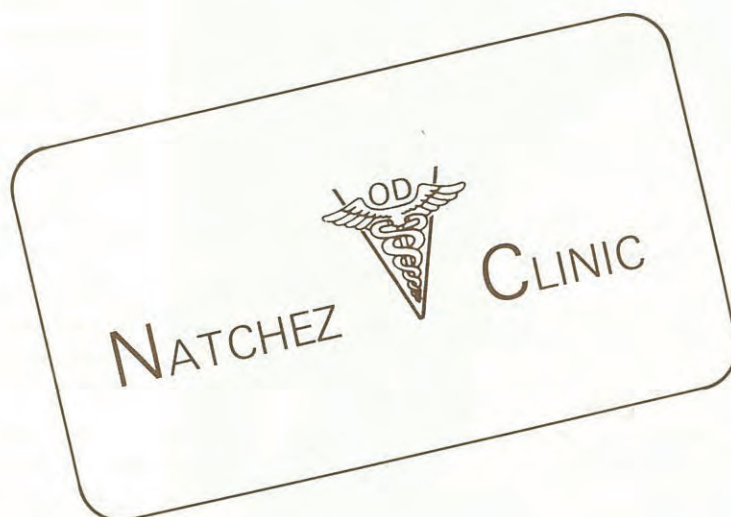
Reynolds has received several honors in his lengthy broadcasting career. Four times he has been named Sportscaster of the Year in Michigan. He has also received special awards for the Golf Association of Michigan and the Bowling Proprietors Association of Michigan.

Reynolds also broadcasted University of Michigan football for three years.



A native of Massachusetts, Bob Reynolds got his start in sports broadcasting at Flint's WFDF.

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Fred Trosko . . .

“Playing. What a pleasure. What a privilege.”

Forty-eight years ago, in 1934, Flint Northern High's Fred Trosko was described as the best high school football halfback in the state by the Detroit News.

Today, 65, retired as a professor at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Trosko says, "I want to fish a bit," as he looks for a home in North Carolina.

Trosko weighed 129 pounds when he started at Northern High. At 5 feet 8 inches, he weighed tops of 156 pounds at the University of Michigan.

Maybe that's why national columnists were so quick to describe a Trosko touchdown that gave UM a 21-14 victory over Ohio State University in the closing seconds of their 1939 game.

"No big deal," Trosko says today. "No big deal except we practiced the play (fake field goal) every day just to use against Ohio State. It got attention only because it worked."

The highly-respected writers of the era, locally, statewide and nationally, wrote about the sensational 23-yard run

by Trosko for victory.

The late Fritz Crisler, then UM coach, stood in front of the Chicago Football Writers' Association the following Monday and talked about the little boy from Flint.

"I was so mad because I called the play and I wasn't sure Trosko could pull it off," Crisler told the attentive Chicago audience. "Then I said to myself, 'why should I change now? why put somebody else in? Why not let Trosko do it. He earned the chance.'"

Trosko now says, "I don't know what he had in mind. You'll have to ask him. I just know it was one of the greatest thrills of my life."

Trosko, pretending to hold the ball for a field goal attempt to break a tie, was nifty running to and along the sideline.

"The greatest thrill of my life, except for, maybe, my pitching victory over Central High," Trosko says.

An outfielder (three years at both Northern and UM), Trosko pitched only one game. "I always had a strong arm and speed," modest Trosko admits today. "So when I was asked to pitch Central High, I did it, and won, so maybe that was the greatest thrill."

Trosko won nine letters at Northern. He played football and baseball three years each at UM. His coaching records, both prep and college, were superb.

"What a pleasure, what a privilege," says Trosko now. "It was fun playing, fun coaching, fun teaching — both high school and college."

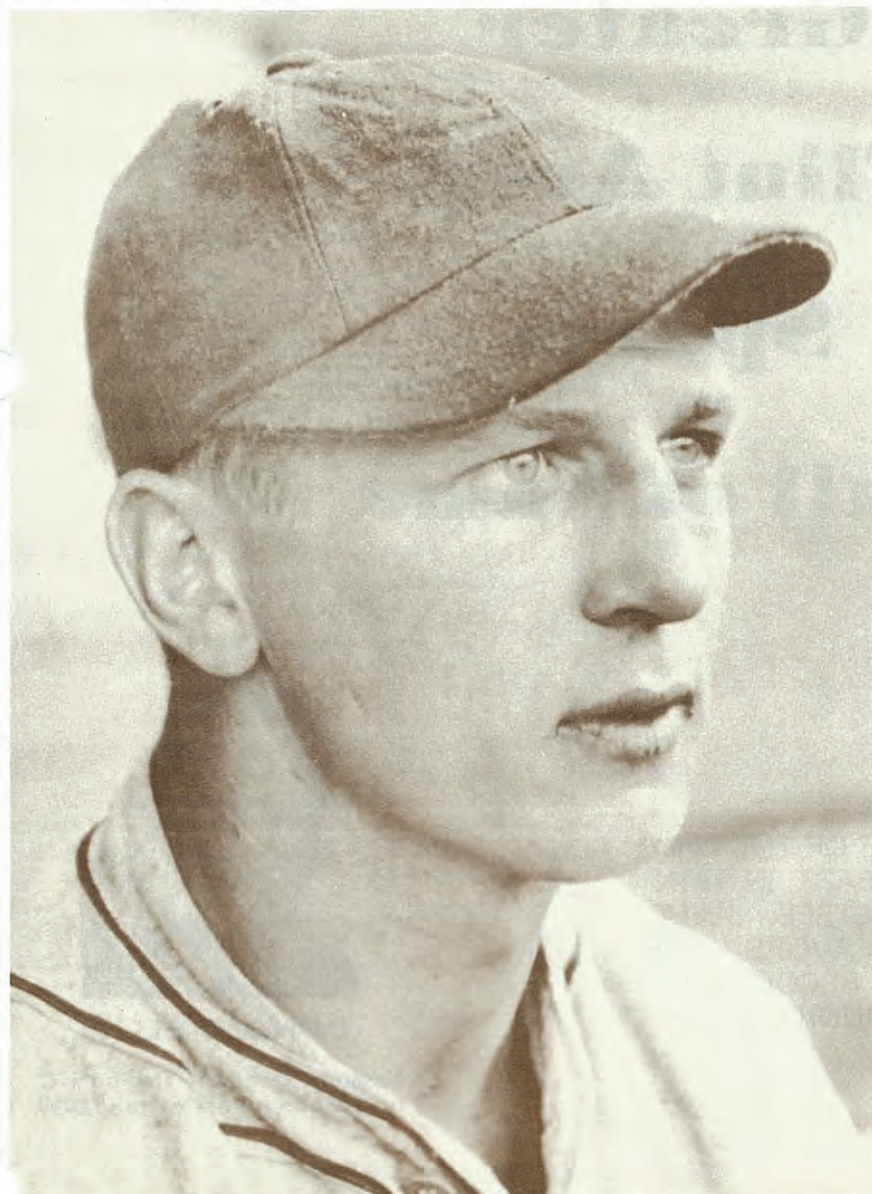
Trosko set high school records as an all-stater. He passed, punted, received passes and ran for the Harmon-Evashevski machine. He was a quick, accurate-throwing, sound-hitting baseball star. He coached with tremendous success at Owosso High (Northern, too, as an assistant) and EMU.

