



Chris McCosky

No one's perfect; I ought to know

TOO BAD there weren't any members of the Livonia Churchill boys soccer team at the Livonia Family Y Sunday night. They would have been able to see poor sportsmanship at its ugliest — far worse than ever exhibited by the Chargers.

As I'm writing this, Sunday night is checking out and Monday morning is checking in. I can't sleep. Some five hours earlier I made a complete kind of myself in a recreational league basketball game.

Is there anything more meaningless in the total scheme of life than a recreational league basketball game?

That really didn't stop me from fouling out and, in a fit of stupidity, verbally and physically attacking the referee.

After Churchill lost to Livonia Stevenson in the district finals of the state soccer tournament last fall, I wrote that the beaten team wore its frustration like a jersey.

If that was true, and I believe it was, then tonight I wore my frustration like a neon sign.

LIKE THE Churchill players, I can come up with alibis for my behavior.

My rage was triggered by a patently, pathetically incompetent official. I was sure this guy had it in for me. He wanted to flex all the power vested in him by those handsome zebra stripes; he wanted to show me who was boss. And he did.

Did I react like a rational, supposedly educated person who condemns high school kids for misconduct in interscholastic athletics? Did I consider that this poor guy, for about \$10 a game, was not having much fun chasing a bunch of aging, foul-mouthed, past-prime-time players up and down a basketball floor?

Hell no.

When the fifth and fatal foul call was made, I defied rationality. I exploded. I charged him, cursed him, shoved him. A real class act.

It wasn't pretty. I'm glad my son wasn't there to see it. And I'm glad John Neff or any of his Chargers weren't there. If they were, they could have written one heckuva letter to the editor.

I GUESS the point of this is that we all do things we are red-faced about. Ain't none of us candidates for sainthood.

When I wrote the article about Churchill's ill-mannered behavior, I wrote from a very empathetic point of view. You think I didn't know how those guys felt? You think I didn't feel the frustration right there on the sidelines?

You bet I did. And sorry to say, I probably would have reacted to it just like some of the Churchill players did.

Because of my empathy, I was able to convey it so (too?) poignantly in the newspaper.

I sure wish I had been able to restrain myself on that basketball court tonight. I'm sure some of the Churchill players felt the same after their loss to Stevenson.

SOME, THOUGH, probably still think they acted properly, that my article was just some pro-Stevenson horse manure. I understand that. I would have felt the same way.

I was a hot-head in high school. I lost my temper and embarrassed myself and my teammates more times than I like to remember. Coaches and parents and friends would say, "Chris, if you would just keep a lid on that temper of yours you'd be a much better player."

Ha. I'd laugh at them. They didn't know me. I was just a super-charged competitor. I wanted to win more than those other cool-headed guys. What I lacked in ability, I thought, I made up for in intensity.

Lies, lies, lies. Look where that stubborn attitude got me. I'm behaving the same way — worse actually — than I did back in high school.

The best that can be said for me is that I'm no hypocrite. I know a jackass when I act like one, or, I mean, I know a jackass when I see one.

But that isn't making it any easier for me to fall asleep tonight.

Records tumble in OU win

One for the books — that's the best way to describe Oakland University's men's basketball victory over University of Michigan-Dearborn Monday.

The visiting Wolves never really had a chance, trailing by 13 at the half (59-37) and never getting within 10 in the second as the Pioneers set two school records for field goal percentage in a 99-76 rout.

UM-D, which has decided to drop its mens basketball program after this season, will be missed on OU's schedule. The Pioneers have used the last two meetings to put new records in the books. Last season, it was Chris Howard's 52-point scoring spree against the Wolves that broke the team record.

OU sports

floor, netting 21 points and six rebounds. Johnny Johnson finished with 14 points and seven assists and Skip Townsend came off the bench to get 11 points, five rebounds and two blocked shots in 11 minutes. Mike McCann led the Pioneer rebounders, who outboarded the Wolves 45-18, with nine.

