

Stevenson Whips Lakers, Nears Conference Title

By FRED DELANO

Stevenson High School's Spartans, who are within one victory of clinching at least a tie for the Inter-Lakes Conference grid title, will attempt to achieve that triumph in their own annual homecoming appearance Friday afternoon.

quick to warn his charges, however, that the invaders from Southfield Lathrup have a high-scoring offense "and will be tough to beat."

"This is only Lathrup's third year of football, and I don't know how they grew up so fast," said Reardon. "They execute very well and can hurt you both

in the air and on the ground." The fact that Lathrup is locked with Pontiac Northern at 2-1, in the Inter-Lakes standings, a game behind Stevenson's 3-0 mark, attests to Reardon's fears.

STEVENSON will counter Lathrup's strength with an attack of its own which has rolled up

98 points in achieving an overall 4-1 record, and a defense which has been hit for only two touchdowns all season.

In their latest victory, Friday's muddy 22-6 conquest of Walled Lake Central, the Spartans again collected dividends from their two most consistent offensive weapons, Quarterback

Rusty Gregg and Halfback Gene Walker.

Walker sprinted 31 yards for the first tally, Gregg plunging for a two-point conversion. Walled Lake cut the margin to 6-6 on a pass from Dan Burlingame to Mike Barnes before the first half ended, but the second half was all Steven-

son. The Spartans scored twice more and Walled Lake never again threatened.

THE BIG PLAY was a punt by Walker which was downed on the Walled Lake two-yard line. Two plays later Halfback Ron Smith fell on Burlingame's fumble in the end zone, and again Gregg ran for two points to make it 16-6.

A 50-yard fourth period drive sparked by Gregg, Walker,

Frank Kokenakes and Smith produced the final tally, Gregg going over from the one.

Mathematically, Stevenson could crown its homecoming weekend with an outright claim to its second straight con-

ference title. To accomplish that, however, the Spartans not only need a victory over Lathrup but Walled Lake would have to beat Pontiac Northern as well.

That combination would give the Spartans a two-game lead with only one conference appearance remaining.

By George Maskin

observing sports

There once was an era when one enjoyed some fresh air in between sports seasons.

Now there's no such thing as baseball being strictly in the spring and summer... football holding forth in the fall... basketball and hockey in the winter.

Look at the collision this week. We have football, baseball, basketball and hockey all going simultaneously. Toss in flat and harness racing, soccer, cross country, a little golf and tennis, some boxing, wrestling, and a few other things... it's enough to drive the sports editor on a daily paper bats.

Not to say Mr. Fan, too? You sit by the television and flip the dial from one sport to the other.

Look what's possible next Saturday, assuming the World Series goes at least six games.

You can see all four major sports on the tube during the same day.

There'll be the World Series, plus the Pistons meeting Lew Alcindor and the Milwaukee Bucks in the early afternoon.

College football follows in the afternoon and there'll be hockey in the evening.

NOTWITHSTANDING this crush, the public's interest in sports continues to smash records everywhere.

Baseball had a big year despite the fact Baltimore barely drew a million with its powerful, winning team.

Pro basketball is bubbling... up 21 per cent last year from the previous season.

The colleges can't complain too much about their football turnovers, nor can the high schools... especially those schools which have winning teams.

All the race tracks have found fans and betting soaring over previous years.

Auto racing has turned into a thriving sport. Millions now flock to watch the cars zip around the nation's ovals. Michigan is one of the real hot beds.

AND, SO IT GOES!

It's obviously apparent: 1—That Americans are sports minded... that most would rather watch than participate.

2—American pocketbooks are loaded with cash for which they will gladly part company for sports attractions.

3—Fans don't care how much sports they're offered. They love it all.

There's no question that sports serve as a great outlet for our mental emotions. We can go out and watch the Wings or Lions or Tigers or Bentley High and forget the major problems that confront us in our day-to-day lives.

Sports give us opportunities to second-guess... to pick apart the decisions of managers and umpires... the actions of players.

AND THEN THERE ARE those sports which provide us a chance to use our physical and mental strengths. We're talking now about Mr. Average Guy, who doesn't take to participation as much as he really should.

Around us are all kinds of opportunities at a minimum—sometimes even no—expense to engage in some phase of athletics.

Observerland is jammed with several fine golf courses for the general public. There are plenty of tennis courts in the area and all kinds of diamonds for softball and baseball.

And, what about the two fine indoor hockey rinks now available for just plain skating or hockey in Livonia?

The jogging and run facilities in these parts are tremendous. You can easily copy what the prep country athletes do to keep in shape... jog through one of our parks, or maybe start in a park, use a few highways... and wind up dashing madly down the street on which you reside.