Through it all, Trosko exhibited and maintained dignity, seldom, if ever, matched in Flint area athletic history.

Keeping the late Guy Houston (Northern) and Crisler on a pedestal as coaches and friends, Trosko says today, "I always wanted to teach or coach, and I've had the chance to do both. How can somebody from the North End in Flint be so lucky?"

You mean Flint's North End is rough and tough?

"Naw, not really," Trosko says, "It



An outfielder for three years at Flint Northern and the U of M, this 1938 photo captures the intensity of the athlete known as Fred Trosko.

Please turn to page 26

CONGRATULATIONS AND SUCCESS

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Greater

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Sports

Hall of Fame

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DONALD ELLIS

Regional Director—Region 1-C
and all members of the UAW

Leo Sugar . . .

"Because it's my last hurrah."

Leo Sugar, 51, 220 pounds (between 210 and 245 he weighed as an athlete), feels especially privileged to be one of the inductees into the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame.

"It means a great deal," says Sugar, who now works for Modern Concrete Products. "It's good and it's bad."

Why good?

"Flint is my home," says Sugar, almost tearfully. "I came back. I love it here. I can remember sneaking into Berston Field House to see Floyd Bates play basketball."

"Do you realize how many great athletes I watched as a kid in Flint who never even got their name in the paper? And here I am receiving such a wonderful honor."

Why bad?

"Because it's my last hurrah," says Sugar, the all-around Northern High star who excelled as a defensive end at Purdue University and for nine years in the National Football League. "I just hope I deserve it."

Sugar's mom, Mary, 90, still living alone in Flint, will be there and Leo is especially happy about that.

"When I went to Purdue, as a freshman, I was so far away from home, so lonesome," says Sugar. "On Thanksgiving Day, I had it. I went to coach Stu Holcomb and told him so. I was going home."

"Holcomb never said do something, he always asked. He said go home, forget college if you feel you must, but not before talking with your parents."

Sugar's Polish parents were so proud of their youngest son being in college. They talked to everybody about it. They told Leo it was his choice, of course.

"I had to go back," Sugar says.

As a sophomore, back in Lafayette, Ind., Holcomb again asked Sugar, "How about playing defensive end? I know you are a fullback, but you could play right away at defensive end."

Sugar agreed. he made All Big Ten Conference. He was elected captain.

"Perhaps my greatest thrill in sports was being picked for the All Star game in Chicago," recalls Sugar.

Leo failed to mention he was injured but still was named to start. He also failed to mention he was named captain



The Purdue All Star . . . Leo Sugar went on to the NFL where he played 98 consecutive games.

of the All Star team that included Ollie Matson, Frank Gifford, Vic Janowicz and more.

He was captain of the 1947 Northern High State Class A championship basketball team under Coach Les Ehrbright.

Yet Leo says, "I will never forget a high school game in football at fullback. I gained 155 of our 189 yards and we won. What a thrill."

Sugar fails to mention he could have been a sure All Stater as a defensive end. He made the switch to fullback because Coach Houston said the team needed it. Sugar still made All State.

About the basketball state champs, Shug says, "We really were only mediocre, but we jelled. Everybody was able to do something and did it when needed. It was a case of making things work for a great coach."

"A natural and dedicated athlete," Coach Guy Houston said.

"Just right as a leader for our team," said Ehrbright.

"The best defensive end I ever coached," said Holcomb.

Over eight years, Sugar played 98 consecutive NFL games with the Chicago Cardinals and Eagles. Yet his final year with the Detroit Lions was the best.

"First, I was back home," says Sugar. "Second, I was hurt and sat on the bench. But it gave me the one year I needed for the NFL pension. And let's not forget how Flint came to Tiger Stadium to honor me."

"Those athletes today who abuse themselves aren't letting down their friends, their teams, their fans. They are

Please turn to page 37

CONGRATULATIONS
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PRESENTATION SINCE 1959

Jim Barclay . . .

“Maybe he looked cool, but that was on the outside.”

An elite technician.

That's the way the late Coach Jim Barclay was described by his assistant of eight years, Les Ehrbright.

Barclay, whose Northern High basketball teams won City, Saginaw Valley Conference and State championships from 1928 through 1942, is being inducted into the Greater Flint Sports Hall of Fame tonight.

Ehrbright, 75, reached at his retirement home in Mesa, Ariz., feels it is only right an elite technician who accomplished so much in area sports tradition should be honored in such an elite group.

Always outspoken as a coach and administrator, Ehrbright laughs when he says, “I would have to say any coach is only as good as his assistant.”

Reconsidering, Ehrbright said, “Now that didn't come out right, did it? It isn't really what I meant. Maybe if I put it in a relationship with Carl Shelter, my assistant when I replaced Barclay, it will be better understood.

“There was nobody better than Stelter who knew fundamentals and could teach them better than Carl. Well, then, if I felt I could do the same thing, and I did, and I was of the same help to Barclay, then I'm pleased. Maybe you can put it that way.”

Barclay was a little guy, though agile and a three-sport star at Eastern Michigan University (then Michigan Normal College) in Ypsilanti. Yet his players, friends and fellow coaches speak so much of the respect and leadership he combined as a coach.

It paid off, Barclay's team won 151 games, lost 61, on the way to nine city titles, six Valley crowns and four state championships. His teams once won 36 straight games, at then a Class A state record.

His state titles came in 1933, 1936, 1939 and 1940 with a second place in 1935. Though hundreds of athletes were involved, the Wonder Boys — Ed Krupa, Bob Holloway, Dick Holloway and the late Len Sweet — are best remembered, Early Kelly at the start and Ralph Gibert at the end played, too, but the Wonder Boys were the only four to



A little guy, but tough and agile, Jim Barclay was a three sport star at EMU before entering the coaching ranks.

be regulars during 36 straight basketball wins under Barclay and 28 straight unbeaten football games under Houston.

Krupa later Flint Northern High Football Coach remembers that trip to Saginaw High where they lost. “Our team wasn't very good yet,” he added.

Barclay, downhearted after the Saginaw loss, stopped halfway back to Flint with the team for a post-game meal. He met Frances Lyon and Lucy Dillon at the same restaurant and expressed his disappointment over the loss.

“Don't be discouraged,” Miss Dillon said. “You have some nice boys, a good team. You'll probably go on to win the state title.

