

Prep Gridders Set To Kick Off Season

Area high school football teams are ready for the big kickoff. In one feature, Bentley boys will clash in the 1968 season next weekend with games on Friday, Saturday and Sunday marking the opening slate of action for teams in observation.



ROBERT WALDIE, 24024 Colchester, Farmington, can testify to the quality of Michigan's coho salmon fishing. Bob took this 30-inch, 17-pound silvery beauty recently while fishing in Lake Michigan near Manistee. They usually run eight or nine pounds — which wouldn't be so bad either.

By George Maskin
observing sports

If you're a high school football fan or player or coach—or maybe a writer—you'll see something different this fall.

The preps are calling for an automatic time-out every time there's a first down.

This means the clock stops whether one team retains the ball in a march, or turns the ball over to its rival, each time there's a new series of downs.

The reason makes a great deal of sense. The preps actually are following the professionals, and the collegians.

Let's cite an example:

It's Bentley vs. Plymouth and time is running out in the first or second half. Bentley has a six-point lead and Plymouth has the ball.

The Rocks advance for a first down and the referee waves the chains on along the sidelines. Somebody is a little slow moving the sticks. It could be deliberate, chances are not.

Valuable seconds are running off while all this is going on. Well, that's the way it has been. No more.

Now as soon as the referee rules there's a first down the clock stops and stays stopped until the chains are set and the players are ready to operate.

IT'S A PROGRESSIVE change in the rule, just as the one which governs short kickoffs.

Heretofore, if Franklin elected to try for a short kick and the ball didn't go 10 yards and Franklin covered his own kickoff, North Farmington would have two alternatives: 1—have Franklin penalized five yards and kick over, or 2—Let Franklin keep the ball.

You know what North Farmington would do. It'd make Franklin take the penalty.

Now, North Farmington gets the ball at the first touching by Franklin, so Franklin had better make sure the ball goes 10 yards or more on short kicks.

Once the pigskin goes 10 yards, either team can fall on the ball.

ALL OF WHICH brings up another point on kickoffs, those that sail into the end zone.

In a professional game, if the Lions kick off and the ball bounces over the goal line and Green Bay doesn't ground the ball, the Lions can pounce on it for a touchdown.

Can't happen, though, in high school football. Once the ball sails over the goal line, it's dead. The receiving team takes it on its own 20.

That's why there never can be more than a 99.99-yard return of a kickoff or punt for a touchdown in a prep game. It's different in the pros and colleges.

THE COLLEGES have done away with a very silly rule that prevailed a year ago. On punts, only the ends and backs of the kicking team could run down field to make the tackle.

Just about every coach screamed. So, now the rule reads that anybody can rush up or down field to cover the punt.

The colleges also are copying the preps and pros by permitting one player to stroll to

duels will highlight the schedule. In one feature, Bentley boys will clash in the 1968 season next weekend with games on Friday, Saturday and Sunday marking the opening slate of action for teams in observation.

Tigers' Home Games Open On Oct. 5

Now's Time To Think Of Tickets

The dates are set for the 1968 World Series—and the opponents are just about set.

At a meeting in New York last Thursday, it was officially announced the "last classified" game will begin on Oct. 1 in the city of the National League winner. That'll be the St. Louis Cardinals.

Came two also will be played in St. Louis before the scene switches to the American League city—which will be the Detroit Tigers.

The third, fourth and fifth game, if necessary, are slated for Tiger Stadium from Oct. 5-7. If there's a sixth and seventh game, it's back to St. Louis on Oct. 9-10.

THE TIGERS and Cardinals also have received the go-ahead to print and sell tickets. All of which means Tiger fans can expect an announcement next week informing them how to get their tickets.

gates to Pontiac Northern Friday night. Franks hosts Remel Saturday afternoon and Clarenceville takes on Whitmore Lake at Clarenceville in another Friday night encounter.

THE CATHOLIC League curtain goes up Sunday with St. Francis de Sales playing

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The Tiger management should know how to handle the situation. They went through the same process last year, but had to return all the money when the Tigers just missed the flag.

There should be no need to kick away any money this time. The Tigers continue to boom

are making any predictions. But the indications are that area teams again will emerge with their share of championships.

LEAGUE - BY - LEAGUE, here's the story:

SUBURBAN SIX -- It could be another fine season for Bentley, which finished 6-2 last year. Coach Larry Joiner is optimistic about his team's chances.

However, Allen Park stages up as mightily with most stats back and ranks No. 1 in the pre-season selections.

