

# Spartans Learn To Look At Game In Hand

**By FRED DELANO**

There was more attention paid to the future than to the past on the heels of Minnesota's odd-ball 14-13 grid victory over Michigan State as the Spartans looked ahead to a clash with Notre Dame Saturday at the same time the Gophers are facing Michigan in a contest vital to the Big Ten title race.

Michigan State led Minnesota in everything but the score at East Lansing last weekend--including mistakes.

The defeat left the Spartans with a 3-2 season's record, but only 1-2 in the Western Conference, and the unpleasant assignment of matching questionable prowess with Notre Dame, Ohio State, Indiana and Purdue on the next four weekends.

MOST OF 74,321 homecoming outdoers were impressed with the goalward efficiencies displayed by a Spartan sophomore duo of Quarterback Bill Triplett and Halfback Tommy Love, but may have missed a defensive deficiency which is likely to attract Irish attention Saturday more frequently than fresh blooms lure bees.

While nationally ranked Notre

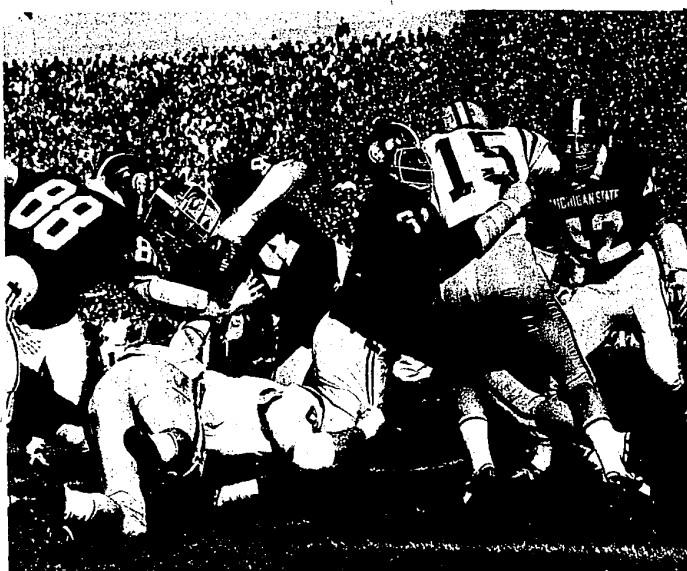
Dame and MSU are meeting at East Lansing before a full house and a nationwide video audience, the Golden Gophers and Michigan will go at it in Ann Arbor in a rivalry which originated in 1892 and this year has much more at stake than

possession of the Little Brown Jug.

Rose Bowl possibilities exist for both clubs, plus the third occupant of the Big Ten's first place rung, Ohio State. Inasmuch as Minnesota and Ohio

will not meet, but the Wolverines and Buckeyes do, Saturday's outcome is pivotal in the 1968 Run for the Roses.

Against Michigan State, the Golden Gophers proved opportunists but not frightening. Yet they were...



MINNESOTA'S Phil Hagen (15) runs into the arms of Michigan State's Chuck Bailey (61) and Rich Saul (88) on his own one-yard line as he tries to score on a quarterback sneak. The Gophers completed the job on the next play and then went on to win, 14-13.

## Tie Evens Season For St. Agatha

It's a 50-50 season so far for the St. Agatha High football team -- two victories, two defeats and one tie.

St. Agatha came from behind, then saw a lead fizzle away in playing Ann Arbor St. Thomas to a 13-13 standoff last Sunday.

Dave Moray got St. Thomas off in front, but St. Agatha quickly retaliated when Ron Blackmore clicked on a 25-yard run. Blackmore passed to Dave Urban for the extra point and it was 7-7.

Mike Murphy, the workhorse of the St. Agatha team, made it 13-0, when he ran over from the three, but St. Thomas evened matters in the third period and that's how the game finished.

Murphy carried the ball 22 times and gained 118 yards.

**Program Opens**

The Western Parks and Recreation Department opened its women's gymnastic and volleyball program Wednesday night at Marshall Junior High School.

Western women are reminded that they may drop in at the classes to be held from 7:30 to 10 p.m. until next April 1. There is a \$5 fee.

**KALAMAZOO** -- Western Michigan University's cross country team has produced 18 straight winning dual meet seasons, including nine undefeated campaigns.

State scored twice against Minnesota through the air, both times from Triplett to Tight End Frank Foreman. The future portent of this detail is more important than the fact that State blew a probable chance to tie the Gophers by going for a two-pointer, instead of kicking the extra point, after its second touchdown last week.

It will be homecoming at Ann Arbor this week, too, just as it was at Lansing last Saturday when the Gophers messed it up. However, Indiana also had the same fate and Michigan ruined that, 27-22.

## By George Maskin observing sports

We've always said it's the people you meet who make sports so interesting.

Take the various high school coaches in Observerland.

With no affront to others in the school systems, few teachers work harder or longer than the coaches.

Most get to school around 8 in the morning. They're still going at 7 or 8 or even after midnight.

