



JON ENGLISH



BRAD BACHE



MARTY BONA



MARK SCHULTE



CHRIS KOLTZ



BRETT HOMOVEC

O&E All-Area Football Team

By MARTY BUDNER

Led by the unanimous selection of Orchard Lake St. Mary's outstanding quarterback, Jim Paciorek, the 1977 Observer & Eccentric all-area football team is one of the most talented squads ever.

In a coverage area where two of Michigan's four best football teams reside, this year's first squad is composed of 24 players representing 11 schools. The highest number of first-team all-stars (six) are from undefeated class-A champion Birmingham Brother Rice, and two more from class-C titlist St. Mary's.

Following is a brief player profile of each first-team member:

OFFENSIVE LINE

Mark Schulte: The 5-11, 190-pound senior was a three-year starter for North Farmington. In the season's first six games, he played both ways and was a member of all the specialty teams.

John Parker: Parker (6-1, 195) was a co-captain of Southfield-Lathrup and referred to by coach Darrell Harper as the best center in the school's history. The senior lineman was a good blocker and a team sparkplug.

Mike Godfrey: An offensive tackle for Lathrup, Godfrey (6-4, 210) had excellent quickness for a big man. The senior transfer student from Miami, Fla., was also a defensive starter.

Dan Bertelson: Bertelson (6-4, 230) is a 3-4 honor student who went both ways for Birmingham Groves. The all-Metro-Suburban Activities Association (MSAA) player was the team's best offensive lineman this season, according to coach Bill Rankin.

Bob VanGorder: A three-year starter and captain for West Bloomfield, VanGorder (6-2, 225-pound senior) was an all-Greater Oakland Activities League (GOAL) player for the past two years.

OFFENSIVE ENDS
Brad Bache: The 6-3, 180-pound senior caught 56 passes in the past two years for Farmington Harrison. This

year, Harrison's most valuable player caught 38 passes for 782 yards (20.6 average) and six touchdowns.

Marty Martinez: Only a junior, Martinez (6-1, 155) caught 47 passes for 710 yards total. Six of his receptions went for touchdowns.

OFFENSIVE BACKFIELD
Jim Paciorek: The most outstanding credential for this talented senior is that he scored 25 touchdowns via rushing for Orchard Lake this year. Paciorek (6-2, 197) completed 68 per cent of his passes.

Bill Ederhart: Ederhart broke eight school records for Birmingham Groves, including most yards rushing by one player (1,807). The junior running back scored 21 touchdowns this year, including three in one game against Lahser.

Rob Ambrose: The senior captain for Detroit Country Day, Ambrose (6-1, 185) threw for more than 1,000 yards as he completed 70 of 123 passes. Ten of his passes went for touchdowns, while he scored five himself by rushing.

Jon English: English (6-2, 175) threw for 1,539 yards as a quarterback for Brother Rice, including 11 that went for touchdowns. The 16-year-old junior completed 99 passes and ran for six touchdowns.

DEFENSIVE LINE

Jim Allor: A senior nose-guard for Brother Rice, Allor (5-9, 180) was the leading Rice tackler and had 157 first hits. The Warrior tri-captain was an all-Catholic League selection.

Gary Zatkoff: Zatkoff had 76 first hits and was the "inspirational" leader of the Brother Rice defensive unit. Zatkoff is a 6-2, 180-pound senior.

Dave Ramsey: Ramsey (5-11, 180) was one of the top defensive players in GOAL this fall. The West Bloomfield lineman was the team's defensive leader in 11 categories and was the leader on the punt teams.

John Ballroom: Ballroom (6-3, 240) was a senior defensive tackle, voted all-MSAA for Southfield-Lathrup. The Chargers' lineman was the key player

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SPORTS

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for a defense that allowed just 51 points.

Chris Koltz: The 5-11, 190-pound senior was the most valuable player for North Farmington. Among his credentials are two quarterback sacks, two blocked passes and three fumble recoveries.

DEFENSIVE BACKFIELD: Tony Smith: Smith (6-1, 220) was an all-state class B player for Auburn Heights Avondale. The senior is considered by coach Rick Brewer to be the best defensive player in Avondale's history.

Rich Butler: A senior, Butler (6-2, 190) was a three-year starter for Walled Lake Central. He led the teams in tackling assists from his linebacker position.

