

Thurston Edges R. Union For Township Laurels

For the victors and the conquered, there were archdukes. And pride in a performance well done.

Thurston High had just edged Redford Union, 7-0 in the annual battle of the Redford Township public high school football

championship. The team had taken the field with a 5-2 record a share of the Northwest Suburban League title. Redford Union had won only one of its seven previous outings.

But this was a crippled Thurston team. Coach Bill McDonald had to make several

last-minute adjustments. His squad was down to only 24 players.

"My kids turned in a tremendous effort," declared McDonald. "They were particularly wonderful on defense and they certainly chewed up the clock in the second half."

A CROSS THE WAY, RU Bob Atkins had just finished his first season as head man in football. The 1-7 record was

a far cry from the winners and champs Atkins has been producing for the school in baseball.

"We played extremely well tonight," declared Atkins. "A poor kick kind of made the difference. It led to their touchdown."

Redford Union didn't see much of the football after the halftime intermission. Statistics disclosed that Thurston

carried the ball for 17 plays to RU's two in the third period. In the fourth period it was 10-6 in favor of Thurston.

The game's only touchdown came with 5:52 left to play. A Redford Union kick landed on the RU 27 and Thurston was quick to capitalize on the break. Craig Mutch and Bob in Spinner took turns getting the ball to the RU 15.

Then Billy Bashara tipped a pass to Mutch in the end zone for the touchdown.

"IT WAS MUTC'S 14th touchdown of the season, along with two extra points, as he lifted his yardage figure to within a few of 1,000 for the season. "Just watch this kid," said McDonald of his junior back, who has had two brothers star at Thurston before him.

"He's going to be All Suburban and All-State before he's through, barring unforeseen developments."

The victory gave Thurston the jump in the new series for the trophy put up in the annual classic. It takes three victories out of five to put the trophy out of commission.

RU retired the first trophy last year.

THURSTON HAD an early scoring chance which was stopped by a great RU stand in the second period when the South

Siders reached the RU two. Mutch was stopped inches from a first down on a first-down crack.

Late in the game, RU arose to stop Bashara on a inch from the goal line just when it appeared he was over for the second touchdown of the game. Thurston totaled 199 yards during the game with Mutch earning 105. RU piled up 100 yards with Bob Planterich, accounting for 55.

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Falcons 10 New Faces Battle For On Winter Big Upset Tiger Roster

There's one game left — and it's the biggest one — for Farmington High to register at least a single football victory in 1968.

The Falcons have gone to the wars eight times this fall. The best they have been able to produce was one tie.

The other seven games resulted in defeats for Farmington, the latest reversal coming at the hands of Southfield, 20-6. So now all that is remaining is Farmington at North Farmington Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Ten new faces from the farm system have rejoined the Tigers' 40-man winter roster, depleted by the American League expansion draft, the sale of two players and the retirement of another.

Seven of the farmhands are on the roster for the first time, while three others have been there before, but not in 1968. The newcomers are Pitchers Jim Poor, Norman McRae, Dennis Saunders and Bob Ware; Catcher Joe Cernick; Infielder Junior Lopez; and Outfielder Ron Oleson. On earlier rosters were Pitchers Mike Kilkenny, Fred Scherman and Mike Small, all lefthanders.

FIVE ROSTER SPACES were opened when Pitchers Jon Warden, Dick Drago and Mike Marshall; Infielder Ray Oyler; and Outfielder Wayne Comer were selected by the new Kansas City and Seattle clubs in the recent expansion draft.

Prior to that, the Tigers sold Pitcher Jim Rooker to the New York Yankees and Outfielder Bob Christian to the Chicago White Sox. The final

openings developed when Infielder Ed Mathews retired and Pitchers Joe Brauer and Gary Taylor were assigned to the minors.

McRae, a southpaw from St. Louis, and Ware, 20, a righthander from Richmond, Va., were the Tigers No. 1 and No. 2 draft choices in the regular phase of the two agency selections in June, 1967. Saunders, another righthander from Whittier, Calif., was sixth pick in 1967.

McRae, a righthander from Elizabeth, N.J.; Lopez, a shortstop from New York City; and Cernick, a native of St. Louis, all were signed by the Tigers as free agents and have earned promotion to the major league roster after considerable seasoning in the minors. Lopez, 23, and Cernick, 24, started together at Thomasville, Ga., in 1963, while McRae got his start at Daytona Beach in 1965.

WOODS AND SCHERMAN are the only additions who were not signed by the Tigers. Woods was signed by the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1961 and acquired in a minor league deal before the 1966 season. The 25-year old flyhawk is a native of Compton, Calif.

Scherman, signed by the Twins in 1964 and drafted by the Tigers as a first-year player at the end of that season, was on the roster in 1965. The southpaw, 24, is a native of Dayton, O.

Mike Small, 22, a bonus baby from Long Beach, Calif., was on the major league roster in 1965 and 1966. Kilkenny, 23, from Bradford, Ont., was on the list in 1966.

BUT COACH Dick Tyler figures his Farmington team can rise to the occasion Saturday. He won't have to make any pep talks.

There were some bright spots against Southfield as far as Farmington was concerned. Southfield did all its scoring in the first half. Then Farmington tightened up, led by Steve Fleming and Kim Cramer.

The only Farmington touchdown came on a one-yard quarterback sneak by Dan Slenke to cap a 55-yard drive.

