

RU Sparkles With Spartan Relay Wins

Redford Union High's track team chalked up a pair of indoor relay records in the Spartan Relays at Michigan State Saturday.

A quartet of John Grober, Bob Lark, Dennis Keeney and Bill Kuhn formed the two combinations.

Kuhn ran a blazing 1:59.5 anchor leg to bring RU's two-mile

relay home in second place in the time of 8:15. Then in the mile relay, they came in third with Lark turning in an anchor leg of :51.9 as RU was clocked in 3:44.5.

FARMINGTON'S Mark Bender, winner of the 60-yard dash a week before in the Huron relays, came in third this time while Farmington's shuttle hurdle relay team posted a fourth-place finish.

Several area track teams are scheduled to begin dual meet action this week. Redford Union and Farmington will send delegations to the Mansfield Relays, held at Mansfield, Ohio on Saturday. The Mansfield meet attracts the top prep thrillclads from all sections of the country.

Franklin and Churchill, who were to meet in a dual meet Friday, decided to reschedule it for

a later date because of the heavy snows. Most prep track coaches, along with their baseball counterparts, are grumbling because of the late arrival of spring.

"It's held us back considerably," several said as they returned to the classroom from Easter vacation this week. "We had a chance during vacation for extra workouts, but

weren't able to do anything outdoors except maybe a little running."

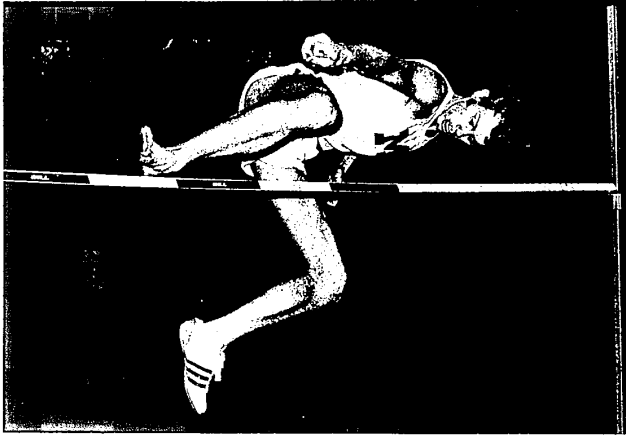
SAID ONE BASEBALL coach:

"I guess we'll go right from the gym and indoor workouts into our first game."

"Our infielders will not have had a chance to sharpen up. Our batters will have to settle for

what they did indoors...and that wasn't much."

Most of the coaches were hoping that last week's snows "aren't an indication" of some bad days ahead this spring. "I sure could kill us," said one coach, "if we can't get in the proper training and our baseball games on schedule. "The season already is short enough. Too short."



OVER THE BAR with a perfect jump is John Mann, of North Farmington, who is the leading high jumper for the Farmington of Michigan. Although only a sophomore,

Catholic Schools Add Sports As Spring Slates Grow Up

Time was when most Catholic High School League members restricted their sports activity in the spring to just baseball. But it's a different story now. They've branched out like their public school brothers and made track a big sport, too. Several of the parochial schools also are fielding golf and tennis teams these days.

CONSIDER THE three Catholic schools in Observatory. Bishop Borgess will send forth teams this spring in baseball, track, tennis and golf.

Our Lady of Sorrows will have a track, baseball and golf teams. St. Agatha will concentrate on baseball and track.

"We're getting bigger and bigger and have more boys who want to participate in the various activities," says Bob Kelley of Sorrows, who has coached at the Farmington school for several years and

enjoyed considerable success in baseball. Sorrows boosted last year's state Class C-D champs in golf and should have another good season Sorrows baseball team is the defending divisional champ.

Meantime, St. Agatha will be shooting for "a sweep" of major titles during the 1969-70 school year in the big three of sports.

St. Agatha reigned in football and basketball and should be a strong threat for baseball laurels.

Teams in tennis are booked for matches next week while the full-scale Catholic League schedules in baseball, golf and track open on Monday April 20.

Here are the schedules:

BASEBALL
Bishop Borgess
April: 23-Gabriel Richard; 27-at Pontiac CC; 30-DeARBorn Sacred Heart.
May: 4-Aquinas; 11-at Gabriel Richard; 14-Pontiac CC; 18-DeARBorn Sacred Heart; 21-at Aquinas.

