

Wayne 'Fast-Breaks' Churchill Cagers, 75-72

After three consecutive narrow basketball victories, the Churchill Chargers failed to charge.

Pat-Montagano's cagers had won six of their last seven games and the last three by the narrowest of scores.

"We were just drained, for this one," said Montagano as his Chargers fell to Wayne Memorial, 75-72.

Churchill fell behind in the opening moments and never did manage to overcome the difference.

"This is the first club that really went one-on-one against us," added Montagano, whose Chargers slipped to a 9-4 overall record.

Wayne won the opening tip and proceeded to win each following quarter tip-off.

GLENN AMBROSE hit four buckets and the Wayne Zebras were on top after one quarter, 17-12, never to be headed.

Wayne built up an 11-point margin early in the second but Churchill changed to a 1-2 defense and sliced it to 36-28 at the half.

The Zebras maintained at least a 10-point spread throughout the third quarter and led, 57-48, going into the final eight minutes.

With 2:11 remaining, it appeared that the Churchill "charge" was there after all, as Don Forest hit a bucket to close the gap to 70-68.

Phil Damaska then stole a Zebra pass at mid-court and drove in toward the basket, but passed off instead of shooting and the ball bounced out of bounds.

Ambrose, who took game honors with 28 points, then made good a three-point play as Churchill was called for a technical and the Chargers fell out of the picture.

BOTH CLUBS' hit exceptionally well from the field. Churchill scored 32 of 62 for 51 per cent and Wayne, 27 of 53 for 50 per cent.

The difference was at the free throw line where Wayne made good 21 of 25 while Churchill had only 17 chances and hit an eight.

WAYNE (75)

	FG	FT	TP
Herbert	6	6-9	18
Margoli	8	0-1	12
Amor	9	10-16	28
Borask	4	6-7	13
Taylor	2	0-2	4
Totals	27	21-33	75

CHURCHILL (72)

	FG	FT	TP
Slender	11	2-2	24
Damaska	6	1-4	12
Braun	5	1-4	12
Reed	5	2-4	12
Forest	7	0-3	14
Foster	1	2-2	4
VanWagoner	0	1-2	1
Totals	32	8-17	72

WAYNE	17	21	18	75
CHURCHILL	12	16	20	72



DEFLECTION — Fordson's 6-7 Ken Giovanni bats down this shot by Southfield's Robin Roberts (12). The Blue Jays lost the battle, 78-58. (Photo by Enno Korthals)

Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

After five nights of below average attendance and waning, Northville Downs swings into its first big Saturday of the 35-night winter season with great hope of bettering the track's all-time high for single night in the cold and wind of winter.

The mark came on the 30th night a year ago, a Saturday, when a crowd of 5,908 set \$433,428 through the mutuel machines.

Inasmuch as the Jackson-Northville campaign, which ended a week ago, had handles of \$453,000 and \$483,000 on its final two Saturday nights, the 'Downs management has every reason to believe it will do as well or better.

However, veteran bettors take a dim view of this type of thinking. They point to the decided dip in wagering during the first week of the meeting and blame it on the dropping of the trifecta from the list of gimmicks.

Executive Director John Carlo, who has an aversion to gimmicks, especially those involving more than two horses, decided to go with a daily double and three perfectas, eliminating the trifecta.

Carlo also eliminated the sale of lottery tickets at the track and the free lottery ticket night. Both were extremely popular when introduced by Leon Slavin, president and general manager of Jackson-Northville racing.

Whether these are the reasons for the decline can't be determined at this early date but the attendance and betting over the first weekend will be a decided factor. A big weekend will mean that the cold weather of the past week was a major reason, a poor weekend will mean that track officials will have to do some studying.

TOM SMITH, acting racing secretary, is doing his bit to make the weekend test plausible. He has arranged an all-pacing card for Saturday, matching all of the better class horses at the track.

Heading the 10-event program is the \$3,000 preferred pace with a field of six including the spectacular Bedford Jet and the surprising Erlana's Valley.

The six-year-old Bedford Jet will be returning to action after a week off and seeking his third straight feature victory in 1973. He made his 73rd start four weeks back with a brilliant come from behind triumph in 2:04.3, fastest time of the winter in Michigan.