Plymouth and Redford Union would appear to have their hands full. Each team must rebuild in many positions.

NORTHWEST -- The word is out "Beware of Thurston." Coach Bill McDonald has a veteran contingent, plus several fine newcomers.

Glenn and Franklin, the co-champs last season, could produce a lot of headaches, while North Farmington is on the slim side.

departing. Neither Groves or Oak Park should figure in the title chase.

WAYNE OAKLAND -- Look for Clarenceville to finish close to the 500 mark after last season's 475. The team's defending champs are again loaded with Northville rated an outside chance for the crown.

INTERLAKES -- Walld Lake should continue to rule the roost. Stevenson, with eight letter-winners on deck, could improve on last season's 2-10 finish. Farmington should be better after failing to win in four conference starts in 1967.

CATHOLIC LEAGUE -- St. Agatha rates as the powerhouse in the Southwest Division of the Second Division. Our Lady of Sorrows will be in the race in the Northwest Division, but it's going to be a tough fall for the Bishop-Borgess team which embarks on its first varsity schedule, playing in the tough First Division West without a single senior on the squad. You see, Bishop-Borgess won't have any twelfth graders until next year.

INDEPENDENT -- That's Livonia's new Churchill High in its first campaign. Churchill will play a tight schedule, facing varsity and junior varsity rivals. There are only tenth graders at Churchill so the team will be outmanned taking the field.

Redford Hopes For World Flag Cut Short By Ohio's

What if.....

"A coin flip had turned out differently?"

"A driving effort on a catch attempt had not barely missed?"

"An eager bid to make a double play hadn't misfired?"

If just one of these had worked in the favor of Redford Township's Class A baseball team, the Bill Mikel-managed aggregation would be playing in this weekend's Amateur Baseball Congress World Series for the second straight year.

But it wasn't to be... and as a result, Redford was ousted in the East-Central regional semifinals when downed by Lakewood, Ohio, 4-3, Tuesday night.

Lakewood had beaten Redford the day before and thus was 100 per cent responsible for putting the Townshipers on the sidelines after they had won the Greater Livonia, Detroit District and state championships.

Then in the East-Central regional, Redford won two in a row before Lakewood came up with a no-hit stopper and finally the crusher.

AS FOR the coin flip, after play on Monday night, there were three teams remaining—Redford, Lakewood and Greensburg, Ky. Each had lost one game in the double-elimination tournament.

Two of the teams were assured a spot in the world series since both the champion and runner-up qualify. Greensburg drew the bye into the finals and that also meant into the world series.

So that left Redford against Lakewood, which after beating the Michiganders, went on to down Greensburg, 9-5, for the regional crown.

The desperate catch attempt that failed was made by Sam Lamerato, the able Redford centerfielder.

Redford was leading, 1-0. There were two out and Lakewood had the bases loaded in the third inning.

The batter drilled one to center. Lamerato had to make a long and just missed making the grab. The ball skipped off the end of his glove for a three-run double.

THOSE WERE the only runs Lakewood could fashion until the ninth inning. Then Mike Remesch walked. Allen Dukage was hit by a pitch.

But Middelbigh hit to short.

inning when Lamerato singled. Rose walked and Gary Schaefer was safe on an error. In the third, a hit by Lamerato, walks to Massene and Rose and a single by Schaefer accounted for the final two Redford runs of the game—and the season.

The Townshipers missed a great chance in the seventh. Jay Schwalin, the losing pitcher



FAMILIAR SIGHT in Tiger Stadium these days and nights. A youngster climbs over the top of the Tiger dugout seeking an autograph from Willie (the Wonder) Horton, the new idol of Bengals, young and old.

Delvecchio Operated On

Veteran center Alex Delvecchio of the Detroit Red Wings was resting in his Livonia home this weekend after undergoing minor surgery.

Delvecchio, who is 36, expects to report on camp when the Wings assemble for training at Port Huron next Friday. He's the team's captain.

Goalie Roy Edwards will miss another week. He's hospitalized in Hamilton, Ont., with pneumonia and likely will be sidelined for two or three weeks.

Well, part of the Packers' domination.

GREEN BAY still is the team to beat in the Central Division of the NFL in which Detroit, Chicago and Minnesota are the other tailfeathers.

Packers Receive Nod To Retain Pro Crown

Depending on which league you follow, it's either start or finish time in professional football this weekend.

The American League teams are plunging into their regular-season action with three games on the docket—and all of them on national television with Channel 4 the Detroit-area outlet for the action which began Friday night and continues Sunday afternoon and Monday evening.

