

Stevenson Belts Rocks In Opener

One victory doesn't spell a season but it was most encouraging for Stevenson High as 66-48 triumph in the season's opener against Plymouth.

The fact that the Rocks have been installed as one of the top teams in the Suburban Six League added to the importance of the triumph for Stevenson.

However, in fairness to

Plymouth, the Rocks played minus star Charles Wolfe, who was out with an injury. Wolfe's absence left Plymouth without one of its best scorers and top rebounders.

Stevenson was Ron Hoekstra, who grabbed 14 off the boards to go, with his 16 points.

Casey Jones topped the Rocks with 14 points while Howie Schryer had 10 for the losers.

Both teams start their league campaigns next Friday — Stevenson going after the Inter-Lakes Conference prize, Plymouth after the title in the Suburban Six League.

Davis Guides Patriot Cagers To Win Over Romulus, 63-55

THE GAME was close until after the half-time break. Stevenson led, 12-11, after one quarter and 30-26 at the intermission.

Then Ted Exarhos, a name which is certain to shine among the area's elite this season, took over with a one-man spurge in the third period.

He scored 13 points, two more than the entire Plymouth team in the session, as the Rocks swelled their lead to 50-37 after three quarters.

Exarhos hauled in 11 rebounds in addition to finishing with 27 points on 11 baskets and five free throws.

But the big rebounder for

There are things the box score of a basketball game don't tell.

In the case of Richard Davis it would show that he made only four points in Franklin High's opening night win over Romulus, 63-55.

To the unlearned, the observation would be obvious: "Davis didn't do much."

BUT COACH Bob Visser of Franklin singled out Davis as one of the major reasons for

the impressive showing turned in by his team.

"He was our floor leader. He set up our plays and made possible a number of baskets," said Visser.

DeBastos and Brad Jankow was too much for Sorrows in scoring and rebounding.

DeBastos had 23 points and Jankow 22 for St. Mary's. In rebounding, Jankow had 24 for the second straight game to his mate's 18.

They averaged better than a rebound per minute between them.

Dan Feiten tossed in 18 and Dan Blount 11 for Sorrows, which was suffering its second straight Catholic League reversal.

"Then, too, he was terrific on defense. With that kind of play, we'll be tough this season."

Franklin took a 10-4 lead after one quarter, moved

ahead, 30-21 at the half and then 44-37 following three quarters.

Rick Graham, half of Franklin's twin-brother act, led the victors' assault with 20 points. Tim Dietz was right behind with 18.

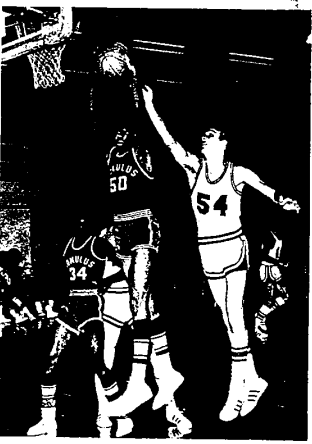
Mike Graham contributed nine points. Tony Kaseta eight and Steve Cass four.

Nate Davis had 10 and Calvin Harris 13 for the losers.

Franklin also felt that Visser's superior height paid off in the long run.

Franklin will begin its bid for Northwest Suburban League title honors next Friday night.

OUTJUMPED — Tim Dietz, Franklin's 6-8 center, failed to get the ball this trip. But he nailed it often enough in the Patriots' cage debut to thump the net for 18 points in a winning cause. (Photo by Tom Donoghue.)



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Michigan's harness racing community is mourning the death of Charley Coon, executive secretary of the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Assn. for more than 30 years.

generally considered the voice of the MHHA and one of the state's staunchest supporters of the standardbreds.

Charley, who has been on the ailing list for several years with heart trouble, died Thursday morning in a Port Huron hospital. He suffered a severe heart attack while attending a county fair in late August and had been in and out of the hospital ever since.