Miss Lyon and Miss Dillon, like Barclay, helped open the Northern High doors in 1928 and so by 1939 were close friends.

“You know what, Jimmy and his team did win the state title that year, too,” recalls Miss Lyon.

Barclay, always wearing tweed coats and walking so calmly with toes pointed out, approaching his much-taller players, seemed so cool.

“Maybe he looked cool, but that was on the outside,” recalls Ehrbright. “He was tense inside. I know, because we always met after every game and had a smoke, always nervous, win or lose.”

The Viking players were cool.

One veteran official loves to tell the story of how Krupa, in the middle of that 36-game winning streak, but trailing in a big game, dribbled past the Northern bench and said to Barclay, “Don't worry, coach. Everything is under control. Relax.”

The Barclay competitive spirit was evident in the ninth grade at Emerson

Please turn to page 26



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Congratulations To

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PODOLEY**

FROM



CMU

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Jim Podoley . . .

“Tell all those people hi for me.”

Lefthander, Jim Podoley, an all-time great in the Flint area, state and national sports, said, “Hey, tell all those people in Flint, Mt. Morris, Otisville, Mount Pleasant and everywhere ‘hi’ for me. Tell them life is wonderful.”

Chosen in the fourth round of the National Football League draft, Podoley, the farm boy, made all-pro his first year with the Redskins as a half-back-flanker. He played six years, four with the Redskins and two with the New York Giants before operations, one on each knee, cut short his career.

“But college was the best,” said Podoley, 48, 6-foot-3, 195, now playing golf (low 80s) and bowling (165 average) on the side of his State Farm Insurance Agency business in Lanham, Maryland. He was 165 pounds as a prep, 185 in college and 202 as a pro. “College was the greatest four years of my life.”

Perhaps because he courted Pat Averill from Otisville. Maybe cause he was so good in football.

“Track, that was it, my love. That and campus life then.

“There were only 1,400 students then at CMU,” said Podoley, who last October returned to Mount Pleasant to serve as grand marshal for the homecoming parade. “Gosh it was fun. Nothing like it. Better than high school. Better than the pros.”

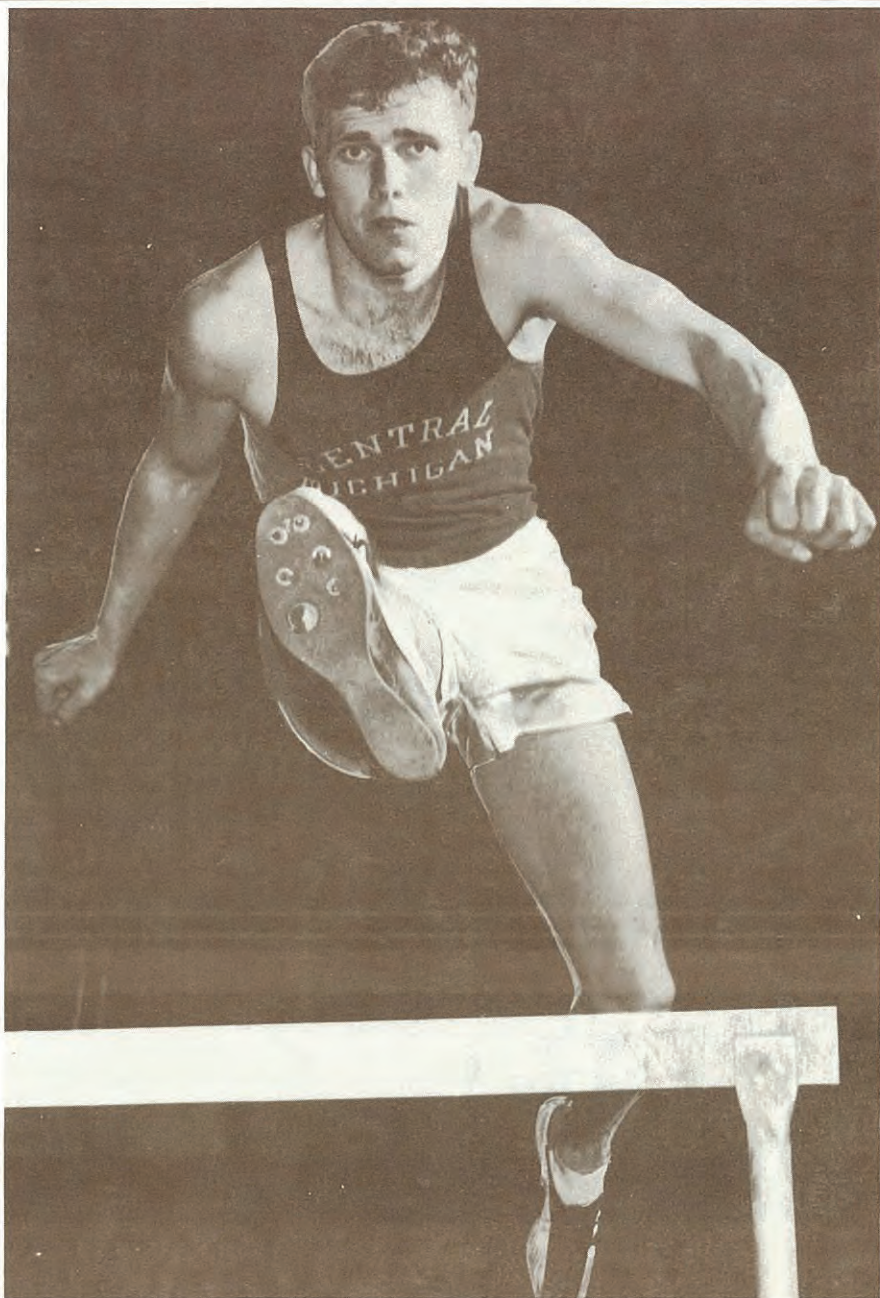
Prep Jim wasn’t much in prep football (only all-county). He wasn’t much in prep basketball (only all-county). He wasn’t much in track (just two seconds in the state meet).

“There was football in college, too. I think I scored 51 touchdowns, I’m not sure, what does it matter,” says Jim today.

Dean Howe, Journal Assistant Sports Editor, remembers a college football game played in his home town of Ypsilanti. It was CMU 33, Eastern Michigan University 33.

“Podoley scored all 33 of Central Michigan’s points,” remembers Howe.

While track may have been Podoley’s favorite, his No. 62 jersey in football at CMU was retired, probably because of his 4,481 overall yardage (that’s 131.8 per game) passing, running, receiving, etc. A post-season game star, North-South, Blue Grey (most valuable player), he had college punt returns of 88, 82, 78, 65, 60, and 47 yards and in-



Winning the Kansas City decathlon twice rates as a high point in the active sport life of CMU’s Jim Podoley.

terception returns of 95 and 70. He caught passes for TDs of 77, 72, 59, 45, 41, 40, 35, 33, 22 and 9. For kicks, he scored from 85 yards on a kickoff return.