Tim Van Rheim's 28 points was best for UM-D. Mike Belczak added 23 and nine rebounds.

second half. OU, which was never able to build a cushion bigger than seven, regained the lead on two free throws by McCann.

SVSC's Phillip Miller made one of two foul shots to tie it at 54, but John Henderson gave OU the lead for good with a 12-foot bank shot with 2:01 left. Bittlinger followed with two free throws and Rob Alvin made one to increase the Pioneer advantage to five with 1:10 left. A Miller jumper narrowed the final margin, but wasn't enough for SVSC.

Bittlinger had 17 points, Henderson 11 and Johnson nine for OU. Henderson also nabbed nine rebounds. Goggins was SVSC's only double-figure scorer. Miller scored nine.

The win improved OU's Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) record to 3-0, the first time ever the Pioneers have won their first three conference games. In addition, all three wins have come on the road.

OU is currently tied for first in the NCAA Division II North Central regional rankings with Augustana (S.D.). The top four teams in each of the eight regions is awarded an NCAA tournament berth.

OU'S WOMEN did not enjoy the

same success as their male counterparts. The Lady Pioneers were unable to conquer the defending GLIAC champions Saturday, losing 62-52 at SVSC.

The Lady Cardinals, who have dominated the GLIAC for the past three seasons, continued that streak against OU by building a 30-24 half-time edge. The closest the Lady Pioneers forged in the second half was six (38-30) on a Margaret Boyle basket with 14:11 left.

By the 11:33 mark, SVSC's lead was 10, and it remained in double digits until the game's end. Freshman center Debbie Delie's 11 points and 11 rebounds led OU. Kim Klein added 10 points. Boyle, the GLIAC leader in assists (6.3 per game), was limited to seven points, four assists and three steals.

Sue Mayes-Scott and Sandy Theriault each poured in 15 points for SVSC. Treva Sanders netted 10 points and grabbed 20 rebounds. Theriault had 12 boards, as the Lady Cardinals had a commanding 53-38 rebounding edge.

The loss dropped OU to 11-2 overall and 2-1 in the GLIAC. SVSC is undefeated — 12-0 overall and 3-0 in the conference.

OU's women play at Wright State Thursday. WSU is the second-ranked team in the Great Lakes region, one spot ahead of OU. On Saturday, OU's women and men host Northwood Institute in the GLIAC home opener for both Pioneer teams.



"Hey, big saver!" The Big E's gonna treat you right

At the Big E, we think you deserve the best. Which is why you deserve President's Plus — a free package of over 40 special discounts, preferred services and benefits designed especially for our big savers.

If you're a big saver with \$10,000 or more in any combination of accounts at the Big E, your President's Plus card entitles you to pluses like a free checking account, guaranteed check cashing, loan discounts, free travelers checks, VISA® card benefits, special appointment services, a free subscription to our Money Managers' Club Magazine and more. President's Plus also gives you big discounts on fine dining, cultural and sports events, shopping, travel and recreational services.

And as your banking relationship with us grows, you'll enjoy even more pluses like a special cash bonus travel program, pre-approved overdraft protection and free personalized retirement

financial counseling.

Right now you can take advantage of this terrific rate on a 13-month Big E CD:

6.50% 6.30%
annual percentage yield* annual percentage rate

*Interest is compounded daily and must remain on deposit for a full year at the stated rate to earn the annual yield shown. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Rate available for limited time only. Minimum deposit \$500.

Besides earning a great rate, you can enjoy all the other pluses of President's Plus with \$10,000 or more on deposit at the Big E.

Isn't it about time you got this kind of treatment from your bank? To find out more about President's

Plus, visit your nearest Big E office or call SMARTLINE® at 1-800-THE BIG E (1-800-843-2443), seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.



