



# Everyone Is Losing Along With The Loser

"Webster" defines a coach as an instructor or trainer of athletics. Apparently Webster was not thinking ahead to the year 1972.

Today's coach is everything and a coach. He is a psychologist, doctor, counselor, social worker, masculine Ann Landers, a father, a taxi driver and a friend.

But to some, the coach is a way out . . . one who has to take the butt of all criticism.

THE FAMOUS SPORTSWRITER Grantland Rice once wrote this piece about the "Head Coach."

"They reform me each new season as they point to each new fault."

"And their hands are turned against me as they crowd me to the vault."

"Perhaps I'm overfeatured in the alumni's stirring plea."

"Perhaps I'm more important than a mere game ought to be."

"But with all the sins they speak of, and the list is quite a span, I'm the soul of high school spirit, and the maker of a man."

A good many people would do themselves good to read and re-read this article and actually think about it.

I picked up a Plymouth High School newspaper, "The Centricore," dated November 1972, and would like to pass on to you what I read in the "Rock Pile," which was written by a Plymouth senior, Tim VanWagoner.

"WINNING IS ONE THING. Winning at all costs is another. I regret to say that professionalism has filtered all the way down to the high school level, at least here in Plymouth. It's too bad to see alumni, parents, students and whomever else it may concern merely turn a team off when it starts to lose. Or more specifically the coach. Sure, it's the coach's fault when his squad gets beat, right? Wrong! There doesn't always have to be a goat for every defeat. Maybe, just maybe, the other team could be a little better."

"I sat in the stands for the Plymouth-Edsel Ford football game on Nov. 3 and heard numerous clever remarks shouted out by disgruntled adults when the Rocks were behind. Over to the right came, 'C'mon Moshimer, be a little innovative and pass the ball!' It just so happened that the next play was indeed a pass that unfortunately was intercepted. Over to the left I heard, 'What kind of jerk call was that?' . . . Enough said?"

"You have to ask yourself what high school athletics is all about. Should players go out on Friday nights and have a fun time playing football and basketball or should they go out on the court and gridiron with only one feeling, fearing to lose? You tell me."

"WHATEVER BECAME OF . . . Winning isn't everything, it's how you play the game."

A tip of the hat, a ring of the typewriter and a twirl of the mustache to Tim VanWagoner, who is himself a starting basketball player on the Rock squad.

When the supposedly adult world criticizes and knocks the idea of winning and just how much it is stressed it is one thing.

When the kids themselves question the motives of those involved in guiding them forward, it is another thing.

When is the last time you saw a loser actually smile?

Observer's Top 10					AVG
	W	L	PF	PA	
1. REDFORD UNION	3	0	70	58	
2. PLYMOUTH	2	1	78	66	
3. N. FARMINGTON	2	0	56	48	
4. BENTLEY	2	0	62	51	
5. FRANKLIN	2	1	70	68	
6. JOHN GLENN	3	1	67	65	
7. SOUTHFIELD LATHRUP	2	1	71	62	
8. CHURCHILL	2	1	63	62	
9. STEVENSON	1	2	67	68	
10. GC EAST	1	2	59	59	

# Cage Picks

Bentley over Edsel Ford  
Churchill over Northville  
Franklin over Thurston  
John Glenn over GC East  
N. Farmington over Oak Park  
Plymouth over Belleville  
Dondoro over Lathrup  
Stevenson over WL Western  
Allen Park over Redford Union  
(Observer Record, 9-6)

# Glenn Gets Over Oak Park, 73-67



LAYING IT UP for a score is John Glenn's Dave Carlington who popped in 20 points against Oak Park in the Rockets' 73-67 victory. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

John Glenn basketball Coach Gordie Davis is not about to have a repeat of the '71-'72 cage season when his Rockets won their first six games and then sputtered to a 10-6 year.

Peaking too early is not going to be the '72-'73 story. Glenn squeezed by Oak Park in its Northwest Suburban opener, 73-67, for its third consecutive victory after an opening loss to Kennedy.

"We are improving with every game," said Davis, who sees his Rockets as definite contenders in the Northwest. "No peaking too early this year."

# Harrison Wrestlers Tip Rocks

Things are a little sweeter now for Coach Larry Fortner and his Farmington Harrison wrestling squad.