St. Agatha
April: 21-Mt. Carmel; 24-at Ypsilanti St. John; 28-St. Andrew.
May: 1-at St. Francis de Sales; 8-Wayne St. Mary; 12-at Lourdes; 15-at Mt. Carmel; 19-Ypsilanti St. John; 22-at St. Andrew.

Sorrows
April: 20-Royal Oak St. Mary's; 25-at Waterford OLLH; 27-St. Rita; 30-St. James.

May: 5-Orchard Lake St. Mary; 7-at Royal Oak St. Marys; 11-Waterford OLLH; 14-at St. Rita; 18-at St. James; 21-Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

TRACK
Bishop Borgess
April: 20-Cabrini at Thurston.
May: 1-at Gabriel Richard; 4-Pontiac CC at Thurston; 11-DeARBorn Sacred Heart at Thurston; 20-Aquinas at Schuler.

St. Agatha
April: 22-St. Francis de Sales at Cooley; 27-at Wayne St. Mary.

May: 9-Ypsilanti St. John and Ann Arbor St. Thomas at U. of M.; 20-St. Alphonsus at Brother Rice.
Sorrows
April: 23-at Ulica St. Lawrence; 29-at Orchard Lake St. Mary's.
May: 17-St. Rita at Hazel Park; 20-St. Stanislaus at Farmington High.

TENNIS
Sorrows
April: (week of) 13-U. of D.; 20-at De la Salle; 27-Bishop Gallagher.
May: 4-at St. Ambrose; 11-Brother Rice; 18-at Catholic Central; 25-at Austin.

GOLF
Bishop Borgess
May: 1-Pontiac CC; 7-DeARBorn Sacred Heart at Rouge; 11-Benedictine at Redford; 14-Pontiac CC at Rouge; 18-at DeARBorn Sacred Heart; 21-Benedictine at Rouge.

Sorrows
May: 4-St. Paul; 7-at Mt. Clemens; 11-Mary; 11-Sacred Heart Seminary; 14-at Grrosse Pointe St. Paul; 18-Mt. Clemens St. Mary; 21-at Sacred Heart Seminary.

Red Wings Make Abel's Predictions Come True

By W.W. EDGAR

One hot afternoon last July Sid Abel, general manager of the Detroit Red Wings, was sitting in a convertible car waiting the call to join the lead group in the annual Founders Day parade in Farmington. He was nodding and smiling to all who recognized him and his mind seemed far removed from the grueling hockey wars and the thought that the Red Wings hadn't qualified for the playoffs in three years. Thinking he'd take Sid by surprise, a friend strode up to the car and asked: "Sid, what do things look like for next season?"

WITHOUT WAITING a minute to answer or trying to duck the question Sid calmly answered:

"If we can get Rodger Crozier to wear a mask and take his turn in the nets, and if the 'Big Line' can stay clear of injuries we ought to be able to make it. A lot will depend on Roger."

The "Big Line" to which he referred includes Frank Mahovlich, Gordie Howe and Alex Delvecchio, and it has been the backbone of the Red Wings for several years.

On that humid morning Sid explained that Roger had become a little gun shy in goal and was yielding to pressure. What's more, he explained, Roger had a distaste for masks, claiming they didn't fit and they bothered more than helped him.

Little did Sid Abel figure that morning that there was a shakeup of the Wings in the

offing -- that the team would be upset emotionally, and that he would have to carry the burden of trying again to get the team in the playoffs. But he proved to be a good prophet.

THE BURDEN WAS placed on him when the season was only two days old. If you recall, Bill Gadsby was relieved from the coaching job and Bruce Norris, the Wings' owner, asked Sid to take his former place on the bench in the role of general manager-coach.

It was a tough assignment. But Saturday night when the Wings conquered the New York Rangers and earned their place in the Stanley Cup playoffs for the first time in four years, he proved that he was equal to the task.

Not only did Sid make Crozier a convert to wearing a mask, but he did one of the greatest jobs of platooning goal minders and juggling players the game ever has known.

And in doing it, the Wings piled up 95 points, more than many teams that have won the championship in other years.

The manner in which he platoon goal minders brought about a condition whereby the two-Crozier and Ray Edwards -- scored 40 victories. And Crozier, the convert, registered 16 of them.

FORTUNATELY, TOO, the Big Line, after shaking off a few minor injuries and a bit of sickness along the way, managed to stay together over the route, and furnish an example for the younger players on the club.

In the tight spots Gordie, the all-time great, and other members of the Big Line came through in the wildest fights the National Hockey League ever has known.