His biggest college thrill?

“Just winning the championship for three straight years, I guess,” said Podoley, whose total yards on TDs was 2,143 (an average of 42).

Basketball in college?

“I didn’t have time, what with indoor track and everything,” said Podoley, who modestly forgets he was a cage regular before leaving the sport.

Track, ah, now that’s something else.

“Gosh, I don’t know, I guess winning the Kansas City Relays decathlon twice,” said Podoley. He didn’t mention

setting a KC Relays record in his first try.

“I liked the nationals, too, but I wasn’t really at my best,” said Podoley, who placed fourth and seventh in two tries behind Bob Mathias and the Rev. Bob Richards.

“I guess the only guy anybody might know that I beat was Jimmy Brown, you know, the football player,” said Podoley.

Just for fun, Podoley when active at CMU owned records of 9.7 seconds (100-yard dash), 20.9 (220), 14.6 (high hurdles), 23.5 (low hurdles), 23-11½ (broad jump) and 6.2-seconds 60-yard dash.

Add 6-foot-1 in the high jump as the
Please turn to page 37

A BUSHEL AND A PECK
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Greater Flint Area
Sports Hall of Fame

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Floyd Bates . . .

“He could do things nobody else could do.”

A man before his time - Floyd Bates.

So good, so many accomplishments, so much potential.

That's it - potential.

That's why Bates, the former Central High star, was a man before his time.

“Today, with the training, the techniques, the refined programs, the extensive recruiting, Bates would be a possible No. 1 college choice and, then, even a No. 1 pro draft selection at almost any sport,” said Dick Evans, Floyd's prep basketball coach.

Bates, who died at age 55 in Battle Creek in 1974, once held 11 Dort Field records. That's just a start for the multi-sport star.

“Bates was fantastic,” said Evans, “He wasn't big, maybe 6-foot-3, maybe 165 pounds, but he could dunk the ball with ease, although it was against the rules at the time. He was so quick, so agile.

“Floyd could do things nobody else could do - in any sports. He was a great natural athlete, like Lynn Chandnois. Bates wasn't lazy, He worked hard. He was unbeleivable in his day, but he wouldn't push himself to be any better. It was awfully hard to encourage him he could be actually better than he was.”

How good was Bates?

Floyd once pitched a perfect softball game. He once scored 38 points in the City Class A Basketball League against the champions. He toured the world with the Harlem Globetrotters. He was on the All-Army basketball team. He high jumped 6-foot-6 in the Army.

Once, in Mount Pleasant, everybody stopped to watch this agile athlete establish a record - 6 foot 5¾ inches in the high jump. The record stood for almost 20 years.

Bates didn't want to play football. He did as a senior, scoring five touchdowns in three games before being injured.

“He could have been like today's Anthony Carter at the University of Michigan, because he was bigger, maybe just as fast,” said Evans. “He would have been recruited nationwide as a wide receiver or flanker.”

Bob Harvey, who was the Central High quarterback in that one season Bates played so briefly, so well, says today, “I really couldn't pass very well. But with Bates in the lineup, I just

tossed the ball up and Bates went to catch it. He was phenomenal.”

There has been some discussion if in modern times Bates or Chandnois was Flint's most natural athlete in history.

“I don't know about that,” said Dr. Morrie Bikoff, who played basketball with Bates. “But I do know he was natural, he could have played baseball, too, and been great.”

Bates didn't play baseball because of track. But in softball, mainly with the Joe Louis Punchers, he won games with home runs and excellent fielding. It was before he joined the Globetrotters and the All-Army teams.

But basketball and track (hurdles, both sprints, broad jump, high jump, relays) were his favorites.

In Mount Pleasant where he high jumped to the record, some said he cleared seven feet, except for a hand tipping the cross bar. Bates later said he wore a uniform with braids on the trunks and the braid just tipped the bar.

The only point being in those days, there was only one technique - scissors. There was a rule the body couldn't cross the bar first.

So two things always have remained unanswered. First, Bates didn't really practice much. Second, had he been able to use today's techniques - diving, rolling, etc., who knows what he might have done.

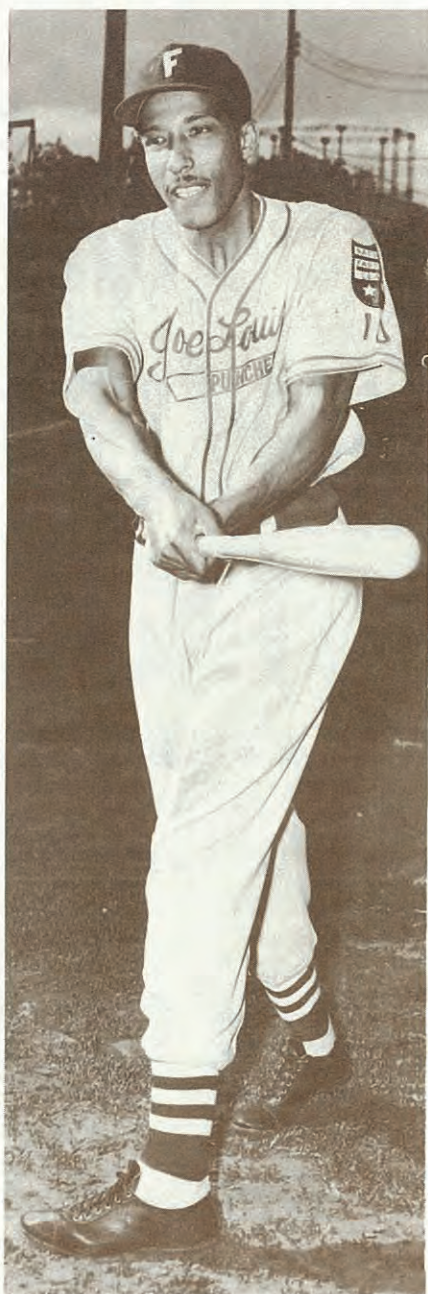
So what was tremendous then isn't tremendous now, kids easily topping seven feet. Yet the thought among those who have watched feel Bates would have topped seven feet easily.

Mostly, those who knew Bates best said he never reached his potential, even in high school or with the Globetrotters. All-Army teams or Joe Louis Punchers in softball.

Jesse Owens, the great Olympics star, once told Bates, “Time catches up with you in athletics, but nobody can ever take an education away from you. So go to college.”

As Evans once said, “With Bates and Andy Maschino rebounding for Central High, with those little fellows - Harvey, Bikoff and Paul Kupper - maneuvering behind them, the games were no contest. Bates was that good.”

Then Evans said, almost with sadness, “Bates was tremendous, so



A member of the Joe Louis Punchers in 1949, Floyd Bates also joined the Globetrotters.

fantastic in his day, so overwhelming among the others, it's a shame he never realized how good he could have been.”