His death removes one of the most colorful and yet controversial figures in Michigan harness racing circles. Charley never gave an inch in any matters that concerned the MHHA or any of its members and fought for more purse money and more concessions for the horsemen up to the moment of his passing.

A RETIRED Detroit policeman, he turned to the pacers and trotters upon retirement and was a better than average hand at training and developing young horses. He was a regular on the county fair circuit prior to the advent of night harness racing at Northville Downs in 1944.

It was about that same time he became involved with the Michigan Harness Horsemen. He was elected secretary and held that post to the end. He was the only person in the state who could come up with the records of horses, young and old.

He was one of the pioneers in the movement to boost purses at the County fairs with the state providing \$3 for every one put up by the fair board. With the help of Orlow Owen, now retired general manager and vice president of Wolverine Raceway, the movement succeeded.

And with the increase in purses came an increase in the standardbreds to the point where there are innumerable breeding farms throughout the state with hundreds of Michiganbreds in competition.

It was in the '50s that Charley turned his attention to supervising work on the tracks. In a matter of a year or so he became such an expert that he was named track superintendent at Northville Downs, then Wolverine Raceway and finally at Hazel Park.

There wasn't any question about his ability. For Charley more than once proved he knew more about getting a racing strip in shape and keeping it that way than any other individual in these parts.

HIS CHIEF assistant in the early days was his oldest son, Chuck, who learned his lessons well and eventually took over for his Dad before finally accepting the post of track superintendent of the

Buffalo and Batavia, N.Y. plants.

Since then Chuck has moved into the post of starter under the New York Harness Racing Commission and has been starting programs in the New York City area for the past three years.

Meantime, Charley's duties as secretary of the MHHA took so much of his time that he had to give up his tack jobs to devote full-time to handling the records and attending the county fairs to check performances of the two and three-year-old trotting and pacing fillies and colts.

The decision on which of the colts and fillies qualified for the colt stake series rested with Charley who kept a record of points and the complete list of nominations. Points are used to determine the qualifiers for the rich stakes at the parimutuel meetings...Charley was the boss man in that decision.

Probably his last appearance at one of the colt stakes was during the Wolverine meeting when he left his sick bed and drove from Lexington to Livonia. He wasn't that well but neither did he feel sick enough that he couldn't show up for the \$10,000 events. He was one of the big reasons why the purse had climbed to such a high figure.

But now he has seen his last race, attended his last MHHA meeting, had his final argument with the track managements over purses and stall allotments.

Harness racing in the Metropolitan Detroit area won't be quite the same next spring when the season opens. Regardless of whether you agreed or disagreed with Charley, you just had to like him.

It will be difficult for the MHHA to find a replacement for such a dedicated, scrappy secretary. Most certainly the post will be filled but things won't be just the same.

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Glen Unit Pounds Harrison In Debut

It was debut night for Farmington Harrison High School in basketball.

And while the result was an unhappy one—a 73-38 loss to John Glenz—the new Harrison cagers did better than one might gather from the score.

It's to be remembered that Harrison never had played a varsity basketball contest before.

What's more the team has no seniors, which Glen and most of the other Harrison rivals will have this winter.

THE encouraging side of the game was that for three quarters, Harrison stayed fairly close.

It was 15-11 for Glen at the end of the first period, 23-20 at the half and 41-33 going into the closing eight minutes.

Then the roof fell in on Harrison.

Glen began to run and Harrison couldn't stop the charge as Glen scored 25 points to only five for the losers.

Tim Harlow, Bob Krause and Dave Wybrakiewicz each had six points in the Glen surge in the final period. Harlow led all scorers with 17 points.

Jim Mason caged 12 points, Ed Frankel eight and sophomore Jeff Sileoff got six points and 14 rebounds for the losers.

Good Future

Michigan State frosh footballers won two of three games played in 1970, splitting in two contests with Michigan and defeating Notre Dame in the other.