

Young dreams lead to life as quarterback

By MARY GNIEWEK

Kids who play on little league or YMCA teams often dream of playing in the big leagues. Few make it.

New York Jets quarterback Matt Robinson is one of the few. He got his start in the Farmington Gray football program affiliated with the YMCA.

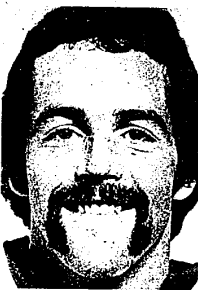
Robinson gets another feather in his helmet for his youthfulness. At 23, he has just completed his second year with the Jets, coming up through the ranks of college, high school and grade school football.

Professionally, he did a great deal more than just warm the bench this season. After the Jets lost in his first start against Pittsburgh, Robinson led the team to three consecutive wins. That included a thrilling come-from-behind victory over the Denver Broncos in which he connected on a 75-yard pass with five minutes left in the game.

He has won acclaim from teammates and coaches, kudos from sports writers and admiration from female fans (he's a bachelor). Only time will tell if he'll surpass the popularity of predecessor Joe Namath.

"I DON'T HAVE any shoes to fill. Richard Todd, who succeeded Namath, had more of those effects," Robinson said in a phone interview from his off-season home in Atlanta.

The Robinson family moved from



Matt Robinson

attended Kendallwood Elementary School. He recalls tobogganing and sledding were favorite winter pastimes.

ROBINSON HAS a general business degree from the University of Georgia, where one writer summed up his football career as "an advanced course in patience." Despite his second string college days, he is confident of his professional ability.

He says the highlight of his brief career is that he has played at all. "I feel lucky to have had the chance so early in my career. The Miami and Denver games were exciting. Miami hadn't lost in 32 games at home, but we beat them."

Robinson stresses team effort. He calls himself a 100 per cent team person.

"Life in the big leagues is a lot of fun. It's better than I expected. It's not the tomfoolery associated with what you hear."

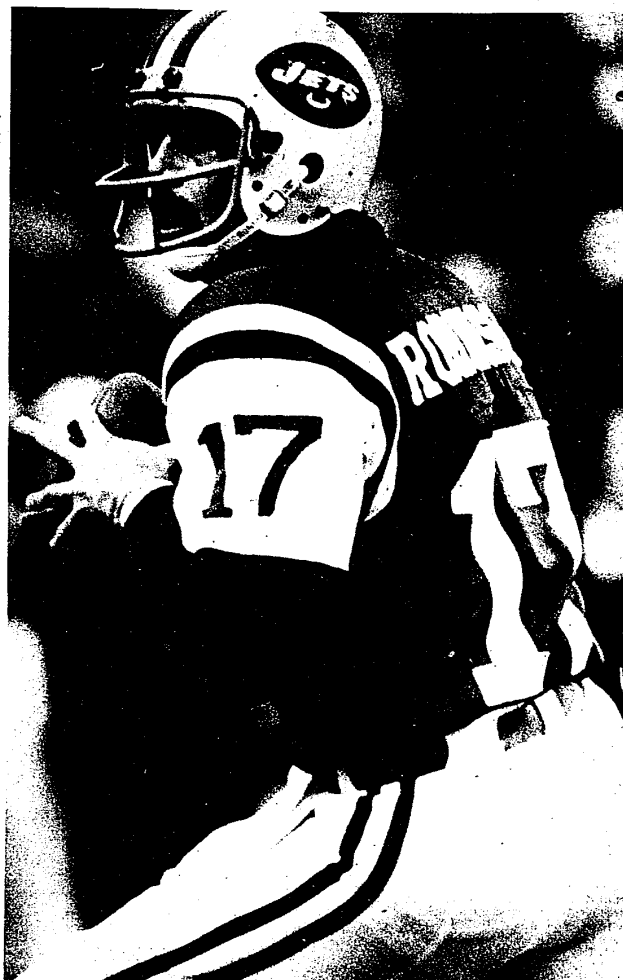
The off-season will give Robinson a chance to pursue some of his favorite hobbies. He plans to attend golf tournaments in Las Vegas and Bermuda, then head to Colorado for skiing.

"I enjoy the best of both worlds," he mused. "I love New York and I love Atlanta. And I get to live in both cities six months of the year."

Robinson was a ninth place draft choice of the Jets in 1978. He'll be back next year for his third season in the big leagues.

Farmington to Atlanta when Matt was 9 years old. His father, Donald, was transferred south by his employer, G.D. Searle laboratories. His mother, Marion, had a daily radio program on WJL. The family is rounded out by two brothers, Jeff and Mark.