The other night, we called to check on a score. A coach's wife explained that he had to take the game films into Detroit.

"He probably won't be home until 1 or 2 in the morning and then he'll be gone by 9 in the morning," she said. "He has to get over to school--even though it will be Saturday--to check on his boys, to see if any might require medical attention."

The prep coach is the man of many jobs. During school hours he may teach physical education, history or geometry. Then he coaches his charges.

He often has to be a trainer, a doctor and the man to whom the boy turns when he has problems on his mind.

## Rocks Ready For Big One

"Bentley, Beware!"

That's the word around Plymouth High as the Rocks' football team prepares for its big one Friday night against Bentley.

It's a double "big" one -- big for Bentley because a victory or tie means the outright title in the Suburban Six League; "big" for Plymouth because a victory would make the season a smash success.

Plymouth stands 2-2 in league play and needs an upset triumph over Bentley to wind up above the .500 mark.

"We have come along just the way we expected," says Coach Tom Moshimer of the Rocks.

"This was a young, inexperienced team when the season started. Our boys have improved with every game."

ing over from the three.

The key play in this drive was a 20-yard pass from Bauman to Greg Corrigan on a fourth down and seven situation.

Belleville retaliated on a pass from Youcum to Bara for a 35-yard TD, but Thornbladh made sure of the victory for Plymouth with two great runs.

FIRST HE scooted 35 yards to lose the ball on fumble. But the Rocks stopped the Belleville offense and when Plymouth got the ball back, Thornbladh broke loose for 47 yards and a deciding touchdown.

Only 87 seconds remained when Belleville registered on another pass for the game's last score.

Bauman is called by Moshimer as the best quarterback in the Suburban Six League. He has hit on 28 out of 51 passes for 401 yards and three touchdowns.

Against Belleville, Plymouth gained 337 yards through the air with Thornbladh making 148 in 14 tries and Lee 84 in 10 shots. Belleville picked up 151 yards rushing and 108 passes.

Defensively, Marty Rossow, Bruce Edwards, Bob Clayton and Greg Corrigan starred for the winners.

**THE ROCKS** were at their best Friday in downing Belleville, 19-12.

Both on the ground and in the air, Plymouth enjoyed success.

Walter Lee started the scoring with a 33-yard dash on guard for the TD after the Rocks had begun to move from their own 30. Bill Tobey and Terry Wagenschutz ran traps and Lee and Bob Thornbladh power dashes to make the score possible.

The score stood at 7-0 through the rest of the first half, but in the third period, Plymouth staged another drive capped with Bruce Bauman go-all the way.

Greg Malin was the strong man of the Our Lady of Sorrows baseball team last spring.

His pitching was a bright spot on the team.

This fall, he's quite a tackler for the Sorrows football team. He made no less than 17 tackles last Sunday when Sorrows defeated St. Mary's of Royal Oak, 20-0.

Sorrows scored first when Dan McGrath passed to Desi Kirkland for 35 yards in the first period. McGrath ran the extra point on a keeper.

An intercepted pass by McGrath in the third period led to the next Sorrows touchdown. McGrath scooped 40 yards after picking off the enemy safety and Matt converted.

McGrath also had his hand in the third Sorrows touchdown when he passed 15 yards to Don Impellizzeri.

**YALAMAZOO** -- Bill Doolittle has never lost an opening game as head football coach at Western Michigan University. He stretched his record to five straight when the Bulldogs defeated Arkansas State, 20-0, on Sept. 14.

## Sorrows Ace Tosses 17 On Tackles

Enough said about that . . .

**WHAT ABOUT** the way those two "old" men of the Red Wings, Livonia's Alex Delvecchio and Gordie Howe, stay young and keep starring at a point in their careers when most players would have called it quits.

It makes no difference to Delvecchio whether he plays center or left wing. He's a potent figure in the Wings' play. The other night he made the big goal and then a big assist as the Wings posted their first victory of the season.

As for Howe, he seems certain now that he's going to play on and on as long as there is major league hockey in Detroit.

Of course, we know that sooner or later there'll have to be an end to the most magnificent sports career the world ever has witnessed.

But it sure doesn't look like it'll be this year, considering the start he has had under new coach Bill Gadsby.

Just to see Howe play has to be worth the price of admission alone at Olympia . . . just as you can't go wrong dropping a few bucks on the line to watch the Bill Russells, the Dave Bings and the other gents who make sports what they are . . . So wonderful to behold.



(Photo by Vince Witak)

THREE MINNESOTA defenders close in on Michigan State's Tommy Love as he tries to break loose through tackle. The Spartan sophomore picked up plenty of ground during the afternoon but MSU wound up on the short end of a 14-13 count.

## Sports Briefs

**KALAMAZOO** -- Members of the Western Michigan University cross country team this fall are junior Paul Olmstead and sophomore Dave Olmstead, brothers from Royal Oak. Don Kalama, also a member of the team.

**KALAMAZOO** -- Western Michigan University's football team holds a 13-9 edge in its series with the University of Toledo.

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