You deserve President's Plus

Talk to the experts
Empire of America

Twenty-one offices throughout the metropolitan Detroit area:
DETROIT: 2000 Van Dyke, 823-7102 / 1414 Telegraph, 537-7501 / 1710 West Vernor Highway, 841-8442 / 1300 West 7 Mile, 537-3400. EAST DETROIT: 19000 East 10 Mile, 771-8840. KENTWOOD: 21700 Northwestern Highway, 927-0551 / 20400 West 13 Mile, 353-2071 / 19700 Oakman, 925-7840 / 715 Twelve Mile, 266-8888. TROY: 254-4311. BIRMINGHAM: 4160 West Maple, 625-2244 / 12200 Southfield, 494-6400. Grosse Pointe Woods: 4770 West 6 Mile, 547-7200 / 12555 Grosse Pointe, 547-6400. WARREN: 1370 East 1300 West 14 Mile, 435-4430. FARMINGTON HILLS: 33000 Orchard Lake, 484-7222. CLARKSTON: 11400 294-0000. STERLING HEIGHTS: 3747 East 15 Mile, 977-0957. UTICA: 45670 Van Dyke, 734-4500. WARREN: 1307 West Warren, 584-7600. ROCHESTER HILLS: 10216 Great Oaks Mall, 1306 Walton Boulevard, 556-1040. GROSSE POINTE WOODS: 20005 Mack Avenue, 894-0151.

Equal Opportunity Lender

HOT WATER HEATERS
"Replace That Old Hot Water Heater"

ON SALE NOW! A.O. SMITH®
Only **\$295.00** 40 Gal. Nat. Gas
Save Prices May Vary With Local Gas Rates. Sale Ends 2/15/87

Replaces That Old Hot Water Heater
With One Of The Finest Heat Exchangers

Another Revamped Michigan House Corporation
INTERSTATE "ONE" SERVICE
HEATING COOLING REFRIGERATION
CALL US **477-9696** MON. THUR.
OR IF BUSY **SOME DAY SERVICE** FRID.
Call **477-6464** Weekend Sat. Extra
477-2125 Extra

PROGRESSIVE BUILDER'S EDUCATION
BUILDER'S LICENSE PREPARATION
• BUILDER'S SEMINAR SERIES

BUILDER'S LICENSE PREPARATION
NCI Associates, LTD is offering its highly successful course designed to prepare individuals for the Michigan Builder's License Exam. All Building topics will be covered to the extent necessary to pass the exam.

PLACE: Birney Middle School
27225 Evergreen Rd., Southfield (at 11 Mile)
DATE: Jan. 29 (Thurs.) **TIME:** 6-9 P.M.
COST: \$125 (text included)

New class begins: March 12, April 16 and June 4

BUILDER SEMINAR SERIES - BE YOUR OWN CONTRACTOR
Are you considering building your next home? Do you want to know more about the practical aspects of the residential construction project? If the answer is "yes," then this seminar series will prove to be invaluable. The topics are covered, step-by-step, in separate 2-hour seminars. Attend all sessions or just those of particular interest to you.

PLACE: Southfield-Livonia High School
19301 W. Twelve Mile Rd. (lecture hall)

Jan. 22: Blueprints/Reading & Understanding - This seminar will present an overview of blueprint reading faced with tips and techniques.
Feb. 8: Estimating & Job Costing - This is a "how-to" for builders and the general public. Learn how to shop, when to buy, and when to build.
Mar. 8: General Contracting/Sub-Contracting - This seminar will teach the novice how to obtain qualified people to build a house and how to protect their interests.
Apr. 8: Construction Financing/Insurance/Bonding - Learn how to obtain financing, including insurance and bonding, in order to maximize your dollars.
May 8: The Construction Lien Act - This seminar will introduce the Michigan Construction Lien Act, how it works, how to use it to your advantage.

CALL (313) 772-8390
for registration information.
Courses also available in Macomb and Washtenaw Areas
All classes/seminars are open to the general public