Yet nobody doubts whatever Bates accomplished of his potential that he belongs with those honored in the Greater Flint Area Hall of Fame post.

“I'm just proud of my records,” Bates said before he died. “I know they will be broken and most certainly they will be. But it was so much fun at the time.”

That is what the Hall of Fame is all about - fun and appreciation of the old times when so many Flint athletes were so good and so deserving of such an honor.

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Sue Novara-Reber...

"I guess I was born with a competitive spirit."

"I don't know how I feel," said Mrs. Reber, "I probably won't know until it happens. I don't think it really has hit me yet and probably won't until the banquet."

She's obviously itchy about being inducted in Flint's Hall of Fame. The type of itch one gets when chills run up and down your spine. A special feeling. In this case, wonderful.

It wasn't so wonderful a few months back in Leicester, England, when Sue was itching from poison oak. She was miserable. She finished fourth in the world cycle championships. She was literally scratching for her third such championship.

After extensive training and just before leaving, Novara was baby-sitting a house in Pennsylvania. One of the duties was to walk a dog, perhaps tie it to a tree for a spell. She was exposed to poison oak, just as she left for England and the World championships.

When asked why she finished fourth in this current run of the World competition, Mrs. Reber said simply, "Because the other three were better, I guess."

What she didn't say was doctors in charge of the World championship regulations wouldn't allow her to use medication for the poison oak, which got worse, itched more, kept Sue awake nights, bothered her concentration and, in general, drove her nuts.

"It wasn't so bad I couldn't sleep, but when I worked and sweated, it got worse," she admits.

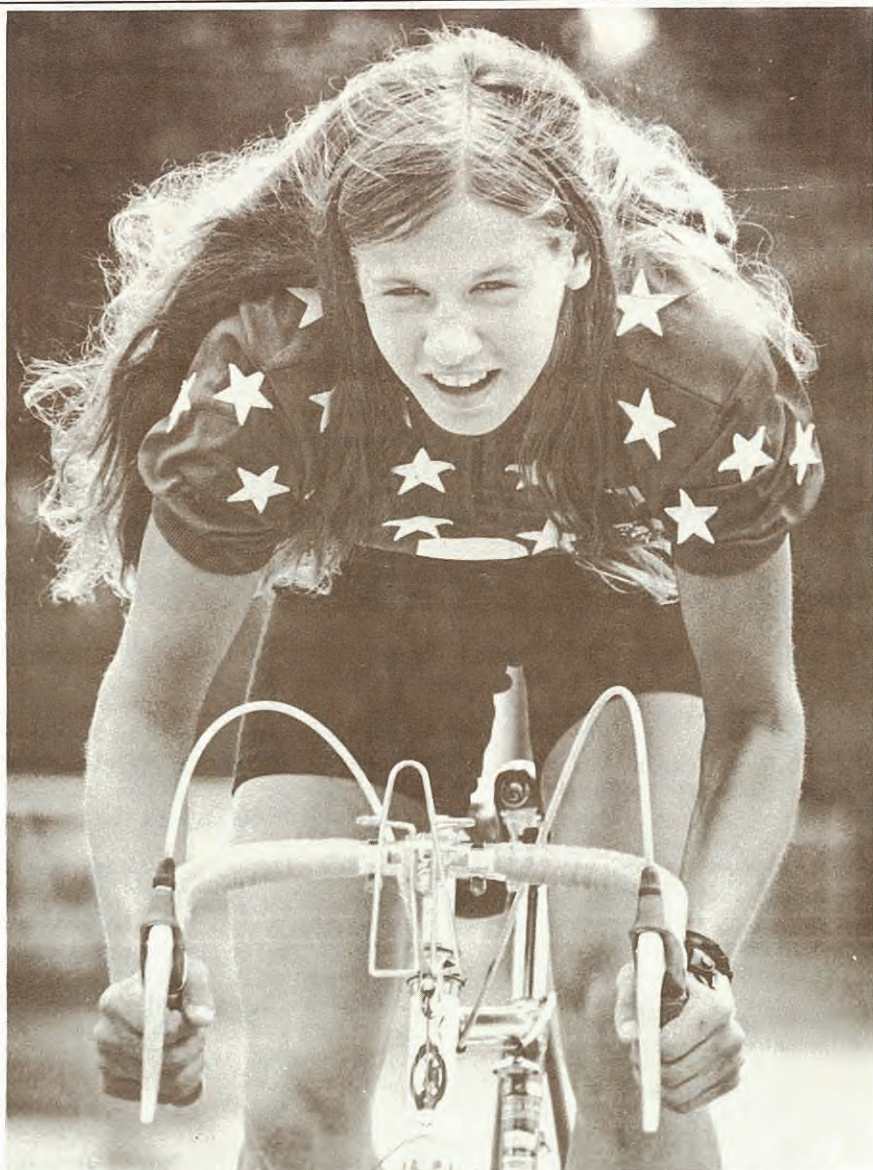
Why no medication?

The doctors, who take the tests, said she would be disqualified if any medication was discovered in the blood tests necessary before competition.

"They said even external medication would soak through and into the blood stream," Mrs. Reber explained. "They said even the slightest trace of medication and I would have been disqualified."

Winning the third World title would have been nice, of course, but Sue will tell you it was the second that provided the biggest thrill of her life.

"At least the biggest until now with this Hall of Fame and all," said the



A United States Champion and two world titles . . . but this is Sue Novara-Reber ten years ago at the start of her cycling career.

modest 26-year-old who has accomplished so much in a short time — eight U.S. championships (second three times, third twice) and two World titles (second four times, third once, fourth once and seventh once).

"Now I don't know what the biggest thrill will be, but until now it was the second World title for two reasons," Sue said. "First, it had been four years since I first won the World Title and I wondered if maybe it was luck or if I would ever do it again. Second, it came right after my Dad died and it meant so much to me and I know it would have meant so much to him."

For the last eight years, Sue has logged training miles. The first five years, 5,000 annually. The last three 6 to 9,000 miles annually.

During much of that time, when she couldn't find partners to ride with, Dad

rode along on a 100 cc motorcycle.

"He was such an inspiration," She said. "I often had days when I didn't want to work and he made me. He'd go with me. He kept telling me it would be worth it but that it took hard work. I will never forget him putt-putting along by my side."

Now, when Sue is inclined to get lazy, husband Mark uses the same 100 cc motorcycle and makes Sue work.

"I'm teaching as a substitute in the Flint system and at Carman until serious training starts for competition next March," said Sue, 5-foot-9 135 pounds. "But my goal still remains the same, the 1984 Olympics, Mark is with me and so are so many others, including my mom."

Sue says mom, in her way, having to stay at home with the other kids and

Please turn to page 37



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JIM BARCLAY
FLOYD BATES
EVERETT CUMMINGS

Our best wishes, also to their families and friends.

