

# High School Coaches Prepare For Opening Drills

Hello football... high school football! Vacation is just about over for the prep athletes in Oberverland... and, for that matter, in all of Michigan.

Cornes Monday morning, the football players will practice out on to gridirons from Westland to Farmington and Southfield... from Benton Harbor to Mackinac Island.

The preps will be getting their earliest practice start in years under the new state rules which permit a team to enjoy four

weeks of workouts instead of three before its first game.

**SCHOOLS DON'T HAVE** to take advantage of the rule — but everyone in Oberverland will.

The added week, however, is designated strictly for conditioning purposes.

A coach may give his players helmet and football shoes to wear. No pads of any kind, however, will be allowed. But a football will be available and thus coaches can set up various patterns, work on

them, etc., while not being able to scrimmage.

"This should be great for all of us," said Coach Glen Goode, starting his second year at Bentley High in Livonia.

"It's got to make for a better first game. We'll be able to remove a lot of the kinks.

"People seem to forget how really complicated this game of high school football is. There's so much to teach to so many boys.

"We don't have as many specialists as they do in the pros or college. Many of our kids

must go both ways — an offense and defense.

"So you can't be teaching them everything at the same time."

**GOODE SEES** the extras upgrading the general level of football for high schools.

"It's certainly a big step forward for us."

Most of the prep football candidates have been working out in conditioning programs for two or three weeks so that they'll be in top shape by the

time the whistle blows Monday morning.

The coaches in most cases will have two full weeks before school classes open to work their charges in two-day practice sessions. First games are scheduled for Sept. 12.

The season starts in Oberverland with Farmington fielding a new team at Harrison High. John Herrington, an assistant at North Farmington, has moved over to Harrison as the head man.

Meantime, Ron Holland remains in charge at North Farmington while Harold Beardsley makes his debut as the new head coach at Farmington High.

Elsewhere in Oberverland, there'll be only one other new coach — Mike Mushinski at Bishop Borgess.

Bob Atkins, voted the coach-of-the-year in Oberverland a year ago when he brought Redford Union back from a bad start to share the Suburban Six League title, will be back.

**ACROSS** THE township at Thurston, Bill McDonald hopes

to field another team like his '69 aggregation which swept unbeaten and untied through an eight-game schedule.

In Livonia, Goode will be at Bentley, Jack Reardon at Stevenson, Ken Keister at Churchill and George Levich at Franklin.

Churchill will be fielding its first team with seniors.

Bob Draheim returns at Garden City West, as does Gary Humphrey at Garden City East and Bob Lusk at John Glenn.

Tom Moshimer will handle

the Plymouth varsity with Ed Bryant at Southfield and Daryl Harper at Southfield Lathrup.

Oberverland's four Catholic League teams will be led by Al Fracasa (Brother Rice), Bob Kelly (Our Lady of Sorrows), Mike Bennane (St. Agatha) and Mushinski (Borgess).

**MOST TEAMS** have booked eight game schedules. A few will play nine games. Each team will be permitted to scrimmage another school once before playing its first game.

It's expected that varsity squads will range from 33-50 in the area.

Most coaches will complete passing out of equipment Thursday and Friday.

The coaches stress that each candidate must take a physical examination and have a proper card filled out before he'll be permitted to report for practice.

A team could have to forfeit any victories if a player is found not to have taken a proper physical and submitted a proper report to his coach or athletic director.



TO THE VICTORS go the awards and Area Little League Commissioner Bob Dodge presents medals to members of the South Farmington team after their triumph in the Ohio-Michigan championship at Maumee, O. That's John Carney (receiving a gold medal while Dan Manian is awaiting his turn. (Observer photo by Vince Witke)

## Wonderland Loses Chance For Berth In ABC Meet

There'll be no shot at winning the state or the national American Baseball Congress tournaments for Redford's Wonderland Lanes.

The season ended for the Township's Class A team in a 6-4 loss to Hazel Park ITM Friday in the third and deciding game of the Greater Livonia League playoffs.

So, while ITM advances into a playoff against Dearborn for the right to advance into the state meet later in the month at Battle Creek, Wonderland Lanes has packed its gear until next spring.

It was a fine year, all-around for Wonderland — a record of 23 victories, eight defeats and two ties.

**THE TEAM** dominated in the second round of the Greater Livonia League and according to Manager Rick Berryman the final game might have been a different story had a pop fly in the third inning not been lost in the fog at Livonia's Ford Field.

"It was just one of those things," Berryman lamented. "Nobody's fault. But at that hour of the evening, the fog does hang a little low in the Livonia area and here we were leading them when with two out Mike Bowen popped one."

Under most conditions, the ball would have been caught. But it was lost in the fog and when it dropped it cleared the way for ITM to score twice and that at the finish was the story of the game.

Unfortunately, too, from a Wonderland standpoint, starting pitcher Bob Smoos came up with a sore arm after the third inning and had to leave the box.

"Bob's our ace," said Berryman. "You never know what might have happened had he been able to stay in there and if that ball hadn't got lost in the fog."

But... Redford wasn't able to stand prosperly in perhaps the biggest game the team played all season.

