

Squad Is Sound But Lacks Depth

N. Farmington Needs Gridders

If there are any boys around North Farmington who would like to join this year's football team, don't hesitate to come out.

Plan not, there'll be plenty of spots on the varsity roster and also plenty of uniforms.

Until two years ago, North Farmington always had around 55 to 60 boys out for the varsity and about as many out for the JV team.

This fall, the combined total is 55 with 30 on the varsity.

"I kind of feel lost out there with so few boys," says coach Ron Holland, who over the years has turned out winners on the gridiron around 13 Mile and Farmington Rds.

"Secondly, we have had a couple of lean undergraduate classes in a row. Last year we had 39 seniors back. This time we have something like 12."

"Thirdly, we have heretofore drawn all the football players from two junior highs. Now we get all from Dunkel and just a few from East. (The other East boys are going to Harrison).

The fourth reason Holland offered centered around what he feels is a reduced interest

among many boys to come out for football.

But, while the numbers are down, Holland isn't tossing in the towel.

Not by a long stretch.

He's not predicting a Northwest Suburban League championship for the Raiders because, he says, "Franklin and John Glenn have too many stars back and they should be the class of the league."

NORTH Farmington's big

need now is to find extra depth.

"We'll be okay on our first unit," says Holland. "But you can't play football with just 11 fellows these days. You need back-up men all along the line."

The Raiders will have a brilliant quarterback in Drew Mahalic, who stands 6-4 and weighs 205.

They'll have fine running backs in Mike Gow, Rick Fuchling, Jim White and Gow's younger brother, Craig.

"All in all, our backfield should be as good as any in the league, maybe better," adds Holland.

The line boasts Ron Crowe, a 345-pound tackle, who is a cinch for stardom; Jim White and John Comber at the ends along with Ron Herpich, Paul Bouza, a converted back, at tackle, along with Eric Chisholm and Gordie Roach, and Brian Smith at center.

Donny Conkin and Mark Daubmeyer are fighting for jobs at guard while Marty Ray-

mond looms as No. 2 behind Mabile as quarterback.

The Raiders again will play a nine-game schedule, starting at Pontiac Northern on Sept. 19.

A NON-LEAGUE contest against Walled Lake Central Raiders' Northwest Suburban League schedule.

Douglas MacArthur of Saginaw has been added to the late schedule and, as usual, the season will end against Farmington High.

Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

Wolverine Raceway Fans are singing the praises of two pacers for their brilliant performances in recent races.

No. 1, of course, is Knox Patch, the five-year-old who won his first three starts in the best competition and set the track record of 1:58 in the process.

Seldom have patrons seen a pacer with more go in the final quarter than the son of Knox Hascover, who stands at the Burrell Downing farm near Northville.

In two of the three victories, Knox Patch has appeared to be out of the race only to start moving on the final turn and then charging past all of his rivals in the long drive to the wire.

CONTRAST his speed with that of Philip Brian, the aged star of the Gerty Mijal stable of Westland, who likes to pace as fast as he can for as far as he can. Recently, Philip has found he can't keep up with the likes of Knox Patch, C.K. Adios, Fanny Mite and Robert E. Adios.

As a result he has been conspicuous by his absence in the past three weeks.

The No. 2 pacer sharing the limelight at Wolverine is Buddy Time, a four-year-old that Bobby Williams brought in with him when he shipped to the track from Chicago.

The last time we looked, Buddy Time had won nine in a row, including three at Wolverine and 10 of his last 11 starts. The only break in an unbeaten record was a sixth-place finish.

The son of Wintertime was nothing short of sensational a year ago when he won 13 of 20 starts with one second and three thirds.

He started his current string on the Illinois county Fair circuit and then moved into the parimutuel competition at Chicago's Sportsman's Park with Jack Williams Jr. as the driver-trainer.

When Bobby, brother of Jack, decided to ship his large public stable to Wolverine, he brought Buddy Time along to get him more racing. There were too many pacers in his class in the Windy City.

Buddy Time has been getting one race each week at Wolverine and has been winning each.

REMEMBER the good old days when you could buy a hot dog for a dime, a cold scouper of beer for 15 cents, coke for a nickel and popcorn for five cents.

They are coming back for a single night at Wolverine Raceway where Vice President and General Manager Dick Wilson is planning several special nights during the final week of the 60-night meeting.

The Old Days night is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 17, and you'll be able to get a hot dog and the other items for the prices shown above.

Many old-time greats of the sports world will be honored and several standout harness racing performers will have parts of the evenings' activities.

RU Defense Aids Title Hopes

HOW DOES Holland explain the reduction in his squad?

"For one thing, we lost a few boys to the new Harrison High (the third Farmington senior high which is opening this fall).

The transition came fast and smoothly for coach Bob Atkins.

One week he was managing Redford Township's baseball team in the All-America Amateur baseball tournament at Johnstown, Pa.

A couple days later, he was taking over as head football coach at Redford Union.

"You might think a guy would get mixed up between bunting and putting under such a situation," laughed Atkins, "but really that's not so. You see, the football coach lives football the year around."

"Sure there may be other

things that come up, but even while I handle my baseball team on the sandlots all through the year, I'm thinking and working at football.

"We have meetings with the other coaches, we have conditioning programs for the football players, we have talks."

"So, actually, it wasn't tough to quickly switch from baseball to football."

There are 37 members on Atkins' varsity this year as he prepares to lead RU in the defense of the Suburban League title the team shared a year ago.

In 1969, Redford Union rebounded back from losing its first three games, to win the next four and earn the share of the flag. Atkins also was voted the coach-of-the-year.

Defense again shapes up as the key to the RU fortunes.

ATKINS recalls how last year during one stretch the Townshippers held rivals scoreless for 14 straight quarters... that was 3 1/2 games.

Linebackers Ron Respondek and Tom Burk, guard Keith Richmond, 200-pound tackle, Mark Keltman, safety Bill

Herbert and end Tom Tullock are among the stars of the defensive unit who are back.

It will on Herbert that the team's quarterbacking falls.

He must take over and fill the shoes left over by the graduation of Gary Bevelton, who earned a scholarship at Central Michigan University for his brilliant passing and running.

Bill Booker is back as tail back and hopefully again will be the top runner on the team. But he's recovering from a knee operation and Atkins is concerned whether Booker will be able to go all out at least at the outset.

Kurt Fritz, a 6-2 junior, also figures prominently in the RU offensive plans. He's a full-back and a hard runner.

Others who should be heard from are ends Tom Burke and Dean Naudi and Tom Wysocki, a wide receiver.

Redford Union will play a nine-game schedule for the first time in several years, starting at Stevenson on Sept. 18.

The extra game will be against the new Farmington Harrison to round out the season.

Soccer Players Wanted

Boys who want to play on the Schoolcraft College varsity

soccer team should get in touch with Dave Fisher in front of the college at 4:30 p.m. daily. Candidates must be carrying at least 10 hours with a 1.5 grade average or better.

The team has a 16-game schedule and practices from 5 to 7 p.m. daily.

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