The Flint Community may point with pride to all who assume responsibility for the planning, implementation and guidance of local athletic programs, and to the athletes who participate in them.

W. Dale Ferguson,
President

Everett Cummings...

The Happiest Man In Genesee County

By Doug Mintline

If patience, tolerance and a sense of humor, sprinkled generously in a life of hard work, were the ingredients for happiness, then Everett A. Cummings must be the happiest man in Genesee County.

It's doubtful you or your friends or families can live in the Flint area without in some way benefiting from Cummings' influence in sports.

Few men know their community so well as does Cummings. Few have served it so well.

One of the many rewards of newspapering is the opportunity to mingle with leaders. After four decades, such mingling with Cummings has turned into respect and friendship, so you can expect prejudice.

It could be Cummings has been the greatest silent, behind-the-scenes friend of area recreation. There are so many, many examples.

Since two often we take for granted what we enjoy, it's no big deal that Flint set a nationwide pattern of building schools with gyms and swimming pools. Yet it once was a vital issue, becoming almost automatic through the effort of Cummings and men like him.

The AstroTurf at Atwood Stadium, the new Houston Stadium at Northwestern High, the IMA Lincoln Park lighted baseball facility, etc., all have in some way had the touch of Cummings' direction.

The retired Citizens Bank senior vice president was a whiz in his field, working outside his office in city, state and national planning. Such might be considered part of the job.

Yet to take on the Board of Education, Flint Recreation Commission, Flint Recreation and Park Board, Genesee County Tax Allocation Board, Community Music Association, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Genesee County Traffic Safety Commission, Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission, Greater Flint Big Brothers, College and Cultural Development, Flint Community Players and Boys Baseball Program (among many other things, certainly is above and beyond the normal duty call.

Cummings has served as either president, chairman, secretary, treasurer or board member of all these organizations and more.

If such a life of civic devotion hasn't required patience, tolerance and a sense of humor, then working with so many has required this and much more.

The Boy's Baseball Program annually handles 5,000 to 6,000 youngsters in a format envied nationwide. Everett has been secretary-treasurer for 38 years, coordinating various area agencies in support of the program. What a thrill it has been watching him maneuver. What a thrill it must have been for Cummings to learn a program product, Steve

Boros, was just named manager of the Oakland Athletics in the major leagues.

It's no wonder Cummings has been given the Key Man Key, Bishop Merit Cup, Distinguished Service Key, Golden Deeds Awards and many similar honors for contribution in an unusual assortment of volunteer effort.

Such success, any little part of it being an honor for most men, has come because of Everett's (1) love of his community, (2) rare ability to listen to and mold together the idea and enthusiasm of others, and (3) unusual humility that makes every issue important, no matter how big or small and no matter who is involved.



Everett Cummings, honoree tonight by the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame, is a man of civic devotion.



Enjoying last year's banquet and the Sons of Italy Hall are Ellis Duckett with Clarence Peaks (1981) and Lynn Chandnois (1980).



Accepting the award for her husband, Mrs. Chet Lipski is joined by George Carol.



A Night



Master of Ceremonies at last year's event was Ed Phelps.

Photos By
Barry Edmonds



ete admires the plaque accepted by Sondra Higgins for her father
oger Bernard.

ht To Be Remembered . . .



Golfer Doug Blom accepts the accolade of last
year's banquet. Also inducted were Merv
Rettenmund and Brad Van Pelt.



Ernie Harwell, guest speaker at last year's banquet, congratulates Frank Szczepanski, last year's recipient of the "Service to Sports" Award.

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- Sue Novara-Reber
- Fred Trosko
- Everett Cummings



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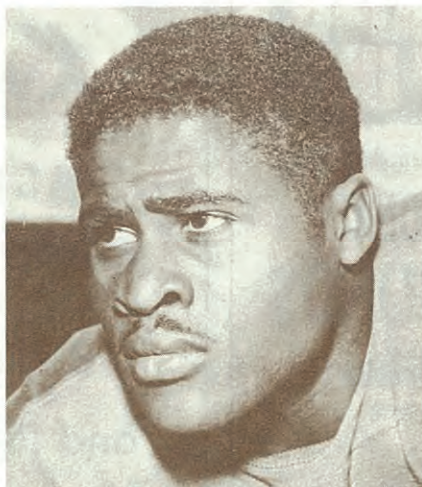
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RECIPIENTS TO FLINT AREA SPORTS HALL OF FAME



**1980
LYNN CHANDNOIS**

All City, All Saginaw Valley Conference, All State, All American, All Pro. Chandnois established Michigan State University football records, offense and defense, which showed the test of time. He was named the NFL Player of the Year in 1952. For 24 years he held the NCAA record for yards returned with pass interceptions. Twice he led the NFL in kickoff returns. Chad was elected to serve on this year's Board of Directors.



**1980
DON COLEMAN**

Considered by many to be the greatest player in Michigan State University history, tackle Coleman was a unanimous All American. He also was elected to the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame in 1975. All City, All Saginaw Valley, All State, Coleman was especially honored when his Michigan State University football jersey No. 78 was retired in 1951, the first in Spartan history. Now Dr. Coleman, Don serves on the faculty at M.S.U.



**1980
JENNIE WEISS**

One of the outstanding golfers in Michigan history Janet (Jennie) Barclay Weiss won the Women's State Amateur Championship a record five times; 1936, 1939, 1940, 1941, and 1957. She recorded a record 40 match-play victories along the way. Mrs. Weiss won several other titles on the way to induction to the Michigan Amateur Sports Hall of Fame, October 21, 1980, prior to becoming a charter member of the Greater Flint Sports Hall of Fame, December 6, 1980.

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- Floyd Bates
- Leo Sugar
- Fred Trosko
- Joe Podoley
- Sue Novara-Reber
- Everett Cummings



1980
GUY HOUSTON

A 14-letter winner at Bendle High, Krause went on to the Big Ten Conference fame in football and baseball. He then competed 16 years in the National Football League, being Rookie of the Year with the Washington Redskins and then playing in four Super Bowls with the Minnesota Vikings. He set the NFL record for interceptions with 81, before retiring in 1980.

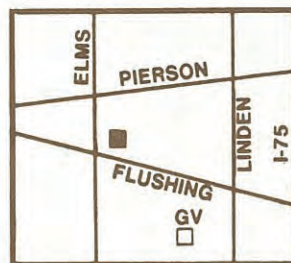
Noted for his work in race relations while coach and principal at Northern High, Houston was the first high school coach to be inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame. His 148-41-13 record as football coach included 12 Saginaw Valley Conference championships in 24 years. His teams also won state titles and under his direction Northern became known as the "School of Champions."



1980
PAUL KRAUSE

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FLINT'S FIRST SPORTS MEDICINE PHYSICIAN

Barclay . . .