Don't overlook the fine gyms open for recreation basketball purposes, again at no charge.

All in all, sports are wonderful. Is there any wonder a guy can go nuts over them?

Top Sprinters Clash

Twenty-nine thoroughbreds, including the double stakes winner Royal Cap, have been nominated for Saturday's running of the \$50,000 added Hi-Weight Handicap at the Detroit Race Course.

Royal Cap is a four-year-old colt owned by Everett Lowrance, and DRG patrons have seen him score by a nose in the Frontier Handicap after posting an easier 3 1/2 length victory in the Good Neighbor Handicap three weeks earlier.

Another stakes winner is M.H. Van Berg's Zuke's Bay Boy, who won a division of the Curtains Up Handicap here on July 28.

Paul F. Ternas' swift gelding, Maize 'N Blue, a frequent winner throughout the year on Michigan tracks, is another who is likely to face the starter Saturday.

THE HI-WEIGHT stakes is

for three-year-olds and upward, and will be run at six furlongs as the feature of a 10-race program. Starters from among the 29 nominees will be named Thursday.

This will be only the second running of the Hi-Weight, an event in which weight assignments run far higher than usual.

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No Offense Sinks West Again, 8-0

By W.W. EDGAR

After losing their last three games because of fumbles, the Plymouth Rocks are hopeful that the inspiration from a homecoming crowd and the law of averages will return them to the victors' ranks in their game

with Allen Park Friday night. The game is a "must" for the Rocks for the success of the season depends on the outcome. A victory over Allen Park will keep their hopes alive for a winning season.

With a record of two victories—against Northville and

Farmington—and three defeats inflicted by Livonia Bentley, Trenton and Redford Union, the Rocks now must win their three remaining games.

Following the battle with Allen Park, they'll face Belleville at home and then close the season at Walled Lake. A

defeat in any of the last three games will make it impossible to reach more than a break-even record for the season.

THE UNEXPECTED 7 to 0 defeat in the mud and rain at Redford Union last Friday dropped the Rocks to their lowest

point of the season. They had hoped to use Redford Union as a spring board to get back into the race for the Suburban Six honors.

The mud and the rain, combined with the injury suffered by Jon Cedberg that forced him to remain on the sidelines

for all but a few plays late in the game, plagued the Rocks from the start. Cedberg sustained a badly sprained wrist and was unable to pass with any degree of consistency.

The Rocks had anticipated a passing game by their rivals. Instead, Redford Union remained on the ground and with Tailback Bill Booker they advanced deep into Rocks territory late in the second quarter. Here the Rocks defense came to the fore and stopped-Booker one foot from the goal line in one of its best stands of the

Inspired by this stand, the Rocks got a break, with two minutes to play, when Dan Chopp recovered a Redford fumble at midfield. Now, battling the conditions and the clock, the Rocks took to the air.

Howie Schryer rifled a pass to Chopp on the left flank for 25 yards. Lining up quickly Schryer again dropped back to pass. He spotted Charlie Wolf open on the right side and fired the ball to him.

AFTER A GOOD CATCH of the muddy ball it seemed as though he had stepped into the end zone in the dark corner of the field. But the cheerleaders turned to groans when Wolf allowed the ball to slip away after he touched the ground and Redford Union took over.

Like most mud battles this was fought between the 20-yard line, but finally Redford caught the Rocks napping on a pass defense in the third period, with the play that decided the game.

Working his way behind the Rock defense Kirk Taylor, speedster of the Redford backs, took a pass from Gary Benedict and raced 35 yards for the only touchdown of the game. Bob Seght added the extra point and that was that.

The Rocks tried valiantly and made one last desperate drive in the closing minutes. Cedberg was rushed into the game to lead an air attack, but had to give way after two attempts. Then Schryer took over and rifled a pass that Bob Herbert intercepted for Redford and the Rocks hopes were buried in the mud.

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Steer This Way

BY GEORGE E. REALS

Among new safety standards is a requirement for large trucks to have a rear frame which will keep small cars from running under.

Architects advise coastal cities who run short of parking areas to use deep trenches beneath waterfront piers and wharves.

More station wagons were sold last year than any of the eight preceding years... almost 10% of all cars sold.

Gasoline tax is now 50 cents a gallon. New starts \$1 million per hour for cities, states and Washington.

To get the most mileage from your tires, keep them properly inflated. All five should be checked twice a month.

Tires are important to safe driving, but so are your brakes, muffler and shock absorbers. Drive to CRESTWOOD DODGE for a free check before you take that next trip.

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