Les Garrett: Garrett (6-2, 207) was voted the most valuable player in the MSAA this year for Groves. A senior, he recovered six fumbles, had three quarterback sacks and holds six individual and team records.

Mike Haffey: A senior, Haffey (5-8, 160) was one of Rice's top defensive players with 32 hits and five interceptions. He was considered one of the best athletes on the team by his coaches.

Bob Carlini: The 5-10 senior was one of Orchard Lake's best tacklers and pass defenders. Coach Art Paddy called him second only to Paciorek on defense.

Marty Bona: Bona, a senior, was a

two-year starter for Farmington who had 18 career interceptions. The all-conference player had 53 tackles.

PUNTER

Ed Lynch: Lynch is a 5-11, 200-pound junior who averaged 43 yards a punt for Brother Rice. His longest was a 69-yarder in the class A championship game against Port Central.

KICKER

Brett Homovec: Farmington Harrison's soccer-style senior kicker had four field goals—the longest a 47-yarder. He also kicked 52 of 55 extra points.

'77 grid picks

FIRST TEAM

Offensive line: Mark Schulte, North Farmington; John Parker, Southfield-Lathrup; Mike Godfrey, Southfield-Lathrup; Dan Bertelson, Birmingham Groves; Bob VanGorder, West Bloomfield.

Offensive ends: Brad Bache, Farmington Harrison; Marty Martinez, Birmingham Brother Rice.

Quarterback: Jim Paciorek, Orchard Lake St. Mary; Bill Ederhart, Birmingham Groves; Rob Ambrose, Detroit Country Day; Jon English, Birmingham Brother Rice.

Defensive line: Jim Allor, Birmingham Brother Rice; Gary Zatkoff, Birmingham Brother Rice; Dave Ramsey, West Bloomfield; John Ballroom, West Bloomfield; Chris Koltz, North Farmington.

Defensive backfield: Tony Smith, Auburn Heights Avondale; Rich Butler, Walled Lake Central; Les Garrett, Birmingham Groves; Mike Haffey, Birmingham Groves; Bob Carlini, Orchard Lake St. Mary; Marty Bona, Farmington.

Punter: Ed Lynch, Birmingham Brother Rice.

Kicker: Brett Homovec, Farmington Harrison.

SECOND TEAM

Offensive line: Mike McGowan, Birmingham Brother Rice; Jim Neff, Auburn Heights Avondale; Mark Martin, Rochester; Mike Morosani, Troy Athens; Dan Huthless, Birmingham Groves.

Offensive ends: Brian Kurkowski, Troy Athens; Mike Vogt, Birmingham Groves.

Quarterback: Bruce Bentley, Troy Athens; Matt O'Connor, Birmingham Brother Rice; Jim Jagde, Rochester; Mark Walker, Bloomfield Hills Avondale.

Defensive line: Paul Lips, Farmington; Mike Forrester, Farmington; Steve Feherson, West Bloomfield; Jim Wynn, Southfield-Lathrup; Dave Dilley, Farmington Harrison.

Defensive backfield: Pete Lambert, Farmington Harrison; Mike Mazzanti, Southfield-Lathrup; Greg Hughes, North Farmington; Steve Whitten, Bloomfield Hills Avondale; Paul Babcock, Birmingham Brother Rice.

Punter: Mark Thompson, North Farmington.

Kicker: Tom Quinn, North Farmington.

Honorable mention: Jack Moran, Chris Whitfield, Benjie Adams, Bill Herli, Jim Free, Jim Hall, Dale Hudler, Alex Keras, Bloomfield Hills Avondale, Eric Pomeroy, Scott Hartman, John Kerr, Troy Athens, Gary Chapman, Phil Konopinski, Gary Adams, Mark Bennett, Fred Block, Birmingham Groves; Brian Swanson, Birmingham Brother Rice.

Brian Varnum, Jeff Johnson, Mark Zold, Roland Pomeroy, Detroit Country Day; Dan Hickey, Dearborn, Mark Macdonald, Kevin Delo, Jeff Lemanski, Farmington; Steve Cluser, Brian Adams, Dean Karpman, Brian Placka, Birmingham Groves; Matt McClellan, Mark Bennett, Fred Block, Birmingham Groves; Kurt Kelges, Roger Pickett, John Barte, Tim Hlad, Mike Wrenn, Joe Isha, Tom Krawford, Rick Dunch, John Jerpe, Brad Cramer, Steve Mitchell, Bloomfield Hills Lahser.

