

By Gary Kistler observing sports

How we forget... On one Sunday at Tiger Stadium, the whole town, the community, the whole state... yes, a good share of the country, lives and dies on what happens in a single baseball game.

The next Sunday, the scene again is Tiger Stadium. Some of the principal characters of seven days before — the likes of Al Kaline and Hank Aguirre — are there again. So are 58,000 others.

But this time Kaline and Aguirre walked almost unnoticed. Few who have come to the ball park this day make mention of what happened on the previous Sunday.

Now they were living and talking football... and before the afternoon is to end, they'll "die" too — only this time with the Lions, instead of the Tigers.

Here it is another Sunday, and not many have much to say any more about how the Lions took a 10-0 lead... then blew the afternoon proceedings to the Green Bay Packers.

What's uppermost is the Lions' invasion of Chicago to tackle the Bears... or maybe the home opener of the Red Wings against New York Sunday night... or, perhaps, the Pistons' debut Tuesday at Cobo Arena against the Cincinnati Royals.

YOU'LL FIND pretty much the same situation in athletic events involving our high schools and colleges.

More than once we have seen cheerleaders literally break down because their favorite teams have lost. Some shout: "I'm going to kill myself. I can't stand this."

But as soon as the boys pop from the showers and walk from the lockerroom and one of them suggests a date, everything is forgotten.

One suspects that it's great that we in America can roll with the punches. But to get back to sports, or for that matter, any kind of entertainment. When we're spectators, we don't look for long, lasting effects.

A couple of hours of amusement... some cheers, some groans, maybe some sobs when there's a missed pass or three men are left on base or the hero is killed by the villain in a two-bit movie.

But by the time the game is over, by the time the last inch of film has been run, we may venture with a few remarks: "It was great," "it was lousy," etc., and then we return to our merry way of carrying on life in its usual pattern.

THERE'S ANOTHER side of sports, of course — participation, either as an individual or on a team.

The mental part of winning or losing doesn't cling to you any longer than if you were a fan. For a few moments, like a couple of Tigers did, they stormed madly. One even threw a baseball at an innocent newspaper photographer.

The physical part of competing, be it in baseball or cross country, is something else again. It's bound to make you a stronger person; a healthier one, too.

And as one coach pointed out, when discussing high school athletes: "Playing on a team can be a vital segment of a boy's education. If he's on a football team, it can be one of the most wholesome, thrilling and educational activities in which the youth participates."

"Take football. It's hard work. But through its hard knocks, failures and successes, a boy develops characteristics of mental and physical strength, self assurance and determination."

There's another aspect of sports, the coach added: "Boys learn to observe rules and develop habits of decency and sportsmanship. One of the greatest gains of an athlete is that he develops appreciation of making sacrifices, sacrificing his own ego and his own dreams of individual glory for the good of the team."

Amen.

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Stevenson Beats Farmington

A Stevenson High eleven only rarely using its passing potential made a second quarter 65-yard aerial payoff in a 14 to 6 Inter-Lakes Conference victory Friday afternoon over Farmington High.

In posting their second victory in five starts this season and their first in league play, the Spartans dominated the first half. They opened up a 14 to 0 lead and rolled to 13 first downs compared to only one for the Falcons.

Second half action was reversed in all respects except one—the scoreboard. The Falcons limited 17 first downs while limiting the Spartans to only two.

Aside from a touchdown in the third quarter on a 22-yard run by Halfback Matt Stachurski, the Falcons couldn't get into the scoring column.

STEVENSON ground to first period score with an 80-yard march following the opening kickoff, Jerry Dettler getting the full-back from six yards out. Quarterback Dettler of the Spartans threw only four passes all afternoon. But the most important one clicked with End Dale Wendell for 62 yards and a touchdown in the second period.

Again, Denver added the extra point by rushing. DAN WOLFFMAN, Farmington's 165-pound quarterback, kept the Falcons airborne throughout the contest, hitting 14 of 31 tosses, particularly finding the range after intermission.

The Falcons moved 70 yards for the TD scored by Stachurski from 22 yards out. Wolffman's aerial bombardment got the Falcons as far as Stevenson nine-yard line late in the fourth quarter—only to have a fourth-down pass fall incomplete.

After Farmington's comeback touchdown in the third quarter, Nick Exarbas attempted the conversion, but his placement kick was wide, leaving the score at 14-6 midway in that period.

The Spartans showed only one major second half offensive flurry. This was another major job by Dettler. The senior quarterback rolled around the left corner of his line 40 yards to Farmington's 25.

After that, three successive line plays pushed the Spartans to the Falcon 17. The Falcons took over on downs at that point.



COACH'S DILEMMA—Farmington High cross country coach has constant trouble telling the Williams twins apart, but it doesn't matter when they finish 1-2. In their jackets, however, it's easy: Larry is No. 11, Gary is No. 10—wa, thimk.