A week later, Gordon Norris guided The Jet to equally as impressive a triumph against the same challengers, hitting the wire in 2:04.2.

It was Erlana's Valley, owned by Livonia auto dealer Bill Brown, was the surprise winner of the \$10,000 early closing series sponsored by Jackson during the month of December.

The duel between The Jet and Erlana's Valley could make the race the best thus far in the meeting. But there are four other challengers each capable of upsetting the applecart.

The quartet includes: Elmer Conrad's Pepper Byrd with tremendous speed in the stretch; H.T. Pilot, a fast closing second last week; Knox Abbe, guided by Don McMurray, who also has a lot of speed in the final lap; and Action, the always dangerous speedster from Ohio.

Post time for the first race is 8 p.m. sharp and Carlo has speeded up the programs so that folks are on the way home by 11 p.m. on week nights and promises an early close on the weekends, not as early as during the week but much earlier than in the past.

FIGURES FOR the Jackson-Northville campaign, which closed a week ago, show it was far and away the best ever conducted by President and General Manager Leon Slavin.

Wagering showed a hike of almost 25 per cent with a nightly average of \$302,000 compared to \$273,000 in January a year ago. The crowd of 5,749 on closing night Gordon Norris counted more than 13 per cent better than in 1972.

Veteran Gerry Banfield, of Farmington, won his third straight driving championship at a Jackson meeting. Gerry was the best at the Jackson Raceway summer and fall session and won the crown at the early winter programs at Novi and repeated during the January 24-night season.

Banfield had three winners on closing night, boosting his total number of victories to 32 and his winning percentage to .391. He had 32 wins, 14 seconds and 18 thirds in 117 drives.

Larry Stone was second percentage wise with 308 and Gordon Norris and Clarence Ayotte were second in triumphs with 11 each.

DRIVER OF THE YEAR... Herve Filion, the sensational Canadian pilot, has won North America's all-around driving crown for the fourth straight time and has been honored as Driver of the Year by Harness Tracks of America.

Herve shattered his own world's record for races won in a single season with 603. He also set a new mark for total money earned by a sulky driver in one year with \$2,473,265. Filion ended the year with a winning percentage of .373, 11th in the nation and quite remarkable when one considers he had a record 2,665 drives, most ever in one year by a driver.

Joe Marsh Jr., of Findlay, O., who is well known in the Detroit area where he started driving years ago, was second in wins with 307.

Lathrup Edges Seaholm, 68-66

Southfield Lathrup survived a fourth quarter surge by Birmingham Seaholm, an ankle injury to top rebounder John Gardner and a 15-footer at the buzzer to score its 11th consecutive basketball victory.

It was Lathrup, 68-66, over Seaholm for the Chargers' 12th win in 13 contests.

"This was one of our top team performances," said Lathrup Coach Jim Kourakis. "We lost Gardner in the second quarter and just pulled our talent together to overcome our loss on the boards."

Lathrup did manage to maintain the lead all the way.

THE CHARGERS led after one quarter, 13-11, and scored 20 points in the second quarter to take a 33-28 margin into the locker room at the half.

Bob Malby hit for eight points in the second stanza, but 6-7 Gardner, who had hauled in 10 rebounds, sprained his ankle with three minutes remaining in the first half.

Gardner was averaging better than 15 rebounds a game and 11 points.

LATHRUP WON the third quarter, 17-14, but the Seaholm club closed the gap in the final minute of the fourth.

The Chargers were up by two with 30 seconds to play and Malby made good two from the line to push the difference to four. Seaholm came back to score and stole the ball to get another shot with five seconds remaining.

It bounced off the rim and Lathrup had survived the fourth period, although being outscored, 24-18.

Seaholm hit one percentage point better from the floor, 25 of 52 for 48 per cent while Lathrup scored 28 of 60 for 47 per cent.

Seaholm also won the rebounding game, 31-30, with Gardner who played only 13 minutes high with 10.