The Hawk wrestlers edged Plymouth, 26-21, for their first win of the young season and the first home victory for Harrison in two years. It also was the first for Fortner at Harrison after transferring from Redford Union last year.

"This young team is starting to blossom out," said Fortner who boasts two freshmen, five sophomores, three juniors and two seniors.

At 98 pounds, Plymouth's Ross Harz pinned Harrison's Scott Norton in 1:58 but Harrison's Jim Sietz came back to win the 105 bracket over John Majors, 3-2.

HARRISON'S MATT Gully pinned Tom Coughlin in 1:30 at 112 pounds.

Plymouth's Dave Dunic 1-

The Oak Park contest was decided on the boards with Glenn beating the Redskins, 35-26, with 6-4 Dave Carlington hauling in 15 rebounds to boost his average to 14 per game.

"Our advantage on the boards gave us that needed second and third shot," added Davis.

GLENN SHOT 42 per cent from the floor as did Oak Park. The Rockets hit 25 of 57 and Oak Park 26 of 61. The margin of victory was provided at the free throw line where Glenn tossed in 23 of 31. Oak Park made good only 15 of 27.

Oak Park spurred ahead after one quarter, 16-15, but Glenn found the range and took the halftime lead, 33-32.

The Redskins notched a 35-26 to open the second half but that was Oak Park's closest challenge with Glenn exploding to a 21-12 eighth minute charge.

Oak Park came back with 22 points of its own in the fourth but Glenn returned to the boards and made good on nine of 10 attempts from the free throw line when Oak Park went into a man-to-man press.

"They (Oak Park) started climbing all over us near the end," said Davis. "We held our composure and sank the needed free throws."

JOHN GLENN (73)			FG	FT	TP
Britten	3	2	8		
Kalany	3	1	7		
Kaylor	1	1	2		
Khellman	9	2	20		
Carlington	7	8	20		
Ara	2	4	8		
Pfeiffer	0	5	8		
Hangesbaugh	0	2	2		
Totals	26	23	73		

OAK PARK (67)			FG	FT	TP
Banks	8	1	17		
M. Craighead	2	0	4		
Levine	1	0	3		
Miles	8	5	21		
Ford	4	5	17		
Moss	1	0	2		
R. Craighead	1	4	6		
Cowan	1	0	2		
Totals	26	21	73		
JOHN GLENN	15	20	31	17	73
OAK PARK	15	16	22	23	67

# Eagle Matmen Trounce Ypsi

Thurston High wrestling Coach Jim Copp knows he has a good thing in his '72-'73 squad.

The Eagle matmen opened with a non-league triumph over Ypsilanti, 34 to 17, making this only the fourth time in Thurston's 16 year history that it has beaten Ypsi and the first time ever for a two year streak.

SAL MARSAISE started Thurston off with a 98 pound decision over Chuck Wolf, 5-2, and Jim Dovey pinned Larry Walker of Ypsi at 105 pounds in 1:23.

Thurston's Jim Mathewy 1-

PLYMOUTH, MICH.

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# Harrison Cagers Tip Waterford

Farmington Harrison lined up for Western Six basketball competition with its first victory in three games, a 58-56 triumph over Waterford.

Now comes Waterford Mott this Friday in Harrison's league opener.

"This Mott game has to be our key if we are to do anything this year," said Harrison Coach Bob Sutter, who and Waterford slowly Mott defeated Northville and Churchill lost to Walled Lake Western last week. Down went two of the team's 1 expected to be strongest."

Mott defeated Harrison twice last year, 59-56, and 79-56.

AFTER SUFFERING losses to North Farmington and Oak Park, the Hawks finally put it together to break into the win column.

HARRISON (58)			FG	FT	TP
Hickey	1	0	1		
Nicolay	6	1	13		
Sidloff	5	1	13		
Hargish	3	2	8		
McGrath	2	4	8		
Cherry	3	2	8		
Totals	21	16	58		

WATERFORD (56)			FG	FT	TP
Cellier	2	0	4		
Rummen	8	1	17		
Foster	2	0	4		
Vander	8	2	10		
Dawson	2	3	7		
Kimmel	4	0	1		
Trotter	3	0	6		
Somali	2	6	16		
HARRISON	12	13	21	12	58
WATERFORD	12	16	14	56	

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