

# Sorrows Hopes To Maintain Home Field Jinx Over Ferndale

Will history repeat? Our Lady of Sorrows is hoping so. Ferndale St. James hopes not.

It was in the fall of 1966 . . . Sorrows and St. James bumped head-on in a battle of unbeaten. The divisional title was at stake in the Catholic League.

Sorrows emerged the winner, 13-7.

Three years later, an identical situation arises.

It's Sorrows vs. St. James in the Sorrows homecoming at

Farmington High Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Both teams have 6-records. The Sorrows' Division title hangs in balance.

ST. JAMES will take the field the favorite. The Ferndale team ranks No. 3 in the state's Class B ratings. Sorrows is unrated.

The Sorrows players will know what happened just last Saturday when unrated Thurston upset No. 4 rated North Farmington.

"Our boys think they can beat

St. James," Coach Bob Kelley declared as he discussed the first Sorrows team he has directed as head man.

"I've never seen a more dedicated group of boys," added Kelley. "Not a harder-working lot, nor one which had such fine spirit."

This is a Sorrows team which doesn't depend on one star or two or three.

"We have balance all around," said Kelley.

HE NOTED that Dan McGrath

and Ross Patton each has scored 42 points. That Greg Hurst has collected 32.

When it's come to running the ball, McGrath and Patton and Hurst all have shared honors. McGrath has been particularly brilliant. He has run for three touchdowns, averaged 5.2 yards per carry, tossed three touchdowns passes, averaged 40 yards per punt, caught one 60-yard pass and even has starred on defense as a linebacker.

But, then there's Patton, who has averaged 13 yards per carry

and in the last game lugged 87 yards in four times.

And, how about Hurst, who in the last game picked up 117 yards and also caught a pair of passes for 30 yards.

PAT VAN DUSEN is the fourth member of the offensive backfield and sort of an unsung hero in the multiple offense that Sorrows has used this season.

Van Dusen doesn't make many headlines. He doesn't carry the ball too often, although he has scored two touchdowns.

"It's our blocker and what a job the kid has done for a sophomore," Kelley said.

"He's one of those special-type boys. He just loves to hit and he realizes that when somebody else scores, he has done his part by helping to clear the way. Not very many boys are like Pat when it comes to being willing to sacrifice their personal glory for the good of the team."

In the multi-pro offense, you might find McGrath at quarterback one play and then switching with Patton, who moves from flanker to quarterback on the next play.

"He gives us a double passing assault," said Kelley. "We can fire 'em right or left-handed. Dan shoots 'em from the right, Ross from the left."



"WE'RE READY" — That's the statement of Coach Mike Bennane, of St. Agatha High, and his star back, Mike Murphy, as they prepare for Sunday's crucial battle with Lourdes. Agatha is unbeaten but once tied in five games. It needs victories in the two remaining contests to win the Catholic League division title. (Observer photo by Craig Gaffield)



SIXTH STRAIGHT victory is the goal of the Sorrows' High backfield in the all-important game with Ferndale St. James Sunday. Big reasons for the success of the Farmington eleven

are these backs: (from left) Fullback Pat Van Dusen, Quarterback Dan McGrath, Halfback Greg Hurst and Tailback Ross Patton. (Observer photo)

# Agatha Risks Win Streak Sunday Against Lourdes

What makes it possible for a high school back to chalk up 974 yards rushing in five games?

How can a young man once scout over 300 yards in a game, three to 200 yards and once hit over 100 yards?

"What's behind the same player scoring 11 touchdowns, better than two per game?"

Coach Mike Brennan of St. Agatha had two words to describe Mike Murphy, who has paced the Tomahawks in winning four and tying one thus far and remaining in the thick of the race for the Catholic League's Southwest Division crown.

The words: "Great" and "Blocking."

THE WORD "great" applies to Murphy's running ability. "You won't have a better runner in our league," says Brennan.

As for the word "blocking," it refers to linemen like Jerry Schrock, Bill Garber and Dave Urban and Bob Blackmore, who plays fullback for Agatha.

"Murphy is the first to admit he never would be enjoying the season he is, were it not for the guys who clear the holes and knock down the rivals," explained Brennan.

"Why, when Mike was called by a Detroit daily to be saluted as one of their top players of the week, one of the first things Mike told the reporter was: 'Can you say something, too, about the fellows who block for me?'"

WHILE MURPHY has hauled down most of the headlines, Brennan insists that the success story at St. Agatha can be attributed to the play of "all our players."

"Look at our defense," says Brennan.

"A year ago, teams could run on us. They made good headway passing.

"But with tackles like Urban and Dave Churches, with linebackers like Jerry Schrock and George Barber (whos 6-4, 215), teams have been running into almost a brick wall.

"So, they try to pass. And what happens? More trouble with fellows like Jim Krupanski, Mike Sweeney and Tim Flambe, who make up our

secondary.

"This trio has intercepted one pass in every 5.5 our foes have tossed. And Krupanski already has picked up five by himself."

BENNAME ADDS there are others who have put St. Agatha in position to hold in the division title if the team can down Lourdes Sunday and then take St. Francis de Sales in a showdown between divisional leaders a week from Sunday.