But, good as the Big Line performed and great as the net minders were, it was Sid Abel who pulled the strings after the first two games.

There is an old saying in hockey that the coach behind the bench is worth at least 20 goals to a team.

They won't show in the record books but Sid, in his able manipulation, was worth more than 20 to the Red Wings.

He got the team in the playoffs and made good a prophecy in a manner he will long remember.



NOW WHAT? That's the big question facing General Manager-Coach Sid Abel of the Red Wings who entered the first round of the playoffs Wednesday in Chicago against the Blackhawks.

Tigers In Happy Mood After Opening Victory

It's been a brutal two months for general manager Jim Campbell of the Tigers. The McLain incident...the troubles the Tigers experienced during most of training camp...cries of "why don't you do something about shortstop?"

These were just some of the problems which beset Campbell, plus field manager Mayo Smith.

BUT IN THE final week of the training season, the Tigers suddenly began to jell.

They won six straight, they learned that Denny McLain can rejoice them on July 1 and then they opened the 1970 campaign with a 3-0 win over Washington as such notables as President and Mrs. Nixon watched.

If Campbell were to single out the brightest feature of the first Tiger victory, it would have to be the job turned in by Cesar Gutierrez, who has been promoted to the team's No. 1 shortstop this season.

It was Campbell who landed Gutierrez from San Francisco a year ago.

Hitting has something else again. But neither Campbell nor Smith appeared to be concerned about Gutierrez' stick-work. They figured they needed a slick fielder at short and that whatever Gutierrez would do at the plate would be a little extra on the cake.

The Tiger brass felt they had enough power elsewhere so that they could go along with a weak batter at short.

WELL, GUTIERREZ showed some hitting punch in the exhibitions and then he responded with three hits and a walk against the Senators in the season's opener.

It's too much to expect that Gutierrez will be that kind of a hitter or an all-around player in the days and weeks ahead.

But, if he can chip in with around a .250 mark, the Tigers will be more than thrilled and what has been a sour spot in their lineup for a long time will have vanished.

There's no question Gutierrez will help give the Tigers an airtight inner defense.

Sports Briefs

Freshman Dave Chalmers (Southfield) led the 1969-70 Wayne State University basketball team in field goal percentage with a .525 mark, the fourth highest figure in WSU annals.

Wayne State University senior basketball captain Fred Marquis (Detroit-St. Cecilia) ranked first in career assists (285), second in field goal pct. (.497), fifth in free throw pct. (.727), eighth in games (67), tenth in rebounds (408), 11th in points (680) and 12th in field goals (288) after concluding his career in 1969-70.

One Vet Back On Net Team

Only one returning letterman-Dan Garber from Detroit Cady-will play for Schoolcraft College's tennis team in Saturday's double opener.

The team will meet Alpena CC at 11 a.m. and then Delta at 1 p.m. at Schoolcraft.

Other members of the Schoolcraft squad, coached by Jack Washka are: Dan Bivins (Livonia Franklin); John Clay (Redford Union); Randy John (Livonia Franklin); Greg Matkovich (Clarenceville); Robert Siegle (Livonia Bentley); Jim Sutton (Garden City East); Jim Hall (Cincinnati); and Chuck Cise (Northville).

Last year Schoolcraft had a 4-5 record.

The schedule: April 11-Alpena and Delta; 13-at Macomb; 15-at Kellogg; 17-Monroe; 30-at Henry Ford.

May 1-Ft. St. Clair; 2-at Lorain; 4-at St. Clair; 8-Invitational at Port Huron; 12-at Concordia; 14-Highland Park; 15-16 team championship at Grand Rapids.

STOREWIDE Clearance Sale

MAYTAG

WASHER & DRYER Both for Only \$396

DE-306 HALO-OF-HEAT HIGH SPEED DRYER

A-106 WASHPOWER AUTOMATIC WASHER

Work-saving features at a price kind to budgets: big family-load capacity. Push-button Water Level Control to wash small loads and save water. Positive water level over time. Corrosion resistant cabinet: porcelain enamel wash basket, three water temp selections and many others. Maytag dependability at a budget price.

CREDIT TERMS AVAILABLE!

OPEN: 9:30 A.M. TO 9 P.M.

BERRY'S WAREHOUSE OUTLET

27419 JOY ROAD AT INKSTER ROAD, WESTLAND

PHONE: KE 5-0660 or GA 1-1717

\$115

DE-64