

Observer Hails Prep Grid All Stars

By GEORGE MASKIN
(Sports Editor)

Orchids to the 11 members of the 1964 All-Observer high school-area football team.

Orchids, too, to Bob Bentley of Franklin, the unanimous choice for the area's "coach-of-the-year" honors.

It's only fitting that along with Bentley that three of "his" boys from the Franklin team should be saluted on the Observer's First-Team selections.

For it was Franklin that made history in Livonia this past fall by becoming the city's first prep eleven ever to complete a gridiron season with a perfect record—nine.

Picked from Franklin with their coach were End Neal Thomas and Backs Antonazzo and Larry Yonish.

Eight of the other area schools each placed one man on the first Observer team. Only Clarenceville failed to gain a performer on the honored list.

The Observer is grateful to the area coaches for their assistance in making possible this year's "dream" eleven as a climax to a season which saw three of the area's teams share in championships.

While Franklin swept through its schedule to take the Northwest League and the Livonia city titles, Bentley shared the Suburban Six League crown with Trenton and St. Agatha wrote a new chapter into its record by tying for the divisional title in the Catholic League and also winding up with an unbeaten record—six wins and a tie.

ENDS

MIKE FRITZ—Redford Union: Made the All Suburban League team as a senior. Had what his coach, John Rogers, described as "the best set of hands" boasted by any prep player in the Detroit area. His moves and speed baffled defenders who tried valiantly to cut him down. Many of the catches he made came under the classification of "tremendous." He caught 57 passes for four touchdowns and 653 yards.

NEAL THOMAS—Franklin: He caught only ten passes for 165 yards and two touchdowns. But his coach explained: "We used Neal as a decoy most of the time, hence he made so few receptions. It was thanks to him, and his faking, that our other receivers hauled in so many passes." Thomas' great value to Franklin was his blocking. He made it possible for the Franklin backs to scoot the corners for sizable gains

times again. Played defense only in the tough situations. When he did, the opposition found it best to stay away from the territory he was protecting.

TACKLES

RICK LARSEN—Bentley: All-League for the second straight year. Third year on the varsity at Bentley. Called by Coach Larry Joiner "one of the finest prep tackles I ever have seen." Larsen also was extremely quick for his size. Outstanding on defense, particularly when it came to pursuing a rival ball carrier and making the tackle. He was all over the field for Bentley and a vital cog in the team's drive to a share of the Suburban Six League championship.

JERRY SZOSTAK—Thurston: Despite his 230 pounds, Szostak moved with the agility of a 160-pounder. He was an aggressive, two-way player who never had himself a bad game in his varsity career at the South Redford school. Was outstanding as a blocker and often would knock down two and three would-be tacklers on the same play. Coach Bill McCon, all of Thurston predicts Szostak will emerge as a great college player.

GUARDS

RON ZIMMERMAN—St. Agatha: He battled his way to glory on the football field despite two knees which were hurt

early in his schoolboy career. For the 1964 season, the doctors told him he could participate only in games—not to engage in any practices; otherwise his knees wouldn't hold up. He was a two-way player for the unbeaten St. Agatha team which shared the divisional title in the Catholic League. A fierce tackler and blocker. Also an inspiration to the other members of the small Redford Township parochial school.

WALTER (SKIP) MOORE—North Farmington: Called by his coach, Ron Holland, as "a tremendous kid." Not only was an exceptional blocker and a great tackler, but he also took over "as our defensive leader," the coach added. Moore's interest and desire helped to spearhead the North Farmington team to a winning season, despite the fact there were only a handful of returnees on deck when the campaign began in the fall.

CENTER

MIKE BARS—Our Lady of Sorrows: On the varsity for four years, the last three as a starter. A National Honorary Society member and one of the leaders in student government at the school. Called by Coach Bud Webster of Sorrows "as the best collegiate prospect I ever have handled. Played defensive end this past season and rivals knew better

(Continued on Page 3-C)

Observer's All-Area Team

Pos.	Player	Age	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	School
End	Mike Fritz	17	6-1	180	Sr.	Redford Union
Tackle	Rick Larsen	17	6-1	200	Sr.	Bentley
Guard	Walker Moore	17	5-10	160	Sr.	N. Farmington
Center	Mike Bars	17	6-4	180	Sr.	Our Lady of Sorrows
Guard	Ron Zimmerman	17	6-2 1/2	195	Sr.	St. Agatha
Tackle	Jerry Szostak	17	5-11 1/2	230	Sr.	Thurston
End	Neal Thomas	17	6-3 1/2	195	Sr.	Franklin
Back	Gary Grady	17	5-10	170	Sr.	Plymouth
Back	Larry Yonish	16	5-11	170	Sr.	Franklin
Back	Sam Antonazzo	17	6-0	180	Sr.	Franklin
Back	Roy Leach	18	5-10	170	Sr.	Farmington

