

Lions And Wolverines Both Get 'Their Man'

By W. W. EDGAR

The difference in the philosophy of professional and college football was emphasized again when the Detroit Lions signed Don McCafferty as the new head coach and Bo Schembechler was given a five year pact at the University of Michigan.

In selecting McCafferty, the Lions made it known that they were satisfied that the former coach of the Baltimore Colts would make the club a contender for the Super Bowl.

Meanwhile, Schembechler was rewarded because of the strong defense that carried the Wolverines to the Rose Bowl twice in the last four years and helped them win or share the Big Ten title three times in the same period.

In signing McCafferty, the Lions also dispensed with the "home grown" theory that enabled Joe Schmidt to come up through the ranks to take over the top job.

THE LIONS made no secret of the fact that their offense left something to be desired and that the Super Bowl appeared to be out of their grasp with the current system.

In their search they looked for what sports knows as "money player" -- one who has been through the mill and can instill the winning spirit into the team.

In the two years McCafferty was head man with

the Colts he built a record of 26-6-1 and took the Colts to the Super Bowl.

His signing with the Lions was reminiscent of the spring of 1933 when the Tigers, wallowing in sixth place, purchased Mickey Cochrane from the then Philadelphia Athletics.

"He's a money player," the Tigers said at the time, "and he could take us places."

When Cochrane reported, he asked for one more "money player" -- a fellow who had been through the mill -- and the Tigers purchased "Goose" Goslin. It is history now that the Tigers won the American League pennant in 1934 and the world series in 1935.

The "money players" developed the winning spirit.

That's what the Lions were looking for and in McCafferty they think they have their man.

SCHEMBECHLER'S reward at Michigan hit the other extreme. "Bo" has built a winning record with the strong defense. He argues that if you keep the other fellow from scoring, you have a better chance of winning. Thus far, it has worked.

Since "Bo" has taken over at Michigan the Wolverines have been accused of playing dull football -- but they have been winning.

As one critic put it, "Winning isn't a matter of life and death at Michigan -- It's more important than that."

Redford's Bob Atkins Puts Adray Baseball Cap Back On

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

Bob Atkins is not a man of many hats.

In fact he wears two, baseball and football.

But he wears these two like no other coach around.

Bob is the head coach for football and baseball at Redford Union High School as well as for the Redford Connie Mack baseball club. Now he also is stepping back into the Adray baseball program after a two year vacation.

The 35-year-old head whistle blower in Panther territory coached the Adray entry from '65 to '70.

In those six years, his Redford squad never lost the league championship or the outstate title and he was runner-up in the '68 nationals, losing to New Orleans in the national finale.

Atkins bowed out in the '71 summer program and Pat Sheridan took over the reins. The Redford Adray squad won the league and outstate title both years but friction was reaching a head between Sheridan and the Livonia League on recruiting practices.

SHERIDAN has just recently made the move to the Detroit Adray League where recruiting is big business and Atkins has stepped right back in, his Adray shoes still warm.

"My family was very disappointed when I got out of the Adray program," said Atkins.

The Atkins family consists of his wife, Marty, daughter Debbie (13), and sons Bob (12), Craig (11) and Tommy (5).

"I have to have the greatest wife in the world," said Bob.

"She coaches a softball team in the summer and my daughter, Debbie plays on it. Marty knows scouts and parents better than I do."

"My family is always the No. 1 rooting section."

BOB IS considered the "Dean" of most baseball and football coaches in the area.

He has coached varsity baseball at RY since '62 and has captured six Suburban Eight championships.

Atkins has had the No. 1 assignment on the Panther grid-iron since '67 and for three years straight literally walked off the bus from the baseball nationals in Johnstown, Pa., onto the football field at RU.

The Farmington resident never played high school ball and began coaching at the age of 15 in Cheboygan, for a local softball team.

Atkins has compiled an overall baseball record of 454 wins and 167 losses. This includes six Connie Mack championships, six Suburban Eight titles, three Class D crowns and a Connie Mack state title in '65, and all the hardware picked up in six years of Adray ball.

Now comes the challenge of Adray baseball again.

Bob can see his Redford team playing at least four games a week.

"In all fairness to the team and the league, we have to get extra games on our schedule. We can go through and give the league real a real shot with two pitchers, but you can't survive in any tournament unless you have at least five pitchers. The trouble is, you can't have five with only two games a week in the league."

"I am hoping for some help this summer in the Connie Mack program so I can spend more time with the Adray team."

"ADRAY IS a win proposition. Mike Adray is my sponsor and a good one. He wants to win more than anything, but I won't sacrifice my principles just to win."

"This Livonia League is a community league and decent balance has to exist. Before I left two years ago, I proposed the idea of four outsiders and that's the way it is now."

"These outsiders should strengthen each and every team for tournament competition."

"This is a quality league with excellent competition and the kids who play in it take pride in this league."

