

Injunction Clears the Way

Girls 'In' All Prep Sports

DETROIT—Federal District Court Judge Damon Keith issued a preliminary injunction Monday against the Michigan High School Athletic Association, ruling that it cannot prevent girls from participating in high school sports, previously an all-male domain.

KEITH'S INJUNCTION goes into effect Wednesday when a temporary restraining order expires. All girls in the state, including Sexton High School tennis player M a r y Carter, may participate in tennis, golf,

track and baseball (if they make the team) until a permanent ruling on the subject is made at a later date.

The injunction was initiated at the request of two girls on the Ann Arbor Huron tennis team, Emily Barrett and Cindy Morris.

Ann Arbor Huron was first involved in the court case before Sexton High School asked to intervene on behalf of Miss Carter. A girl track runner from Ypsilanti also asked to be involved and eventually a motion was granted for the case

to be held for all girls in the state.

AT FIRST, the case involved non-contact sports only, but when the MHSAA argued that separating non-contact sports from contact sports was as discriminatory as preventing girls from entering previously men's competition—Judge Keith ruled that girls could participate in any sport until the trial.

A state-wide first is set for Thursday when Sexton meets Ann Arbor Huron in tennis. In one doubles match three of the

four participants will be girls.

Allen Bush, director of the High School Athletic Association, said Keith based his ruling on "sexual discrimination."

"IT MEANS we cannot enforce our rule that girls cannot play on boys' teams," Bush said.

The injunction takes effect immediately although it is pending a trial whose date has not been set.

"I doubt that many will come out for football or basketball," Bush said.

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