Craig Hawley, Joe Sullivan, Dave Senada, Dave Gorman, Paul Pyle, Lane Parker, Mark Seitz, Andy Jacob, Southfield-Lathrup; Tom Dietz, Terry Wadhams, Matt McDevitt, Larry Wadhams, Jeff Wadhams, Rochester; Eric Belfer, Phil Varga, Southfield; John Krawford, Chuck Szelcshansky, Dearborn; Ray Chese, Brandon Siggett, John Uehndel, Walled Lake Central; Jeff Cox, Mike Phipps, Mark Hall, Kelly Nell, Scott Johnson, Jeff Pettit, Gary Rittin, Tom Przybylski, West Bloomfield.

Catches of the year: Al Fracassa, Birmingham Brother Rice; Art Paddy, Orchard Lake St. Mary.



JOHN PARKER



DAN BERTELSON



RON AMBROSE



GARY ZATKOFF



JIM ALLOR



DAVE RAMSEY



MARTY MARTINEZ



ED LYNCH



MIKE HAFHEY



TONY SMITH



BILL EDERHART



RICH BUTLER



BOB CARLINI



JIM PACIOREK

Top coaches: Rice's Fracassa, OLSM's Paddy

By DAVID SAUNDERS

It comes as no surprise that two coaches in the Observer and Eccentric area were named coach-of-the-year together. Both won football championships.

And without a doubt, or any second thoughts, the area coaches named Orchard Lake St. Mary coach Art Paddy and Birmingham Brother Rice coach Al Fracassa coaches-of-the-year.

Both coaches directed their teams to identical 12-0 records and state championships. Paddy led his team to an impressive Class C championship. Fracassa's Warriors won the Class A championship.

Art Paddy, the Eagles coach for the last five years, and their basketball coach for four years, will not be back at Orchard Lake St. Mary next year, it was learned Friday.

"I reached my decision before the

first football game," said Paddy. "But I didn't want the kids to be playing for the coach."

Paddy was hired five years ago to direct the Orchard Lake basketball squad, and took over the football position after it was vacated.

"Football coaching was a sideline thing for me," said Paddy, whose main interest is coaching basketball. "Now I'm going to look for a basketball coaching position. I'd sure like to find a job somewhere—I don't feel like retiring yet."

PADDY has been given numerous past season honors in his 32 years of coaching. In 1968-69, Paddy was named the Eccentric coach-of-the-year in both basketball and football. He directed his West Bloomfield basketball team to the Class B semi-finals last year. Paddy, who teaches at West Bloomfield, coached its basketball and football teams for 16 years.

"I appreciate the honor," said

Paddy. "It's always nice for the ego. I've always been fortunate to have good players," he said. "We only had three starters on the offense back this year, and three on defense, so the kids matured tremendously."

Paddy's Class C championship team was quarterbacked by senior Jim Paciorek, a unanimous choice for the Eccentric team. Paciorek was given All-State honors and was a United Press International All-American selection.

JUST LIKE his counterpart, Al Fracassa also has an All-Stater at quarterback in junior Jon English. English teamed up with junior Marty Martinez, to be probably one of the most successful passing combinations in the state this year.

In Fracassa's nine years as Brother Rice head coach, he has directed the team to six Catholic League titles and two state championships.

Fracassa has built more than a state championship at Brother Rice. He has built a dynasty. He has developed a program that demands respect from any coach.

Fracassa had a defense that was labeled "the terminites." He had an offense that did what they were supposed to do, score more points than the other team.

At the beginning of the season, before the first kick-off, Fracassa said that he was going to win them all. This is what he learned from his college coach, the great Duffy Daugherty. Fracassa was a quarterback for Michigan State University during Daugherty's first year in 1954.

Fracassa's team may not have been as talented as his 1974 championship team. But they had the heart and desire to go out and beat every tough challenge they faced. Those are two intangibles that can't be replaced. Even though they weren't big, it shows that a little heart can go a long way.



COACH AL FRACASSA



COACH ART PADDY