Continued from page 11

before moving into Northern. One of the players was Russ Reynolds, who eventually won four letters under Barclay at Northern.

"Barclay thought we had a good team but we lost to Bay City Junior High," says Reynolds. "But then, Port Huron beat Bay City and claimed the state junior high title. Barclay said if we beat Whittier to win the city title, he would challenge Port Huron to a state title game and he did. We won it, too. I think the score was 12-9."

Little as he was, Barclay refereed among the City Recreation League behemoths and looked them straight in the eye.

"Yes, he always used to do that to us at Northern, too," says Krupa. "He'd make the slow, deliberate walk until he got us in a huddle, then he'd cock his head, look up at us and let us have it."

Because of an offer he couldn't refuse, Barclay left teaching and

coaching after the 1942 season to accept a job at Grandson-Hall and Company in Flint. But the business world wasn't for Barclay. He returned to education as basketball coach and athletic director at Midland High in 1945.

Barclay posted an 88-69 record (two regional titles) until resigning after the 1954 season, remaining as AD until his death Sept. 11, 1968.

In the early days, brother Bill Barclay played basketball for Jim at Northern. Bill later played three sports at the University of Michigan, coached UM for a bit and also coached basketball at Harvard before becoming a full-time club golf pro in Salem, Mass.

It was in 1939 that the Barclays became known as the Royal Family of Michigan in sports — Jim having coached a state high school cage champion, sister Jennie Barclay Weiss, a 1980 Hall of Fame inductee, who was winning one of her five women's state golf titles and Bill, by capturing the state amateur golf title.

Trosko . . .

Continued from page 7

just gave some of us a chance to do something."

Trosko has a neat, infectious laugh.

He talks about his wife, Leona, from Belgium, a war bride, doing the dishes. He talks about daughter Maureen Zigler and three grand kids in Jackson. He talks about son Fred, Jr. (neither has a middle name) working in the Oregon forests.

Mostly, Trosko talks about Emerson Junior High.

"It was there I developed a love for sports," says Professor Trosko. "I saw the Northern High Field nearby, hopped the fence to see games and was hooked."

Ohio State? OK.

UM? OK.

But Flint?

"The people there should know, must know, what they have," Trosko says. "Everything I have been or hope to be started in those Flint youth programs."



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Fred Trosko



Jim Barclay



1980
LLOYD BRAZIL

A Flint High School star, leading the way to two state football titles, Brazil later was considered with George Gipp and Jim Thorpe as one of the best college players in the country. Flint's first All-American while at the University of Detroit, Brazil ran and passed for 5,861 yards, a national record. He played all sports and coached many with highly successful results.

Considered the areas Mr. Nice Guy, Smith influenced the lives of thousands with the philosophy of discipline, understanding and leadership by example. His St. Michael High teams won 112 football games, 245 in baseball and 161 in basketball. A star high school and college athlete before coming, to Flint in 1929, Smith also competed in area semi-pro leagues.



1980
TOM SMITH



1980
STEVE BYSCO

Considered a natural athlete, Bysco excelled in basketball, baseball, and bowling. He was a semi-pro center in basketball, a minor league baseball pitcher, a manager and coach. His 300 game in the City Bowling Tournament was the first in history. His 787 actual, also in the City Tournament at a different time, paced a 1,378 doubles. Bysco also wrestled and boxed.

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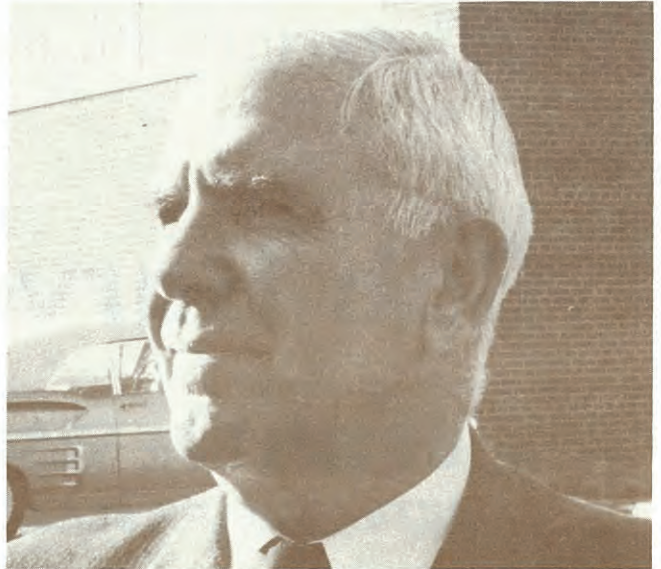
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1980

CHARLES STEWART MOTT

Thousands of boys and girls in the Flint area were introduced to athletics through the generosity of the Mott Foundation. The Foundation generally was started just for that purpose, eventually growing into adult programs, too. Mott's interest first, and the Foundation later, established a community format copied nationwide. It was reward enough for Mott's love of children and sports.



1980

FRANK MANLEY, SR.

A result of his intense interest in Flint area youth, Manley inspired C.S. Mott to finance a pilot program in sports and recreation. As a result, the Mott Foundation was created and the community school philosophy adopted. The combination of Manley's enthusiasm and Mott's support provided a base of opportunity for all children and adults, a format copied nationwide.

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and the 20 community-minded businesses that advertise on the new billboards inside the main Sports Arena congratulates the 1982 Inductees and are proud to be in the same edifice that permanently displays the Greater Flint Area Hall of Fame plaques.

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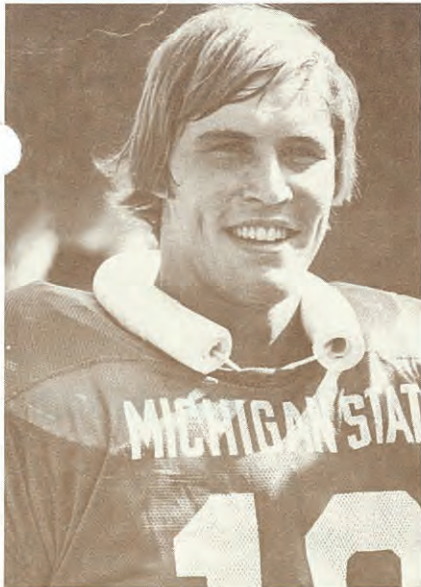
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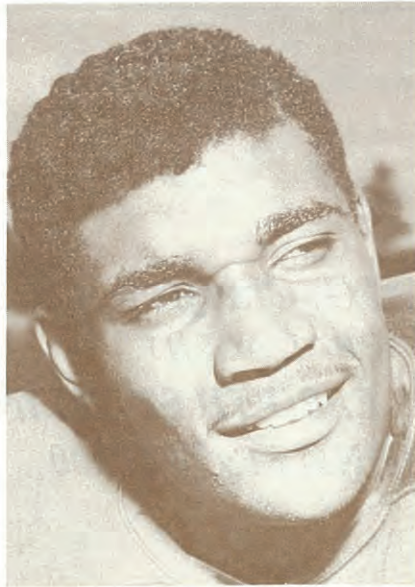
Edwin E. Luke
Vice President



1981

BRAD VAN PELT

A three-sport star at Owosso High and Michigan State University, Van Pelt was a two-time All American safety for the Spartans, winning the coveted Maxwell Trophy in his senior year. He later excelled as an All Pro linebacker with the New York Giants in the National Football League.