LATHRUP (68)

	FG	FT	TP
Brookly	9	3-5	9
Malby	8	2-4	18
Gardner	2	2-2	6
Tracy	5	3-4	13
Courney	9	1-2	19
Weinstein	1	1-3	3
Totals	35	12-18	68

SEAHOLM (66)

	FG
Keller	11
Souran	0
Rapon	2
Marx	4
Lochetter	7

Thurston Drops 10th

Borgess Wins, 66-61

Thurston High School just ran out of gas and talent in an attempt to upset Bishop Borgess in a non-league basketball clash.

Borgess pushed its overall mark to 7-8 by topping the rival Redford Township club, 66-61, while the Eagles slipped to a 2-10 mark.

"We led all the way until it really counted," said first year Coach Dan Bennett of Thurston. "We just quit scoring in the fourth quarter."

Thurston led after one quarter, 17-15, and 34-31 at the half. The Eagles won the third stanza, 16-15, and carried a 50-46 margin into the last eight minutes.

Early in the fourth, Thurston went up by as much as 12 points but saw it dwindle to one with only 30 seconds remaining.

Borgess then stole the ball and scored. Thurston had a technical called against it, and Borgess made good the extra toss and scored again to drop Thurston right out of the picture.

"We lost our composure and didn't play basketball," added Bennett. "When we were rebounding we had control, but we stopped rebounding in the fourth."

Borgess won the boards, 42-31, and hit 25 of 57 for 44 per cent.

THURSTON (61)

	FG	FT	TP
Hunter	5	4-4	14
Bendie	4	0-1	8
Stein	2	0-0	4
Kelman	8	5-10	21
Roy	2	2-5	6
Kerr	0	0-0	0
Totals	21	11-20	61

BORGESS (66)

	FG	FT	TP
Dryden	3	5-12	11
Sopko	9	5-7	23
McCarthy	7	0-0	14
Kelly	1	0-0	2
Shorack	4	3-5	11

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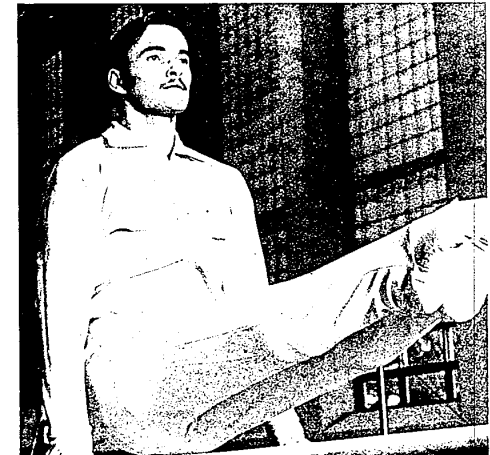
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CLARENCEVILLE GRAD — Sophomore Bill Waddell of Livonia began his Western Michigan University gymnastics career in a fine fashion with a 9.0 parallel bar performance against Northern Illinois. As a prep, Waddell won the state parallel bars title and was third in all-around standings.

U-M Gridiron Card Announced

Michigan's defending co-champion Wolverines receive another opportunity to meet a nagging tormentor of Big Ten Rose Bowl representatives when they host Stanford University Sept. 22 in Michigan Stadium.

This is one of 11 games on the 1973 Michigan schedule, released by Athletic Director Don Canham.

COACH BO SCHEMBEHLER will be facing two teams with new coaches this year. Alex Agase, with whom Bo served as an assistant coach under Ara Parseghian at Northwestern, moves from the Wildcats' head post to Purdue. Lee Corso takes over for John Pont at Indiana, moving up from Louisville. Pont will coach at Northwestern.

Michigan's 1973 Schedule

Sept. 15-at Iowa

Sept. 22-Stanford

Sept. 29-at Oregon

Oct. 6-Oregon

Oct. 13-at Michigan State

Oct. 20-Wisconsin

Oct. 27-at Minnesota

Nov. 3-Indiana

Nov. 10-Illinois

Nov. 17-at Purdue

Nov. 24-Ohio State

WSU Cager

Bob Solomon, Wayne State University basketball player, owns school scoring records for a sophomore season, a junior season and any season, totaling 1069 points in his two varsity years.

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