



Brad Emons

Wayne State gridders stay in limbo

A lot has been written and said about the threat to drop football at Wayne State University.

Bo Schembecher had his say. Now it's time for my two cents worth.

Football has been a tradition at Wayne. Alumni, fan and student interest, however, has never really been strong.

WSU's Board of Governors discussed last week whether the sport should be eliminated because of the school's acute financial problems.

President Thomas Bonner has proposed that football be dropped. His plan favors upgrading men's and women's basketball to NCAA Division I status.

He would also like to create a varsity soccer program.

The school is suffering economic hardships similar to those facing the city of Detroit.

Football is an expensive sport. It will cost the university approximately \$141,000 to run the program this fall.

Rookie head coach Dave Farris, a resident of Troy, is fighting an uphill battle.

His strategy is simple.

He's currently working on prominent businessmen to help donate money.

Farris is also counting on a big turnout in September when Michigan holds Band Day.

"I THINK the program is valuable both athletically and academically," said Farris.

"I'm not trying to save the program because I need a job. I could have gone to Western New

Mexico or Holy Cross as an assistant. I just happen to be the person battling for football."

For the second straight year, Wayne State will be part of a small-college double-header at the Pontiac Silverdome.

"I'd like to also maybe play a game out in the suburbs on a Saturday night against a Grand Valley," Farris said.

NCAA Division II program, but I think we can still get the job done."

Vern Payne, the school's basketball coach, was recently named athletic director to replace the retiring Chalmers Hixon.

THE BASKETBALL program, also Division II, is far less expensive to operate than football.

Bonner may have his sights set on a Division I basketball program with Payne at the helm.

But it takes money, however, to run a Division I program. You need alumni support and the most important thing — a winner.

WSU's neighbor, the University of Detroit, is a prime example. The Titans have a large and adequate facility and a top-notch schedule.

The Tartars are on the verge of having a competitive Division II program.

Many argue that WSU would be able to compete on Division I level, with Payne, a dynamic individual, as head coach.

The only problem is that WSU must compete for talent against Michigan, Michigan State, Notre Dame, etc.

Soccer, also inexpensive, should be put on the

back burner. Until football is no longer one of America's favorite sports, soccer doesn't have a chance, especially from its commuter-type students at Wayne.

TO KEEP FOOTBALL alive, some of Wayne's players have been expressing their concerns to the Board of Governors.

"I feel it's a real detriment to the university to drop football for other sports not as established," said Bob Van Gorder.

"Academics come first, but football is a big part of my life," he said.

"The players have been writing letters, expressing what it means to us and how it would hurt us if they take it away."

"I've definitely learned a lot about discipline and self-sacrifice. I came in as an individual and found out how to work as a team."

KEVIN SCHNEIDER has played football the last three years at Wayne.

"I was recruited on an athletic scholarship," he explained.

"It won't affect me, but it affects the underclassmen. I'm going to try to help as much as possible."

Wayne is a liberal arts institution with a career-minded student body.

Apparently Bonner has taken a stand. He wants to emphasize one or two sports for the sake of others, namely football.

The slogan for Wayne State football when Bonner arrived was "The Only Game in Town."

Now it's "Motor City Football."

tennis

Oasis Golf Center defeated last year's class C state champions Metro Merchants, 5-0, in a women's fastpitch softball game Friday at Livonia's Ford Field thanks to a fine one-hit performance by Jan Boyd.

Boyd, who pitched for Eastern Michigan this spring, allowed only two Merchant runners to reach base and lost her no-hit bid in the fifth inning on a single to center.

Oasis started out fast, scoring three times in the second inning. Two of those runs came on a single by Boyd.

Vickie Forest hit a sacrifice fly to score catcher Julie Stafford for the final run of the inning.

In the sixth inning Dee Cifaldi singled home Jody Humphries for Oasis' fourth run.

The final run of the game came in the seventh inning as Allison Cole scored on a single by Stafford.

Oasis' next game will be against the Golden Eagles on Friday at 8:30 p.m. as part of the Livonia Spree Night activities.

Heat bill aid available here

Low-income Wayne County residents still struggling to pay off last winter's heating bills may be eligible for grants administered by the Wayne-Metropolitan Community Services Agency.

So far, the group has provided some \$200,000 in heating aid to about 2,400

out-Wayne County households. Enough funds remain to help between 1,500 and 2,000 more households, the agency estimates.

Wayne County residents living outside Detroit can call 292-2100 for further workshop and grant information.

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PUBLIC NOTICE**

The City of Farmington Hills Summer 1981 Tax Statements are payable from July 1, 1981 through August 31, 1981. 4% penalty added on September 1, 1981. 4% interest per month on unpaid balance.

City Hall Office will be open for payment of taxes 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday with the following exception:

Friday, July 3, 1981, Closed all day.

For taxpayers convenience, a night depository, located on the east wall of the front courtyard, is available for after hours tax payments. Also, tax payments may be made at any National Bank of Detroit. They will accept tax payments until 3:00 p.m., August 31, 1981.

Whether you pay your taxes in person, through the mail, or by night depository, be sure to return BOTH COPIES of the tax bill.

Applications for deferment of 1981 taxes will be available at the City of Farmington Hills Treasurer's Office. If your income for 1980 did not exceed \$10,000 and you are a paraplegic, quadriplegic, senior citizen, eligible serviceman, eligible veteran, eligible widow, blind or totally or permanently disabled, your application must be filed with the City of Farmington Hills Treasurer's Office no later than September 15, 1981. Summer taxes that are deferred will be payable along with winter taxes no later than Monday, February 15, 1982.

By law, PAYMENTS BY MAIL are recorded by the Treasurer on the date actually received. Payments received after August 31, 1981, will be returned with added penalty.

CHARLES D. ROSCH
Finance Director, Treasurer

Published July 2, 9 and 9, 1981

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