1981

CLARENCE PEAKS

A standout quarterback at Central High, Peaks went on to become an All American halfback at Michigan State in the 1950's, and later, a star fullback with the Philadelphia Eagles and Pittsburgh Steelers in the National Football League.



1981

ROGER BERNARD

Called "The Uncrowned Champion of the Featherweights," Bernard was a standout professional boxer from 1923 to 1937, compiling a record of 307 victories, only 25 defeats. He was one of only two men to defeat Welterweight Champion, Barney Ross.

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1981

MERV RETTENMUND

A three-sport star at Southwestern High, Rettenmund excelled in football and baseball at Ball State University. He played 13 years in the major league of baseball with the Baltimore Orioles, Cincinnati Reds, San Diego Padres, California Angels, and competed in four World Series.

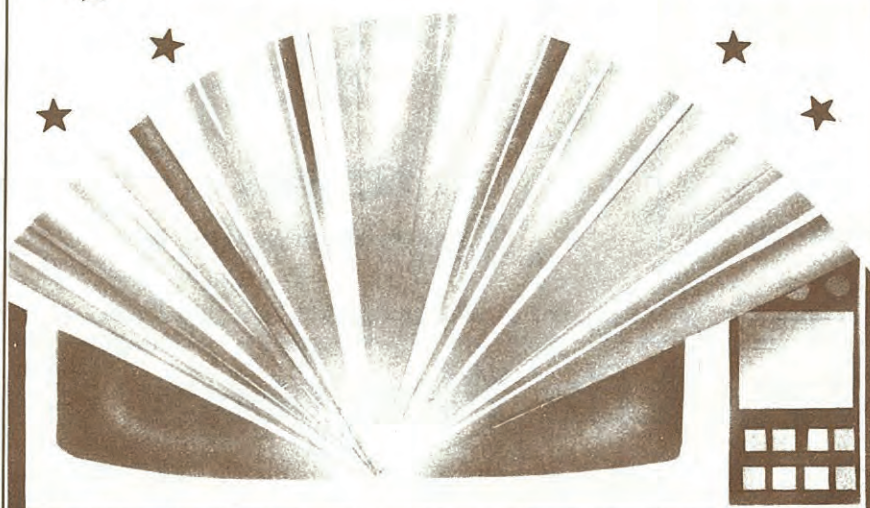
The greatest amateur golfer in Flint area history, Blom won 19 City Amateur Championships and more than 50 titles over a 25 year span. He also played in the National Amateur and U.S. Open Tournaments.



1981

DOUG BLOM

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1981
CHET LIPSKI

Only 5 feet 7, 145 pounds, Lipski was called by some the greatest all-around athlete in Flint history. He excelled in basketball, bowling and played semi-pro baseball in the early 1930's.

His interest in Flint was mainly covered in Flint area sports when his bowling promotion raised a half million dollars for the benefit of the March of Dimes and Prenatal Care. His influence transcended personal gain for the benefit of others.



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Sugar . . .

Continued from page 9

letting themselves down. It takes personal discipline and dedication. I hope I had it. I'm afraid to think what might have happened if I hadn't been taught the value of personal discipline."

Laughing, but hurting, Sugar told how Purdue required all football players to run a mile in a certain time the first day back for fall practice.

"I hated the thought of not being able to do it," Sugar says. "I didn't want to run it twice or three times.

So in July or August, hot, people in the shade, Leo ran sprints at the old Northern High track, then a mile, then sprints, suffering, wondering whether or not it was worth it. But he did it.

"Athletes shouldn't cheat themselves when they have such a wonderful opportunity," says Sugar. "Without athletics, I never would have gone to college. I never would have made the pros."

"I am so thrilled by this honor I want to tell all athletes to discipline themselves, not depend on a coach or a system," he says. "It may be my last hurrah, but, by golly, I want the youth

of MY town to know it takes self discipline, those fundamentals coaches used to teach and are still trying to teach."

Perhaps that's why Sugar selected Dr. Tom Mayes, vice president of Gallaudet College in Washington, D.C., to present his award come Dec. 4.

Mayes who is deaf was driving down Saginaw St. one day in a new car. Sugar was by his side. Mayes honked the horn and asked, "How does it sound, Leo?"

Mayes, Sugar and Dr. Pete Clancy, later Flint superintendent of Schools, once shared the same office and secretary when Shug was working for the Board of Education.

"That's when I fell in love with Dr. Mayes, and that's when I was most proud of Flint," Sugar says.

So Sugar, a north end kid, and Mayes, a deaf man who also reached the top in his profession, will be reunited.

Success stories are so much fun.

There is pride, too, and that's what the Greater Flint Sports Hall of Fame is all about.

Podoley . . .

Continued from page 13

decathlon came up, plus 51.9 in the 400 meters, 38-foot-11 shot put, 12-6 pole vault, 5:45.9 1,500 meters run, 101-6 discus and 139-2 javelin. Most, except the regular events, were almost first tries.

This would suggest Podoley was a natural athlete, perhaps the best in Flint area history considering his football exploits. He could possibly have been just as good in basketball and baseball had there not been conflicts.

All-county (all sports), little All-American (football), all-pro (football) and decathlon champ (twice Kansas City).

Podoley didn't want to talk except to say son Jim, 24, is a salesman in the area; Deanne, 22, is married and working in D.C. social service; Lisa, 19, wants to be a teacher; and Dan, 15, just lost the Washington D.C. area junior golf tournament in the finals on the last hole.

"You don't want to talk to me," Podoley said. "You should talk to Pat. She's a nurse now, supporting my golf and bowling."

Best Wishes

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*The Board of Directors Offers Condolences
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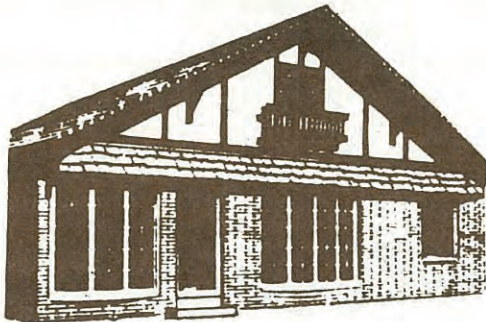
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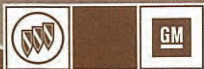
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