Double [Trouble] Threat

Meet the Williams twins of Farmington High. They're the only two of cross country in the area. One's Larry. The other's Gary.

Who's who? Don't ask their coach, Jerry Young. He's not certain. "One wears braces on his teeth, the other doesn't," confesses Young. "I think Larry's the one with the braces... but, gosh, I'm not certain."

That's how identical the two brothers are. THEIR IDENTICAL features are more than physical. They extend to the track and cross country wars, too.

"Funny thing," said Young, "I, a set year they came out for cross country and had to quit because of antinotes or an injury."

"Last spring they came out for track, and I had them separated into two groups. They were working in different areas. "One came over to me and said, 'Coach, I'd like to use the whirl-pool; my left calf is sore.'"

"Not long afterward, the other Williams came to me and spoke identical words. His calf was hurt, too."

PREMEDITATED? Hardly, said the coach. "You'll never run into two brothers who are more fierce competitors. They battle each other every time they meet. It's like dog eating dog."

"Larry pushes Gary to the hill... and vice versa." At last, coach, each had won country team just missed out in a triangular meet with Oakland University's freshman and sophomore team and Monroe, Oakland took team honors with 27 points, one less than Schoolcraft, Monroe was back at 82.

Don Colpits was the individual winner. Larry Buchheit of Schoolcraft was second in 16:13, the fastest time turned in by a Schoolcraft runner this year.

Joe Vitale and Brad Nell of Schoolcraft placed third and fourth, respectively. Schoolcraft's record now stands at nine wins and four losses for the season.

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YOUNG ISN'T certain where he'll use them this coming spring in track. But he coach knows one thing — the boys will be integral parts of his team.

But cross country must come first, and the Williams twins already have led Farmington through an unbalanced dual-meet season — six straight wins, with four of them in the Inter-Lakes League action.

Next Thursday Gary and Larry will lead Farmington when the Falcons shoot for the league championship at Oakland Community College in Union Lake.

The betting is that Gary and Larry will run 1-2, although nobody will predict which one will be first and who'll be second.

With them in action, Farmington shapes up as the team to beat for the crown. The following week will see Farmington hosting the Class A regional.

"I THINK Gary and Larry have a great chance to qualify," said the coach. Larry ran third and Gary fourth last Tuesday in the annual Redford Union Invitational.

The league went to Hazel Park with 98 points. Redford Union was second with 100, followed by Franklin, with 173, Bloomfield Hills 176, North Farmington 199, Wyandotte 195, and Farmington 213.

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For Sorrows, Homecoming Is A 'Must' Game

It will be homecoming at Our Lady of Sorrows High Sunday afternoon.

And the big dollops will take place when Sorrows' football team entertains St. Mary's of Royal Oak at the Farmington High football field.

Kickoff time will be 2:30 p.m., and the game is a must for Sorrows, just like the other two left on its schedule.

"If Sorrows is to repeat as divisional champs in the Catholic League, two things must happen: 1 — Sorrows must win its last three outings. 2 — Orchard Lake St. Mary's must lose at least once.

Much of the Sorrows' spotlight figures to shine on back Mark Hartwig, who scored three touchdowns last Sunday against Pontiac Central and now has hit pay dirt seven times in four games.

THE SORROWS game "kicks off" another big week of football in the area.

Next Friday will see Bentley hosting Plymouth at 7:30 p.m. in what again is a "must" for the Livonians who are pretty much in the same boat as Sorrows.

Bentley must win its remaining loop games to wind up on top in the Suburban Six League game.

Franklin and North Farmington were to hook up Saturday in their battle of unevenness as far as the Northwest Suburban League was concerned.

The winner figures to charge on to the crown.

BOTH SHOULD have easier times next weekend. Franklin

plays at Oak Park Friday afternoon while North Farmington plays home against Glenn on Saturday. Glenn has been the surprise of the league so far.

Stevenson faces a tough night Friday at Waterford while Charlevoix hopes to disrupt homecoming ceremonies at West Bloomfield, one of the hot teams in the Wayne-Oakland League.

The next week, most area teams will have only three games left on their schedules.

F'ton Trio Run At CMU

Three Farmington students are members of the freshman cross country team at Central Michigan University.

Bruce Ridley, Russell Roth and Peter Sevin all participated in high school cross country of track under Coach Jerry Young before joining CMU Coach Don Sastima's freshman squad this fall.

Football Theme

The theme of Farmington's Junior football league is to provide a chance to play, but above all to develop character and sportsmanship and teach the fundamentals of teamwork and competition on the boys' level.

Trotters Coming

The famed Harlem Globetrotters make their first visit of the 1967-1968 season to Detroit's Olympia on Nov. 11 to meet the Washington Generals; Meadowbrook Legion again will lead the Trotters.

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