Honorable Mention

BENTLEY—John Plumley (back), Tim Doll (guard), Dick Koch (tackle).
PLYMOUTH—Jim Lake (end), Dave Tidwell (center), Roger Tobey (back).
REDFORD UNION—Harry Kendrick (back), Pat Sroch (tackle).
FRANKLIN—George Whitton (guard), Bill Bauer (guard), Larry Vaughn (end).
NORTH FARMINGTON—Joe Stephan (tackle), Bill Oldershaw (back), John McDonald (end), Andy Lawing (end).
THURSTON—Pete Marsalese (back).
ST. AGATHA—Gregory Puck (back), Jim Roose (back), Rick Collins (back).
FARMINGTON—John Mitchell (end), Bruce Charles (back), Terry Nielsen (back).
OUR LADY OF SORROWS—Pat McPeck (tackle), Miles Kearney (back).
CLARENCEVILLE—Jim Bedson (back).



COACH OF THE YEAR, Bob Bentley, and three members of his unbeaten Franklin High football team received new honors when selected for the Observer Newspapers' all-area team. Bentley, who was named



MIKE FRITZ
Redford Union



RICK LARSEN
Bentley



MIKE BARS
Our Lady of Sorrows



WALTER MOORE
N. Farmington

Bentley of Franklin Is 'Coach-of-Year'

Not all men are willing to "challenge for something." Most would rather sit back and wait for "the something" to come their way. Usually, the something never comes.

Bob Bentley is one guy willing to accept a challenge.

For eight years, Bentley distinguished himself as one of the best basketball coaches in the state. He could have con-



BOB BENTLEY
Franklin



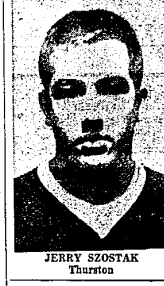
GARY GRADY
Plymouth



ROY LEACH
Farmington



RON ZIMMERMAN
St. Agatha



JERRY SZOSTAK
Thurston

Blue Devils Battle DIT

Lawrence Tech will open its basketball season Wednesday, December 2, in a new home court and with a new coach. But the opponent is an old foe—Detroit Tech.

Coach Lee Moon has chosen Levy Junior High School gym in Southfield for eight home games—a location near the L.T. campus than is Hackett Fieldhouse, used for years by the Blue Devils. The gym is on Nine Mile just west of Telegraph.

Coach Moon, one of Albion College's great athletes, has coached and taught for 15 years at Sandusky, Elton, Addison and Clio.

Lawrence Tech took both 1963-64 games from Detroit Tech making the all-time record in favor of Lawrence Tech with 18 victories and 9 losses.

Three veterans will start: Ron Sanders and Bobby Lester at forwards and Larry Goldsmith, guard. Breaking into the starting lineup probably will be Bill McKinnon, 6-6 center from Holy Redeemer and Larry Bickett, 6-2 guard from St. Gregory.

But close behind in the running are veterans Steve Muniz and Bob Dyki, plus newcomers Tony Viskunas, 6-3 U. of D. high forward and Tim Machowicz, 5-8, St. Redwings guard.

List Cards For Teams In Plymouth

Here are the 1964-65 schedules for the varsity basketball and swimming teams at Plymouth high school:

BASKETBALL

December: 4—Walled Lake; 11—At Bentley; 12—At Northville; 13—Trenton; 14—At Dearborn; 15—At Fordson; 8—At Redford Union; 15—Allen Park; 16—At Farmington; 22—At Belleville; 29—Bentley.

February: 5—At Trenton; 6—Franklin; 12—Redford Union; 10—At Allen Park; 28—Belleville.

SWIMMING

December: 3—At Franklin; 5—Relays at Redford Union; 10—Bentley; 13—At Trenton; 22—At Dearborn.

January: 7—Redford Union; 15—At Allen Park; 21—Belleville; 28—At Bentley.

February: 5—Trenton; 12—At Redford Union; 19—Royal Oak Kimball; 18—Allen Park; 25—At Belleville.

Who Pros Will Play

FOOTBALL

Thursday—Chicago Bears at Detroit Lions, noon.

HOCKEY

Thursday—Montreal at Detroit Red Wings, 8 p.m.

Sunday—Toronto at Detroit Red Wings, 7 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Saturday—Philadelphia at Detroit Pistons, 8 p.m.

Wednesday—Cincinnati at Detroit Pistons, 8 p.m.

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Dufour a Pro

John Dufour, assistant director of the Livonia Dept. of Parks and Recreation, is a former professional football player, with the Ottawa Rough Riders. During World War II he served as a captain in Patton's 3rd Army.

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