"This might sound funny, but my dream is not to win the national title in Johnstown. I am not saying that I wouldn't want to, but this isn't all I gear myself and my team for."

"If you take care of everything else, winning will come. Coaching Adray ball is a little different than high school. The kids are older and you have to be more liberal. But win, lose or draw, we talk -- and then run."

"Sure, I feel a responsibility to my sponsor -- not necessarily to win all the time but more

not to embarrass him with our achievements."

"MIKE ADRAY wants a winner, I want a winner. The caliber of this league has risen and some coaches even get paid for winning some titles."

"All I can say about that is 'different strokes for different folks.'"

"I always expect my players to be gentlemen above all else. I don't care what anyone says, there is still a lot of sportsmanship left in athletics today."

"Hey, of all the trophies I have ever won the one I cherish is the Sportsmanship Trophy we won in the '68 finals at Johnstown."

"I would be lying if I said I wasn't going after the national title but there is always something to be accomplished along the way."

"People tend to stray away from keeping things in their proper perspective. If you take care of other things, winning and losing will take care of themselves."

Bob Atkins is back in Adray baseball and Adray baseball will always remain a winner with Bob Atkins around.



BACK IN ADRAY BASEBALL -- Redford Union baseball and football Coach Bob Atkins has again taken over the Redford ranks in summer Adray competition. (Observer photo)

Franklin Breaks 'Churchill Spell'

It has taken Franklin High about half a year, but the Patriots finally did it.

Franklin finally beat city rival Churchill in a varsity sport.

Churchill swept the fall sports and topped Franklin in basketball, wrestling and hockey. The last hopes for the Patriots narrowed down to a dual swim meet.

FRANKLIN baseball Coach Ron Heller was already starting to put up "incentive posters" in the locker room.

But the Franklin swimmers splashed their way to victory and still dunked Churchill in a non-league dual match, 55-40.

It was Franklin's fifth win against one loss.

THE PATRIOTS captured five individual firsts along with the 400 freestyle relay, six seconds and six thirds. Brad Kenny established a school record with 4:12.4 in the 400 yard freestyle for Franklin.

Individual winners for Franklin were Tom Segasser, John Kortosaja, Dave Balaaves, Kenny and Dave Daberkoe.

The relay foursome of Kortosaja, Foley, Wright and Balaaves set a Franklin pool record for the Patriots with a 3:35.1 clocking.

Franklin also crushed

another city opponent in Bentley High, 52-43.

The Patriots scored only four individual firsts along with the 400 freestyle triumph but captured seven seconds.

★★★

FRANKLIN-CHURCHILL

200 medley relay: 1 - Churchill (Siefert, Rilla, Dave, Turner); 2 - Franklin (Foley, Daberkoe, Foley, Wright); Time 1:02.1.

200 freestyle: 1 - Segasser (F); 2 - Kenny (F); 3 - Bryan (C); Time 1:57.6.

200 individual medley: 1 - Dove (C); 2 - Balaaves (F); 3 - Adams (F); Time 2:11.7.

50 freestyle: 1 - Kortosaja (F); 2 - Turner (C); 3 - Foley (F); Time 24.1.

Diving: 1 - Murphy (C); 2 - James (F); 3 - Furman (F); Points 189.65.

100 butterfly: 1 - Balaaves (F); 2 - Siefert (C); 3 - Adams (F); Time 1:00.5.

100 freestyle: 1 - Bryan (C); 2 - Kortosaja (F); 3 - Turner (F); Time 33.5.

400 freestyle: 1 - Kenny (F); 2 - Segasser (F); 3 - Dove (C); Time 4:12.4.

100 backstroke: 1 - Siefert (C); 2 - Rows (F); 3 - Fry (F); Time 1:02.8.

100 breaststroke: 1 - Daberkoe (F); 2 - Rife (C); 3 - Cornell (C); Time 1:29.

400 freestyle relay: 1 - Franklin

(Kortosaja, Foley, Wright, Balaaves); 2 - Churchill (Siefert, Jeffrey, Roemdel, LaMay); Time 3:35.1.

★★★

FRANKLIN-BENTLEY

200 medley relay: 1 - Bentley (Frost, Collins, Dwyer, Coyte); 2 - Franklin (Balaaves, Daberkoe, Foley, Kortosaja); Time 1:52.0.

200 freestyle: 1 - Kenny (F); 2 - Lucy (B); 3 - Segasser (F); Time 1:56.7.

200 individual medley: 1 - Balaaves (F); 2 - Wright (F); 3 - Trux (B); Time 2:14.5.

50 freestyle: 1 - Dugrey (B); 2 - Kortosaja (F); 3 - Foley (F); Time 23.1.

Diving: 1 - Bryant (B); 2 - Hardon (B); 3 - Frack (F); Points 166.85.

100 butterfly: 1 - Balaaves (F); 2 - Adams (F); 3 - VanDerHorst (B); Time 1:02.4.

