

2,000 Schoolboys Start Work

It's The Week! Preps, Colleges Open Grid Drills

Welcome, football! The week is here for Michigan's high school and college players . . . the week to start training.

The preps plunge into practice Monday morning when schools through the lower peninsula may engage in their first sessions.

Meanwhile, coach Bob Schembecher inaugurates his first fall workout at the University of Michigan on Tuesday, while

two days later Duffy Daugherty welcomes his performers at Michigan State.

At other colleges in Michigan - Western, Eastern, Central, Hillsdale, Albion, Ferris, Northern, etc. . . opening workouts are slated during the next 10 days.

WHILE THE PREPS and collegians are commencing operations, the Detroit Lions will engage in their third pre-season

tuneup Monday night when they cross into Canada to engage the Boston Patriots in Montreal.

The Lions are 1-1 against American Football League rivals. They lost to Kansas City badly, then looked more impressive against Buffalo's O.J. Simpson's debut with the Bills.

Monday night's game will be carried on television live from Montreal on Channel 2.

The high school footballers will have their work cut out. So will their coaches.

They have less than three weeks to prepare for initial games to be played for the weekend of Sept. 12-14.

AS THE DRILLS start, the Observerland spotlight will focus on Stevenson High which wound up with an 8-0 record last season . . . to win the

Inter-Lakes Conference title, to rank No. 1 in the area and also rate among the top 10 in the state.

Coach Jack Reardon faces a rebuilding job at Stevenson where graduation struck heavily.

Stevenson will be one of four varsity prep teams playing again in Livonia. The others will be Bentley, oldest of the city's high schools; Franklin

and Churchill.

Bentley has undergone a change in coaches with Larry Joiner's departure to become athletic director at Churchill. Glen Goode has moved in to fill Joiner's job at Bentley after building a series of strong teams in the Catholic League.

Redford Township, too, will have four high school teams in action -- Redford Union, Thurston, St. Agatha and Bishop Bor-

ness.

FARMINGTON WILL BE represented by Farmington High, North Farmington and Our Lady of Sorrows while Plymouth High again will be the lone Plymouth standbearer . . . but this will change by next year when a new high school is scheduled to open.

More than 1,000 boys are expected to answer Monday's call

to practice for Observerland Varsity teams.

Almost as many will check in for reserve teams and as many as 2,000 will be seeking spots on junior high teams when their drills commence a week hence at most schools.

The various prep coaches all plan two-to-three sessions this week and again next week until classes start on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

OBSERVING SPORTS

By George Maskin

Our Teens Aren't Spoiled Brats

Our teenagers spoiled brats! Our lazy kids! Our kids not what they used to be!

Especially the teenagers! Hogwash, it says here.

Some kids, yes. But it was that way in dad's great-grandfather's day, grandfather's day, dad's day and now the day in which we are dads.

But in the majority, our kids are pretty good. They are as hard-working as ever, as ingenious as ever, if not more so . . . and probably a lot smarter than their moms and pops and those who preceded them on this globe.



NATIONAL HONORS were heaped on John Morrison, brilliant hurdler from Redford Union, after he won the National Junior Olympics crown in San Diego. Calif. John was clocked in 13.9 in beating all of the top junior hurdlers in the United States. He will enroll at Michigan State next month. He also was a member of the Michigan relay team which captured the 800-yard relay. (Observer photo)

I bring this all up on the eve of the start of high school football drills in the state of Michigan. It's Monday the day when the preps OFFICIALLY can engage in their first drill.

But most of the boys who'll be out there, trying to win a spot on your favorite team, have been preparing themselves for Monday for weeks and weeks.

They haven't been playing or practicing football, but they have spent hours and days getting themselves in shape physically . . . which is probably more important than anything else.

Redford Faces 'Do-Or-Die' Tourney Game

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. -- It was a "battle back" proposition that faced Redford Township in the All American Amateur Baseball Championships.

After downing host Johnstown, 8-5, Redford fell to mighty Detroit Adray, 8-1, before starting what the Townshipers hoped would be a successful comeback by downing Maryland State, 6-5 in an 11-inning battle.

Two defeats out to team in the tourney and Redford again faced a "no-tomorrow" situation when it met Zanesville, O. Dale Bjerkie emerged as the winner in the opener against Johnstown. It was Fred Holdsworth who was first the loser, then the winner in the second day's action for the Townshipers.

HOLDSWORTH WAS hard hit by the Detroiters, who, in turn, sent two pitchers against Redford with fine results until LeLand Bjerkie socked a homer leading off in the ninth.

Against Maryland State, Redford shot ahead, 4-0, and appeared to be coasting along behind the one-hit pitching of Denny Carroll until he tired in the eighth.

Then Maryland tied the game on four hits, a walk and an error, and matters stood that way until the 11th when Redford broke loose with three big runs to decide the issue.

Jim Powers singled and Holdsworth was safe, attempting to sacrifice. Joe Himmelspach also was safe on an error, permitting Powers to score with the lead run.

DENNIS PRIMEAU produced a sacrifice fly, on which Holdsworth scored. Then Fabey doubled in Himmelspach.