In Farmington, Robinson played little league baseball in addition to football. The family lived on Kendallwood at Twelve Mile, behind O.E. Dunckel Junior High. Robinson



Taking the oath

Forty Seventh District Judge Michael Hand (right) takes the oath of office for his second six-year term

last week from Michigan Supreme Court Justice William Ryan. (Photo by Karl Wellman)



Getting set for a pass is Matt Robinson who found himself the center of attention for the New York Jets football squad after the starting quarterback was injured. Robinson got his start in football at the Farmington YMCA.

THE INSIDE * ANGLE

TAKE AN ACCOUNTANT to lunch. If your group would like to learn about such timely items as tax preparation, the Public Service and Information Advisory Committee of the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants will send an accountant to your next lunch meeting if you call the group's office at 353-0404.

COZY UP TO DEWEY and his decimal system by attending a one session library instruction course designed to provide a basic introduction to library services and research methods. The first session offered will be from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Farmington branch library, 25500 Liberty. Other sessions are scheduled for 10:11:30 a.m. Feb. 22 and from 7-8:30 p.m., March 22 at the Farmington Hills branch, 32737 Twelve Mile. For further information, call Barbara Bower at 474-7770.

THE ADMINISTRATION, behavioral, financial and operational functions of a health care facility will be explored in a series of Allied Health Management seminars at Madonna College in Livonia. The sessions will cover the output and input determination, organizational design and structure, managerial dynamics, organizational control and other aspects of the subject. Dr. Bernard F. Landuyt will conduct the workshops. He is an author and dean emeritus and distinguished professor from the School of Business and Administration, University of Detroit.

The sessions will meet from 3:30-8:30 p.m. on Fridays Jan. 12, 26, Feb. 2, 23, March 9, 23 and April 6 and 13 in room 102 of the college. The class may be taken for non-credit at \$120 and late registrations will be accepted. If taken for three credits, the fee is \$42 per credit.

Registration is ongoing at Madonna in the administration building at the Registrar's office Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Madonna is on the corner of Schoolcraft and Levan in Livonia.

HOUSEPLANTS will be the topic of discussion at the Farmington Hills Library at 7:30 p.m., Jan. 11. Betty Frankel, garden writer for the Detroit Free Press, will discuss what types of indoor plants have been popular over the years, what is in vogue at the present and how to select and care for houseplants. A question and answer period is included in the presentation. The Hills branch is at 32737 Twelve Mile.

MA BELL is proposing rate increases and a public hearing of the Public Service Commission.

Michigan Department of Commerce will be conducted in Farmington at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 28 in room 306 of J building on the Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road. Bell is asking the commission for about \$234 million more in annual revenues over a two-year period. The company proposes to increase its rates by \$142 million in 1979 and about \$92 million more in 1980.

THE COMPANY CLAIMS that charges for basic residential and business service will not increase until September 1979. Another hearing for the introduction of evidence and cross-examination of company witnesses will begin at 9:30 a.m. March 5 in the offices of the commission, 6546 Mercantile Way, Lansing. Persons wishing to testify at this hearing must file a petition to intervene with the commission by Feb. 1.

KIM EISENBERG, daughter of Karen Eisenberg, of Farmington Hills is a recent graduate of Southeastern Academy in Kissimmee, Florida. She completed specialized courses in airline travel industry training. She is a graduate of Harrison High School in Farmington Hills.

MONEY AND BANKING will be studied at Madonna College in Livonia from 7-10 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning Jan. 10 and ending April 23. Registration hours are Monday through Friday in the administration building at the Registrar's office from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. A background in economics is necessary.

STARTING Jan. 9, the Henry Ford Hospital West Bloodletting Center will offer free blood pressure screenings two days a week. In addition to the screenings that have been available from 1-4 p.m. on Tuesdays testing will also be done from 1-4 p.m. on Thursdays. The screening, which is painless and takes five minutes is conducted at the center, 6777 West Maple, 2 1/4 miles west of Orchard Lake Road.

No appointment is necessary and participants don't have to be patients at the center to be tested. For further information, call 661-4100.

DEALINE

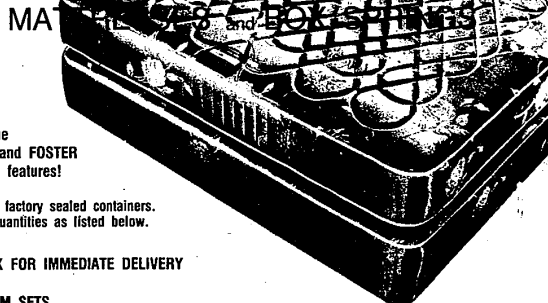
Material submitted for the Inside Angles, 22179 Nine Mile, Southfield, 48034, should include the name and phone number of the sender and should be typewritten if possible. Items should be received at least one week before publication and photographs can't be used. All material becomes the property of the Farmington Observer but say lengths will be open to the community.

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