

QB Wichman added to injured list

Kimball blanks crippled Chargers, 22-0

By TOM BAER

Football injuries have turned a dismal season into a real disaster for Southfield-Lathrup High.

Going into last Friday's non-league game at Royal Oak Kimball, Lathrup coach Darrell Harper had four starters benched or slowed by injuries — but the big blow was yet to come.

Early in that game, which Kimball won 22-0, Lathrup quarterback Gerry Wichman was injured when he was tackled hard behind the line on a pass attempt. He was taken to Providence Hospital with what Lathrup coaches believe is a serious knee injury.

Wichman, a senior, probably won't play next Friday against Southfield High, and several notable Chargers will join him on the sidelines. Senior fullback Keith Otterbein, Lathrup's leading rusher, is through for the sea-

son because of a hip pointer and torn cartilage in his arm.

Other injured Chargers include fullback Mike Kemper (injured wrist), tackle Don Boos (broken hand), and guard Bill Goforth (injured knee). The loss of Wichman, a passing and running threat, and Otterbein, a devastating runner, is especially rough.

"Our total offense was gone with Wichman and Otterbein gone," said Harper after the Kimball game.

KIMBALL SCORED on its first drive, moving 49 yards in seven plays. Wingback Paul Stark knifed across from the one-yard line. QB Dick Lewis then passed to end Steve Grant for the conversion.

Wichman was injured on the next series, and senior Keith Deska took over at quarterback. Lathrup failed to move.

Kimball got the ball via a punt on its 15-yard line, and marched 65 yards with running plays for the next touchdown, a three-yard dash by Stark. Stark ran for the conversion.

Again Lathrup failed to move the ball, and Kimball started another drive. This time Lewis ripped off a long touchdown run — 61 yards around left end. The conversion failed.

Kimball's leading rusher didn't show up in the scoring plays. Senior halfback Mike Yamano gained 122 yards in 17 carries. The Knights amassed 283 yards rushing.

But Kimball failed to score in the second half thanks to Lathrup's defense, which seemed to come alive after intermission. Kemper made 11 solo tackles, and guard Frank Kunkel made nine and blocked a punt. Kevin Deska, Keith's twin brother, made five tackles and intercepted a pass.

Other defensive standouts were Bill Angrove, Mark Harvey and Mike Clancy.

"KIMBALL HAD its first team in until about four minutes to go, and we shut them right off," Harper said. "They (Lathrup's defense) finally hit somebody — first time in two.

Lathrup missed a chance to score in the fourth quarter when Kunkel blocked a punt, and gave his teammates the ball at midfield. Halfback Brian Bolin then gained 30 yards on a pitchout, but a holding penalty spoiled the gain and the drive.

Lathrup, now 5-3 overall, ends its season next Friday with the traditional battle with Southfield High. The games begins at 8 p.m. at Southfield. Last year, Lathrup stopped Southfield, 12-0.

Stark reality

First downs rushing	ROK	SL
First downs passing	14	2
First downs penalty	1	3
Yards rushing	293	50
Yards passing	25	39
Passes completed	14-1	4-13
Punts - average	4-25	3-43
Fumbles - No. recovered	0-0	3-3
Penalties - yards lost	7-65	5-40

Royal Oak Kimball 8 14 0 0-22
Southfield-Lathrup 0 0 0 0-0

Scoring

Kimball — Paul Stark 1 run (Steve Grant pass from Dick Lewis)

Kimball — Stark 3 run (Stark run)

Kimball — Lewis 61 run (Pass failed)



DARRELL HARPER
A season of disasters

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SPORTS

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Long distance operators: girls try cross country



Alison Wangbichler—Lathrup distance runner

By TOM BAER

High-school girl athletes are trying something new — cross country running — and the results have been interesting and encouraging.

Long distance running has been dominated by boys, but girl runners have been popping up at high schools all over the metropolitan area. Farmington High, Redford Union, Grosse Pointe North and Southfield-Lathrup all had girls on the boys' cross country teams this fall.

Lathrup had three girls on its team this season. They were Gina Kunkel, Michele Betts and Alison Wangbichler. They're all sophomores and all first-year runners.

Farmington High had one girl — senior Kim Francis — on its team this season.

"Cross country is a sport where a girl can do as well as a boy," said Farmington coach Gerald Young. "She doesn't have to worry about not having a lot of muscle. It's not a real skill situation. It's a matter of training, getting into shape and running long distances."

"Kim does a good job," Young said. "She always beats a few boys here and there, and that boosts her ego a little bit."

Lathrup coach Dale Petzold agrees. Training and experience, not muscle, are the keys to success in cross country.

"I DON'T EXPECT any first-year runner to be a super runner," Petzold said. "The only reason a girl couldn't excel is lack of experience. If our girls progress, they'll be running the three-mile course in 18 minutes by the time they're seniors."

A time of 18 minutes won't win first place in an average high school dual meet, but that's not to be expected for awhile, according to Petzold.

"For a girl to be number one on a team is well, it's going to take a super effort, it's going to take a super athlete," he said. "Right now, the girls just haven't developed the strength to compete with the boys."

Still, Petzold encourages girls to come out for his team, even though they won't be helping it win any meets. "It helps them condition themselves for their spring track season," he said.

"For kids who have just come out, we have a goal: just finishing the three miles by the second week," Petzold said. "Once they get to that point, they say, 'Well, that isn't that

"There's that Male Chauvinism thing: Boys will say, 'If a girl can do it, I can do it too.'"

bad. I can do it."

"I think it's important for all athletes, male and female, to know they can do something. To a lot of new runners, running three miles would seem like running from here to Chicago. But they find they can do it."

HAVING GIRLS on a predominantly male team presents one serious problem: the girls can't have ready access to the facilities in the boys' locker room.

"This is bad," Petzold said. "If a girl were injured, she would have

trouble using the equipment in the boys' locker room. But if the injury were serious enough and had to be treated, say by the whirlpool, then we would make arrangements for the girl to use it."

Having a few pretty faces around could have a positive effect on cross country, in general, Petzold said.

"There's that Male Chauvinism thing. Boys will say, 'If a girl can do it, I can do it too.'"

"Maybe that will convince some boys, who may have been watering, to come out for cross country."



Gina Kunkel (middle runner) makes tracks in a boys' sport

Sports coming up

Girls' Swimming
Monday (Nov. 4) Livonia Churchill at Southfield-Lathrup, 29301 Twelve Mile Road, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday (Nov. 6) Farmington High in Inter Lakes League Meet, Farmington High, 32000 Shawwassee, 4 p.m.
Wednesday (Nov. 6) Farmington Harrison in Western Six League Meet, Harrison High, 29995 Twelve Mile Road, 4 p.m.

Girls' Basketball
Tuesday (Nov. 5) Ulica Eisenhower at Southfield-Lathrup, 19301 Twelve Mile Road, 8 p.m.

Soccer
Tuesday (Nov. 5) Southfield Christian at West Bloomfield, 4225 Orchard Lake Road, 7 p.m.

Hockey
Tuesday (Nov. 5) Flint Icelanders at Southfield Chiefs, Civic Center, Arena, 3000 Evergreen Road, 8 p.m.