

# Southfield cagers lack height, experience

By TOM BAER

Graduation robbed Southfield of some experienced players, and then the Blue Jays lost 6-4 center Bill Phillips to cross-town rival Southfield-Lathrup. Phillips, who scored 18.5 points per game as a sophomore last

year, became eligible to attend Lathrup when his family moved into the Lathrup sending area.

Phillips "will be missed in some ways and in other ways not at all," according to Kaump.

"We'll lack height, no doubt about that," he said. "We'll probably start the equivalent of four guards and a forward. But we have a real good attitude and some good kids to work with. You never know. We could be tough."

As the season begins, Southfield's biggest man is Jeff McCall, a 6-3 junior who has some floor experience from last year. "We hope to have him as our main rebounder, and he can shoot if he has to," Kaump said.

Rick Wieland, a 5-9 senior, is another Blue Jay with some experience from last year. Wieland is better known for his football talents—he rushed for more than 700 yards and helped Southfield to one of its finest seasons ever—and Kaump hopes that success is contagious.

"WE'RE COUNTING ON Rick to be our leader," he said. "He's been part of a successful football team, and of course we hope that success carries over. Defense is Rick's strong point, and he's very quick."

Several players from coach Greg Siwka's reserve team could help the varsity. For example, Marvin Miles, a 5-10 guard, led the reserves in scoring last season. Paul Wilkie, a 6-1 standout on the reserves last season, could help with the rebounding now.

"We're counting on him (Wilkie) for some rebounds," Kaump said. "He's only 6-1, but he's a smart ballplayer. He gets into position real well, and he hustles the whole time."

Jon Vigi (5-11) also was a member of Southfield's football team, and could provide some leadership. "Plus leadership is his strong point, plus he's a good outside shooter," Kaump said.

Two transfer students could help Southfield. They are Mike Tynes (5-7) from Houston, Texas, and Tony Ford (6-1) from suburban Cleveland. Ford was the leading rebounder in a recent pre-season scrimmage against Walled Lake Western.

Southfield, which finished last season with an 8-13 record and a 4-6 record in the Southeastern Michigan Association, opened its 1975 season at nonleague Redford Union last Tuesday.

For the past several seasons, Berkley has dominated the SMA with stars like Bruce Flowers and Bob Bytkonen. But this season the SMA should be more balanced.

"Kimball looked like the strongest team, but I hear that Ferndale had some transfers. They go 6-10, 7-7 and 6-8. If that's so then Ferndale should dominate things. Kimball will finish second, and everybody else will battle it out for third."

Southfield plays next on Dec. 2 at nonleague Thurston High. The Jays' SMA season begins Dec. 12 at home against Birmingham Seaholm.

Two new nonleague opponents will come to Southfield this season. University of Detroit High plays Southfield on Dec. 12, and Flint Powers invades the Jays' gym on Feb. 21.

Feb 17 and over  
Feb 20 Ferndale

8 p.m.  
8 p.m.  
Feb 24 Flint Powers  
Feb 27 at Kimball  
8 p.m.  
8 p.m.

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## Groves, Seaholm seek better seasons

By DAVE RAY

The coaches of Birmingham's two public school prep basketball teams aren't sure what to expect when their teams meet tonight at 8 o'clock at Seaholm.

Coach Bob Sherwood's Maples has nine lettermen returning for the 1975-76 edition of the Seaholm cage squad and Groves has a new coach in Jay Schwalm who headed West Maple Junior High's basketball program for seven years.

"I think this is going to be a real tough game," Sherwood said. "Groves has a lot of size and depth on its side. They're definitely going to have a height advantage."

The Falcons' Schwalm views the game a little differently. "Personnel-wise, I think we're better, but I think there's a question of whether or not my team is going to be ready with a new coach and all."

"Seaholm has had the same coach for a while and his players are used to his system and his style. Groves has had three coaches in three or four years and it might take the boys a while to get ready."

SCHWALM'S FALCONS will have six lettermen back for the new campaign and there are five players up from last year's junior varsity squad. Returning to the Groves line-up are centers Dave Barber and George Peurach, forwards John Bailey and Rudy Bublitz and guards Matt Dickson and Dennis Petroskey. Graduating to the varsity from the JV's are center Ed Missavage, guard Lance Baylis and forwards Craig Maass, Dan Noakes and Dave Wolfson.

Groves was 8-12 overall last year and 3-7 in the Metro Suburban Association under coach Al Vordermark. The Falcons were eliminated from the Class A state district tournament by Birmingham Brother Rice, which also knocked Seaholm out of the post season playoffs.

Schwalm sees a tough league race, but he concedes that Bloomfield Hills Labaret and Rochester Adams will be favored because of strong junior varsity teams from last year. The new Falcon mentor says his team should be better than its 3-7 mark of a year ago.

SEAHOLM'S SHERWOOD STILL isn't decided on his starting quintet for tonight's opener. Among the lettermen back for the Maples are centers Mike Murphy, Jim Fox and Dorne Dibble, forwards Dave Bean and Dave Hammond and guards Bill Brooks, Dan Bean, Doug Everard and George Toupous. Chris Smith can play either center or forward.

The Maples were 8-11 last year and 3-7 in the Southeastern Michigan Association. Berkley won the league title last year.

Sherwood, in his fourth season at the Seaholm helm, sees a more balanced conference race this year, at least on paper, and he rates Ferndale and Royal Oak Kimball as top contenders, based on the players returning to those squads.

Southfield Basketball		8 p.m.
Nov. 25 at Redford Union		8 p.m.
Dec. 2 at Thurston		8 p.m.
Dec. 9 Bishop Borgess		8 p.m.
Dec. 12 Seaholm		8 p.m.
Dec. 16 U of D High		8 p.m.
Dec. 19 at Berkley		8 p.m.
Jan. 6 at Churchill		8 p.m.
Jan. 9 Hazel Park		8 p.m.
Jan. 13 Groves		8 p.m.
Jan. 16 at Ferndale		8 p.m.
Jan. 20 N. Farmington		8 p.m.
Jan. 22 Kimball		8 p.m.
Jan. 30 at Seaholm		8 p.m.
Feb. 2 at Lathrup		8 p.m.
Feb. 6 Berkley		8 p.m.
Feb. 13 at Hazel Park		8 p.m.

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H78-14	2 for \$76.00	\$2.52	
H78-15	2 for \$68.00	\$2.46	
F78-15	2 for \$70.00	\$2.58	
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