Meantime, the National Football League is in the process of ending their exhibition action and Detroit-area fans were to be treated to a pair of TV encounters Saturday night.

The first tilt matched the Lions against the New York Jets while Baltimore and Dallas were to be featured immediately afterward.

With the title race opening up, the experts are weighing in their prognostications and the way some of them see it—this could be the year the Green Bay Packers' reign ends in the NFL.

And, if you want to go a little further -- it'll be Oakland winning the Western flag in the AFL and Houston reigning in the East -- and then Oakland over Houston and finally Dallas over Oakland in the Super Bowl.

THE LIONS have strengthened themselves in several spots, especially at quarterback with the acquisition of Bill Musgrave. With Musgrave to pass 'em, and players like the speedy Earl McCullough to catch him, the Lions will boast their strongest aerial attack in several years.

They have the runners in spades. Like Mel Farr, they always have had one of the most able defensive units in the business.

The Lions, however, must contend with the toughest starting schedule of ending team in either league. They open at Dallas next Sunday and are confronted with two games against Green Bay in the early weeks.

"If we can just get past the first notch of play in good shape, we could do all right," says Coach Joe Schmidt.

Bronto's Attack Will Feature Added Mobility

KALAMAZOO, Mich. -- Western Michigan University lost 342 pounds from its football team during the summer but Head Coach Bill Doolittle isn't shedding any tears.

In fact, the Bronto head coach is quite happy about the situation. The 342 pounds represent the team has lost since last season.

Nearly half, or 39, of the 60 players who reported for the start of fall practice, on Aug. 23 had lost weight since last season, making the 1968 Bronto a trim, swift crew.

"I was really surprised when I saw some of the players," said Doolittle. "Our summer program helped but the players disciplined themselves more than anything else. This will help our mobility quite a bit and our running has already improved in early drills."

Golf Queen To Turn Pro

Joyce Kazmierksi, the former Livonia Stevenson high school teacher and the No. 1 woman's amateur golfer in Michigan, is turning professional.

Miss Kazmierksi, the state champ this year, has left for California where she'll make her debut on Sept. 20.

She taught at Stevenson last year but resigned that position at the end of the year.

FAHA Holds Hockey Try-Outs

Tryouts for suburban boys, ages 17-18, interested in hockey, will be held by the Farmington Amateur Hockey Association Sunday, Sept. 8, starting at 6 p.m. at the Detroit Skating Club.

All boys, ages 17-18, are eligible to play in the Juvenile Division of the league. Tryouts will be held later for players 14-16 and 18-20. Players should bring their own equipment to the tryouts.

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IT'S TIME TO BOWL!

TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL OPENINGS

MONDAY -- 9:15 p.m. -- Men's Junior House -- 4 to team over \$3.50 per point

FRIDAY -- 7:00 p.m. -- Men's 775-850 average

TUESDAY -- 9:30 a.m. -- Ladies -- Free Nursery

WEDNESDAY -- 9:00 p.m. -- Mixed League--any average

SATURDAY -- 2:30 p.m. -- Beginning children 7 to 11 years old

EVERY OTHER SUNDAY 6:00 p.m. -- MIXED LEAGUE

SUNDAY -- 12:30 -- Teen classic. Boys over 140 average and girls over 115 average

LEAGUES START AFTER LABOR DAY TO REGISTER

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The Tiger Schedule

SUNDAY--Minnesota at Tiger Stadium, 1:30 p.m. (WJR).

MONDAY--At California, 11 p.m. (WJR).

TUESDAY -- At California, 11 p.m. (WJR).

WEDNESDAY -- At California, 11 p.m. (WJR).

FRIDAY -- Oakland at Tiger Stadium, 8 p.m. (WJR).

SATURDAY--Oakland at Tiger Stadium, 2:15 p.m. (WJR and Channel 2).

SUNDAY -- Oakland at Tiger Stadium, 1:30 p.m. (WJR).

3 RU Stars Enter U-D

Three members of Redford Township's Connie Mack state baseball champs, have entered the University of Detroit where they'll play under Coach Bob Miller, who happens to make his home in the township.

Catcher Bill Fahey, infielder Bill Howe and outfielder Kevin Fox all have picked the U of D. The trio played together at Redford Union.

Miller also has plucked Don Syrtos, star left-handed pitcher from Thurston High who during the summer played on the Detroit Firemen's team which won the National Amateur Federation title.