100 freestyle: 1 - Lucy (B); 2 - Kortosaja (F); 3 - Segasser (F); Time 33.1.

400 freestyle: 1 - Kenny (F); 2 - Wright (F); 3 - Othous (B); Time 4:15.8.

100 backstroke: 1 - Trux (B); 2 - Fry (F); 3 - Coyte (B); Time 1:06.7.

100 breaststroke: 1 - Collins (B); 2 - Daberkoe (F); 3 - Oliver (B); Time 1:23.

400 freestyle relay: 1 - Franklin (Segasser, Foley, Kenny, Wright); 2 - Bentley (Lucy, VanDerHorst, Coyte, Dugrey); Time 3:35.4.

Eagles Drop 9th, 76-74

Oak Park Edges Thurston

A layup by Lonnie Ford with two seconds remaining put another damper on an already damp Thurston High basketball season.

Oak Park handed the Thurston Eagles their third straight Northwest Suburban defeat, 76-74.

THURSTON is sitting in the cellar of the Northwest with an 0-5 mark and stands 29 overall.

Oak Park led after one quarter, 19-6, and kept its three point margin at the half, 37-24. Thurston sliced it to 51-30 after three quarters and it remained nip-and-tuck up to the buzzer.

"We just couldn't get over the hump," said Thurston Coach Dan Bennett. "Oak Park always had the lead on us, we just didn't have it."

JOHN ROY tied it up for

Thurston, 74-74, with 15 seconds remaining and Oak Park called a time out, 80 seconds remaining to play.

Ford drove in and scored an easy two points and with two seconds to go, Steve Hunter passed up to Kennan for Thurston who let go a shot from the top of the key.

It hit the front of the rim, bounced away and the Eagles had fallen again.

THURSTON HIT 31 of 78 from the floor for 41 percent and Oak Park scored 49 percent on 31 of 64.

The Eagles did manage to outpace Thurston.

Thurston outrebounded Oak Park, 48-35, with 6-4 Hunter collecting 16.

Keenan captured scoring honors for Thurston with 27 points, hitting on 11 of 19 from the floor. The 5-9 senior guard upped his season average to 16.9.

ONE OF THE key factors in this Thurston defeat was the absence of Mark Falvo in the scoring column.

"Mark scored 23 for us the week before but after a zero

first half, I had to pull him. He just hasn't been up to par physically," said Bennett.

Thurston travels to North Farmington Friday.

THURSTON (74)				
	FG	FT	TP	
Hunter	6	5	16	
Beale	7	12	15	
Stain	2	2	6	
Keenan	11	5	27	
Roy	3	12	7	
Robinson	1	0	2	
Kier	1	0	2	
Totals	31	12	74	

OAK PARK (76)				
	FG	FT	TP	
Rankins	7	3	17	
Miles	10	6	21	
LeVine	2	0	4	
Ford	7	5	17	
Miles	3	0	6	
Cowan	2	2	6	
Totals	31	14	76	
Thurston	16	18	74	
Oak Park	19	18	76	

PREP Results

Stevenson Dunked By Churchill

Churchill High splashed past Livonia city rival Stevenson in a non-league dual swim meet, 53-42.

Meet results:

200 medley relay: 1 - Stevenson (Santo, Kolodziej, Hult, Saunders); 2 - Churchill (Bryan, Rilla, Siefert, Jeffrey); Time 1:50.3.

200 freestyle: 1 - Dale (C); 2 - Turner (C); 3 - Buckler (S); Time 1:59.6.

200 individual medley: 1 - Dove (C); 2 - Hulet (S); 3 - Kloote (S); Time 2:11.3.

50 freestyle: 1 - Saunders (S); 2 - Cornell (C); 3 - Kilpatrick (S); Time 22.9.

Diving: 1 - Murphy (C); 2 - Hurd (C); 3 - Bernard (S); Points 179.4.

100 butterfly: 1 - Hulet (S); 2 - Siefert (C); 3 - Kloote (S); Time 1:01.2.

100 freestyle: 1 - Saunders (S); 2 - Lohr (C); 3 - Brown (S); Time 32.8.

400 freestyle: 1 - Bryan (C); 2 - Turner (C); 3 - Buckler (S); Time 4:23.3.

100 backstroke: 1 - Dove (C); 2 - Santo (S); 3 - Reid (S); Time 1:02.4.

100 breaststroke: 1 - Siefert (C); 2 - Kolodziej (S); 3 - Rilla (C); Time 1:09.8.

400 freestyle relay: 1 - Churchill (Turner, Cornell, Bryan, Dove); 2 - Stevenson (Kolodziej, Kilpatrick, Hult, Youngburg); Time 3:39.8.

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ONE GOOD WHACK deserves another and Bentley goalie Mark Reid returned this "pat" to Franklin's Larry Pennington (8). Bentley won the Suburban clash, 8-2. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)