"Take Charles Shrock, our quarterback," explains Brennan. "I think he's the best in our division. But, he'll probably be passed over because we don't have impressive passing statistics.

"But that's not Charley's fault. With the running we have, we don't pass much. Yet Charley can toss the ball with the best."

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## Turf Tips, Quips By Doc Minard

Livonia Industrialist Bill Salmen, owner and operator of a plant on Schoolcraft Road just a mile or so west of the Detroit Race Course, has to go down in the books as one of the greatest hard luck owners of all time.

Salmen, master of the Crimson King farm near Lexington, thought he had a chance for two-year-old honors this year with his brilliant Bay Acres, who won all of the juvenile events in sight at Hazel Park and the DRC before being shipped to New York for the rich events there.

Nature of fact he had some thoughts of capturing the richest of all two-year-old events at Garden State later in the month. But his dreams vanished Tuesday when Bay Acres contracted an ailment in New York and died.

To add a bit of pathos to an already sad story, Salmen owned Crimson Beau earlier in the campaign but lost the horse on a claim during the Hazel Park meetings.

Since then, Crimson Beau has won six straight races for his owners even though he has changed hands a couple of times via the claiming route.

It wasn't so many years back that Bill owned Crimson Satan, probably the best horse he ever had. Crimson Satan was a moody horse but extremely fast.

But unfortunately he had bad manners in some of his races and after winning the Michigan Mile at the DRC, he went east where he was first in two of the richest events of the year and lost each through disqualification.

Now comes the crowing blow — the loss of a horse showing as much promise as Bay Acres as a two year old. It won't cause Salmen to drop out of racing but it may make him wonder if ill luck will ever stop dogging him.

Coming up next Saturday at the DRC is the \$25,000 added Graduation Stakes for two-year-olds. That's the one Salmen thought he had wrapped up and in his hip pocket.

With Bay Acres out, it figures to be more or less of a wide open affair.

ago, betting and turnstile count has climbed.

As of Oct. 11, the track had a daily mutual handle of \$956,819, a hike of 5.4 per cent over the \$908,009 of 1968 for the same number of days. Wagering totaled \$63,150,950 for 66 days contrasted with \$59,920,300 a year ago.

Crowds show an increase of 3.6 per cent with a daily average of 11,818 against 10,989. Total attendance for the 11 weeks was 746,971. It was 721,303 in 1968.

WINDSOR RACEWAYS is making a determined effort to transport those fans who enjoy the thoroughbreds and the standardbreds from the DRC to the night races in Canada.

Arrangements have been made for special track-to-track buses leaving the DRC late in the afternoon and carrying fans directly to the Windsor grandstand in time for the evening harness racing program.

Buses are available from the track to the bridge and the tunnels after the races. Buspatrons are on their own once they get back to Detroit.

It will be a long time before those who follow the paces and trotters forget this year's opening program in Windsor.

Mike Novick, 29-year-old driver-trainer from Sault Ste. Marie, won six of the nine races. It wasn't too many years back that Mike was the leading driver, percentage wise, at Northville Downs.

The six wins equaled a North American record for most firsts by a driver in a single race program at a major oval. The records is shared by Ed Nyer, Jimmy Cruise and Bob Farrington.

Novick won the Dutch Dillard, Raythim Billy, Right Season, Hotel Man, J.J. Lassie and Lendawee Song and just missed getting No. 7 when Glynne Jackson finished second.

Strange as it may sound, Windsor is starting its racing programs at 7:45 p.m. Detroit Time — that's 8:45 p.m. Ontario time and definitely proves American bettors are in the majority at the nightly programs across the river.

And when Ontario clocks are moved back to Eastern standard time during the last week in October, Windsor will resume its 10-race programs on Friday and Saturday evenings.

The post time will remain at 7:45 p.m. — no change for Detroiters but an hour earlier for Canadians.

## Try To Pick NW Harrier Loop King

Try to pick who'll win between Franklin and North Farmington Wednesday when the Northwest Suburban League cross country title is decided. The two schools carried a 4-0 conference record when they collided Thursday.

What happened?

They ran a tie. Each posted 8 points, marking one of the rare times two schools have wound up in a deadlock.

Each placed five men among the first 10 with Franklin's Jim Kosteva taking individual honors in the excellent time of 10:07.

He beat out North Farmington's Stu Otto, who was second, by six seconds.

Then followed Ed Stokes (NF), John Dawe (NF), Curt Steinhauser (F), Matt Conklin (NF), Mickey Burbank (F), Cliff Van Tuyl (F) and Adolph Civic (F).

Ends Randy Bergeron and Chris Centers also have contributed a great deal to the success of Sorrows defense. . . . defense which has given up only 38 points in five games.

So far, en route to a perfect season, Sorrows has beaten Royal Oak St. Mary's, Utes St. Lawrence, Waterloo Our Lady of the Lakes, Orchard Lake St. Mary's and St. Florian.

But, the biggest of all games on the 1969 schedule comes up Sunday and the Farmington team appears will be ready.

That's for certain.

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LATEST STATISTICS from the DRC show wagering and attendance still well ahead of figures for the same period a year ago.

With no competition from the Hazel Park harness racing meet, which closed two weeks

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