On the march Lou Henry turned in some nifty runs while Randy Cleveland snared a pass from Slenke, which was good for 55 yards.

DAVE WIELAND accounted for two of the Southfield touchdowns and now has 15 for the season. He went over from the two and later on a 40-yard pass from Rick Ellison.

The final Southfield TD resulted from a two-yard buck by Doug Digue.

Statistically Southfield gained 169 yards on the ground and 131 in the air. Farmington picked up 121 running and 31 via passes. Henry was the big gainer for the Falcons with 60 yards.

AL LUNDQUIST, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lundquist, 13012 Hemingway, Redford Township, has been named the Health and Physical Education Department at the DuBois (Pa.) campus of Penn State University. He is a graduate of Wayne State University and received a Master's degree from South Dakota State University.

DALE DANVER (33), pile-driving Stevenson High fullback, takes half of the North Farmington line with him as he drives across the goal line for the second touchdown in Friday's game. It was

the insurance six-pointer in the 13-0 victory for the unbeaten Spartans.

(Observer photo by Doug Johnson)

DRC Bows Out With Biggest Closing Day

The 20th and final race meeting of the Detroit Race Commission wound up as the best in history with the mutual handle at all-time high, betting records going by the boards and attendance dipping less than a tenth of one per cent.

It was the final meeting for the simple reason that members of the DRC board earlier in the week voted approval of an offer from Frederick Van Lennep and Associates for a purchase price rumored to be in the neighborhood of \$8 million.

Van Lennep, president of Wolverine Harness Raceway and the vast Castleton Enterprises, Inc., which includes the elaborate Pompano Park harness racing track, Hollywood Park dog racing and letman in the operation of Wolverine of Ken-

WOLVERINE HAS BEEN A tenant of the DRC since 1950 but Van Lennep and E.E. Dale Stoffer, DRC president and majority stockholder, have been at odds for sometime and there was considerable doubt that the lease would be renewed.

The Van Lennep bid was first announced 10 days ago and was formally accepted by the DRC Board last Wednesday.

Thus Saturday's final program of the 84-day campaign was the last for the DRC. The operation will be known as the Detroit Racing Association once the Van Lennep group takes over.

AS IT WAS, the DRC had the largest closing day handle in history with total wagering of \$1,920,925. This included a record twin double pool of \$162,344, betting the previous high of \$159,184.

Jack Van Berg was the leading trainer with a total of 74 winners and Pon Holmes completed a sweep of the area jockey honors with his total of 78 winners.

The average daily handle was \$901,116, a record which reflected an increase of 5.6 per cent over figures of a year ago. The total wagering soared to \$75,693,719.

Saturday's Michigan Mile track figure for 84 days was 895,985 for an average of 10,666. This compared to 10,676 a year ago.

VALLAM, a five-year-old bay gelding owned by Canadian J.L. Smallman and trained by Lou Cavallaris, Jr., captured the \$25,000 Added Auld Lang Syne Handicap in the closing program.

George Gibb rode the 4-1 shot Canadian invader to a two-and-a-half length victory over Road To Rock and William Fleming while Holiday Stable's Ask The Fare was third.

Vallam's time of 1:41.4 equaled the track record time for the mile and one-eighth set five years earlier by Lucky Uncle.

Vallam paid \$10.60, \$5.80 and \$4.20 across the board while Road to Rock was worth \$6.60 and \$3.20. Ask The Fare returned \$4.20 to show.

Frank J. Cantello's outstanding Michigan-bred, Alhambra Son, the even-money favorite, stayed in front all the way to win the \$12,500 Added Motor City Handicap over a mile and a sixteenth in the DRC co-feature. Pick And Shovel, part of an entry with Timlin Dandy, was second by a neck while Onabur was third.

Hoosiers Next For Spartans

Assured 500 Mark

The first season of playing on a varsity level will end on a winning note for Blain Borgess High of Redford Township.

Win or lose in next Sunday's finale, Borgess will finish with a plus 500 mark.

A 13-15 tie against Gabriel Richard last Sunday upset the Borgess record to four victories against two defeats and a tie.

It was a thrilling finish that Borgess staged after falling behind, 13-0, in the first half when Dix Tyrna ran over on runs of a yard and two.

After the intermission quarterback Jim Pomeranski took over for Borgess.

He slipped over on a sneak in the third quarter and then saved the game with a second touchdown on a five-yard run.

Carl Bernhardt booted what proved the tie-producing extra point.

Michigan State University is the state's largest university, with 39,948 students enrolled this fall on the East Lansing campus.

CHAMPIONS get together on closing day of the DRC racing meet. Tiny Don Holmes was the leading jockey with 72 victories and big Jack Van Berg topped the trainers with a record 78 firsts. It gave Holmes a sweep of the riding championships — he won at the spring Hazzard Park meeting.

KALAMAZOO — Western Michigan University assistant coach Charles Comer and Ed Farkany are both graduates of Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

KALAMAZOO — Although one of the smallest Western Michigan University football players at 5-11 and 171 pounds, sophomore Gene Rademacher of St. Johns is also one of the most versatile Bronco. He is a regular in the defensive backfield, serves as a reserve quarterback on offense and also handles punt returns.

KALAMAZOO — Frank Secory, of Port Huron, Western Michigan University letterman in both football and baseball from 1933 to 1936, was a major league baseball player for five years and has been a major league baseball umpire since 1952.

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