The Townshipers jumped off to a 3-0 lead in the first inning. Mark Carrow singled and Jerry Pompa was safe when he tried to sacrifice. Lee Bjerke bunted both along and then Terry Rothwell socked a single that drove in Carrow and Pompa.

Gary Schaefer followed with

another hit and when the ball was turned in by Hawthorne with the third Redford run of the inning.

Two walks and a single by Jack Kloss put ITM on the board with a run in the second inning.

**THEN IN THE** third, with two out and a man on after a walk, Bowen's pop fly took place.

Instead of the side being retired, ITM had two aboard and one run scored on a Jerry Randall single and another on a Redford regained the lead, 4-

3, in the fourth when Bob Holmes singled, stole second and scored on Rick Krumm's hit.

But with Krumm on the mound for Redford in the fourth, ITM put together three hits and an error to gain a 5-4 lead and then added an insurance run when Clark doubled, stole third and scored on a wild pitch.

Roger Coryell finished up for Redford while Jay Kuhn and Gordie Reek pitched for the Royals. Reek toiled from the fifth on.

There'll be a new champion crown since Aday of Detroit, last year's winner, was beaten by Oakland in last Saturday's Detroit finals.

Atkins feels he has three solid starting pitchers in Dale Bjerke, Jeff Taylor and John Morrison, plus three excellent backup moundmen in Kirk Taylor, Bruce Bara and Joe Himmelspach.

If there has been a weak spot for Redford, it has been hitting. But, as Atkins pointed out,

## Thurston, Royals Fade In Tournaments

The year of 1970 — it wasn't the one either Redford Thurston or Livonia's Crowe Associates Royals will choose to remember in the state Connie Mack baseball tournament.

Both made it to Marshall this past week in grand style. Thurston dominated its division in the Greater Livonia Mack League. One loss all summer.

In the regionals at Flint, Thurston lost the first game then staged a remarkable comeback to win four straight and the championship.

**THE ROYALS'** record was even more spectacular as the team drove off to Marshall.

A team comprised pretty much of the same boys who made it possible for Bentley High to capture the Suburban

Six League title last spring, the Royals didn't lose a game during the regular Mack campaign.

In the regionals at Livonia and Ypsilanti, the Royals swept through four games to take the title.

But, then came Marshall: On opening day, Thursday, the Royals lost to Grand Rapids Wyoming while rain kept Thurston idle.

On Friday, or the day of gloom for Oberverland, Thurston was knocked out of the double-elimination tournament when beaten first by Marshall, 1-0, and then by Lincoln Park Adray, 12-4.

The end for the Royals came in a 7-4 reversal at the hands of Kalamazoo.

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## It's Back To Johnstown For Redford Adray Team

Redford always seems to come up with the big hit.

And that was the story in these crucial games at Lansing last Saturday.

**For the sixth** straight year, Redford today found itself not only the state Adray (formerly Free Press) champs, but also participants in what is regarded as the major teenage boys tournament in the country — the All American championships.

And, just as in other years, Redford won it here the hard way.

**BEATEN A WEEK** ago by Lansing in the second round of the state playoffs, Redford faced the necessity of winning two straight Saturday from Lansing in the Lansing team's backyard.

And, win the Townshipers did by scores of 2-1 and 7-1.

Manager Atkins hardly was surprised. He had said that no team ever had beaten his club two straight in any season.

"You have to be proud of these kids," says Atkins who two years ago led Redford to the national finals here after they put out Detroit Adray Appliance in the U.S. semifinals.

"I think we have a good shot here," said Atkins as he and his charges waited for Wednesday's first game in the two-dead-end-out eliminations.

Sixteen teams are here, with Detroit Oakland Tool the other Michigan representative.

There'll be a new champion crown since Aday of Detroit, last year's winner, was beaten by Oakland in last Saturday's Detroit finals.

Atkins feels he has three solid starting pitchers in Dale Bjerke, Jeff Taylor and John Morrison, plus three excellent backup moundmen in Kirk Taylor, Bruce Bara and Joe Himmelspach.

If there has been a weak spot for Redford, it has been hitting. But, as Atkins pointed out,

turned into a double play to save the game.

Spectacular relief pitching by Jeff Taylor from the second inning made it possible for Redford to take the decisive second game and boost its season's record to 20-5.

Taylor came on for starter Greg Main with two out and the bases loaded. He fanned the next man to get the side out and then proceeded to allow only three hits the rest of the way while fanning 10 and walking only one man.

A walk to Bill Holmes and triple by Randy Taylor gave Redford a run in the first inning.

Two runs came home in the fifth when Tim Fox walked.

Bara tripled and Adams doubled.

In the eighth, Redford wrapped up matters with four runs. Bara walked, Adams hit into a fielder's choice, four singled and Holmes singled.

Then Himmelspach walked to force in one run. Randy Taylor walked to force in another and two men came in when Fox was safe on an error.

Appliance dealer Mike Adray of Dearborn, who sponsors the state-wide league, is underwriting part of the Redford expenses to the tournament.

There also is a strong possibility that Adray may take over sponsorship of the team in 1971.

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