Himmelspach had started Redford off and running by clouting a homer in the first inning.

Redford added two runs in the second when Bill Howe singled, Carol walked and Himmelspach singled for one tally and Fabey followed with another RBI single.

The fourth Redford run came across when Al Smith and Howe singled and the ball scooted away from the Maryland right-fielder.

REDFORD COMBINED the long ball with some generosity by Johnstown in winning its tourney opener before a crowd

of 12,500, a turnout larger than that attracted by most major league teams.

Dennis Primeau and Bill Fabey clouted the ball out of the park, while a series of wild pitches and passed balls accounted for four runs in the fifth inning when Redford rallied to win.

Dale Bjerkie went the route for the winners and became together as the game progressed.

He was touched for five runs in the first five innings, but allowed only two safeties the rest of the way. He wound up with 11 strikeouts and walked five as his

IT'S NOT EASY for a boy, 16 or 17, to break into his vacation to go over to his school and participate in a series of calisthenics two or three days a week when the temperature is in the 80's.

It's not easy to tell the girl friend, "Sorry, honey, you kids will have to wait for me to get back from exercising, or we'll have to postpone our date until tomorrow."

Certainly, it's no cinch to work at a summer job from, say, 8 to 4 . . . rush home for a quick snack . . . then get over to the school and subject one's self to a rigorous program arranged by the coach.

It takes desire . . . it takes discipline . . . it takes will power.

But that's what our thousands of Observerland high school football players have been going through in recent weeks when they might have been having a good time over at a lake, or down at a dance . . . or maybe driving around town like mad.

THE BOYS HAVE personal pride . . . they have school pride . . . they have community pride.

They know, too, that the rewards for putting out a little extra when could pay dividends . . . that something extra might make it possible for them to win an athletic scholarship and thus a free ride through college.

Even now that practice actually is about to start, the task facing these young men mounts. Like every other school boy or girl, they'll have classes to attend starting 10 days hence.

They'll have homework, they'll have special assignments, special papers . . . etc. Because they're on the football team won't grant them any special privileges.

To play at Bentley or Stevenson or Farmington or St. Agatha or Plymouth, a boy must be eligible scholastically.

That's the state rule . . . and a good one, too.

THE BOYS AREN'T alone, I might say, in rating some orchids.

It struck me the other afternoon as I walked through Hudson's over at Northland that the young ladies aren't a bunch of "fly-by-nights" . . . strictly interested in that stupid music some of the radio stations carry.

My teenage young lady dragged me around to the pattern department and I was astounded by the fact that most of those females who crowded the area looking for a pattern to follow when making a dress or coats, were in their teens.

This would have to mean that the age of making your own clothes hasn't gone by the wayside . . . that our girls in school must be benefiting by what they are taught in family life education classes and what their mothers are passing along in the way of advice.

As I've said before, most of us older folk are quick to jump at the teenagers because a few of them act up.

No doubt our memories are short-lived, or we care not to admit it.

There were some bad actors when we were kids, too.

AWARD WINNER Tiger Pitcher Mickey Lelch, who owns five motorcycles, was given a new car after he was chosen as the Most Valuable Player in the 1958 World Series.

SELF-SACRIFICING In addition to leading the American League in victories in 1956, Denny McLain led the loop in sacrifice bunts with 16.

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STATE CHAMPION Dennis Pace of Plymouth, displays the trophy he received after winning the Michigan figure eight title in competition at the Spartan Raceway near Lansing. He'll compete in the Nationals in October on Long Island, N.Y. (Observer photo)

2nd Plymouth Driver Wins Figure 8 Crown

Two Michigan champions in the figure eight auto racing competition in as many years.

That's the unusual record for the City of Plymouth.

Last year, it was L'I Richard Simmons, who won the state crown at Spartan Speedway near Lansing and then went on to Islip, Long Island, on the edge of New York City, to triumph in the nationals.

This year it is 24-year-old Dennis Pace, 792 York, Plymouth, who has ambitions of following in the footsteps of L'I Richard.

Denny, who attended Bird School and was graduated from Plymouth High, is a pipe-welder for R.L. Coolest Co. of Saline, setting gas lines throughout the southern section of the state.

BUT IT'S HIS spare time when he gets behind the wheel of his '69 Chevy with a six cylinder motor that turned into his best time of the day.

It was at Spartan Speedway that he won the Michigan figure eight crown recently. He was first in the 25-lap open event, leading the pack across the finish line by a comfortable margin.

Before using an oil on wood, you should always test it ahead of time on a scrap piece of the same material. If you find that the stain soaks in so much that it gets too dark, you can make it lighter by wiping it off more quickly (or by wiping more vigorously). If this doesn't work, try thinning the stain with a little turpentine. If the stain soaks in unevenly and comes out blotchy, apply a thin coat of penetrating wood sealer first. This will partially seal the wood and lessen its porosity so that the stain will not soak in as deeply in the softer spots.

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CORRECTION

Prices of Scotts products in the American Hardware & Supply Co. ad at Aug. 20, should have read:

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10,000 sq. ft. . . . \$12.95

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