

Churchill's Kurtis No. 1

Observer Picks 'Top 10' Cross Country Stars



By TOM DONOGHUE

Sports Editor

The 2 1/2 mile runs are over...The cross country shoes are put away for another year...And the Observerland "Top 10" has been chosen.

The Observer "Top 10" in high school cross country is really the top 11 because of a tie for the No. 10 spot.

Here we have the "top 10" harriers in Observerland.

1-DENNY KURTIS, Churchill; Western Six League Champion...Undeclared in dual meets his junior and senior year...first team All Conference...2nd in Schoolcraft

Invitational...3rd at RU Invitational...1st in Wayne Invitational...1st in Western Six League Meet and 3rd in Cass Benton Regionals.

2-DAVE MATHIA, Stevenson; Number one man on squad and only a junior...Lost only one dual meet and that to Kurtis...1st in Inter-Lakes Conference Meet...3rd in Schoolcraft Invitational...3rd in Pontiac Northern Invitational...4th in Redford Union Invitational and 2nd in Regionals.

3-RICK KIRTZMAN, Redford Union; 2nd in Suburban Eight League

Meet...Cass Benton Regional Champion...All State with a 12th place finish...Holds course records at Dearborn and Lola Valley Park.

4-JOHN DAWE, Franklin; 1st place in Northwest Suburban League Meet...5th in Schoolcraft Invitational...11th in Redford Union Invitational...3rd in Wayne Invitational and 6th in Regional Meet.

5-STEVE BASLER, Thurston; Winner of eight individual meets...3rd in Northwest Suburban League Meet...6th in Schoolcraft

Invitational...5th in Redford Union Invitational...8th in Regional Meet and 16th in State Finals.

6-MARK KOBYLARZ, Churchill; 1st year in cross country and a junior...Placed 2nd in all dual meets behind Kurtis except for Stevenson where he placed 3rd...8th in Schoolcraft Invitational...12th in RU Invitational...2nd in Wayne Invitational...2nd in Western Six League Meet and 9th in Cass Benton Regionals.

7-DAN HENRY, Southfield; took six 1st in dual meets...8th in Oakland County Meet...All

County and All League honors...5th in SMA...5th in Regional and 32nd in State Meet.

8-PAT DAVEY, Brother Burgess; 1st in six League Meets...8th in Catholic League Finals...11th in Albion Invitational...11th in River Rouge Regionals and 59th in State Meet.

9-FRANK ARCANGELI, Farmington Harrison; 1st in four dual meets...4th in Farmington Triangular Meet...4th in Western Six Conference Meet...12th in Oakland County Meet...13th in

Redford Union Invitational and 37th in State Meet.

10-DAN MADDEN, Bishop Burgess; 1st in six League Meets...8th in Catholic League Finals...7th in Albion Invitational...11th in River Rouge Regionals and 59th in State Meet.

11-RANDY SALENIK, Churchill; 2nd in four dual meets and 3rd in three...First year in cross country...9th in Schoolcraft Invitational...17th in Redford Union Invitational...3rd in Wayne Invitational...3rd in Western Six League Meet and 22nd in Regionals.

Churchill Is Top Cross Country Squad

The dual meets are over, the invitational completed, the state meet finalized and the top five prep cross country teams in Observerland have been selected.

NO. 1-CHURCHILL: 9-0 in dual meets...2nd in Schoolcraft Invitational...2nd in Redford Union Invitational...1st in Western Wayne Invitational...Western Six League Champions...and 4th in Regional Meet.

NO. 2-STEVENSON: Finest year in Stevenson cross country history...Lost one dual meet and that to Churchill...1st in Schoolcraft Invitational...4th in Pontiac Northern Invitational...2nd in Clarenceville Invitational...Tied for first in Regionals at Cass Benton...1st Livonia school to qualify for State Finals.

NO. 3-FARMINGTON: Falcons stood 9-2 in dual meets...3rd in Schoolcraft

Invitational...5th in Redford Union Invitational...3rd in Oakland County Invitational...3rd in Oakland University Invitational...Inter-Lakes League Champions and 3rd in Regionals.

NO. 4-BROTHER RICE: Central Division Champions...Catholic League Champions...3rd in Lipke Invitational...3rd in West Bloomfield Invitational...2nd in Holly Invitational...6th in Pontiac Northern Invitational...2nd in State Regionals and 12th in State Finals.

NO. 5-BISHOP BORGESS: Undeclared in dual meet action with 8-0 record...Extended dual meet winning streak winning to 26 over period of three years...4th in Jackson Regionals...1st in River Rouge Regionals and 15th in State Finals.



OBSERVERLAND TOP 10 — Front row from left: Dave Mathia (Stevenson), Dennis Kurtis (Churchill), Mark Kobylarz (Churchill), and Steve Basler (Thurston). Back row: John Dawe (Franklin), Dan Henry (Southfield), Frank Arcangeli (Harrison), Pat Davey (Brother Rice), and Dan Madden (Bishop Burgess).

Borgess, Rice Clash Sunday

By TOM DONOGHUE

Sports Editor

Sunday afternoon's Catholic League championship battle between Brother Rice and Bishop Borgess shapes up to be one of the hardest hitting defensive clashes of the year.

Rice and Borgess meet Sunday at 3:30 p.m. in the second game of the First Division playoffs at Pontiac's Wiser Stadium. Divine Child plays Center Line St. Clement in the first game.

Rice captured its third straight Central Division crown with a 36-6 scoring effort over Austin. The Warriors were undefeated this season with a 14-1 tie against St. Mary's of Redford being the only scar on their 7-0-1 mark.

Borgess enjoyed its finest year on the gridiron with a 7-1 record in placing first in the Catholic West Division. The Spartans suffered their lone defeat at the hands of St. Francis Cabrini 26-6.

Here are how the two teams size up in the statistical department.

Brother Rice	OFFENSE	Bishop Borgess
12	Per Game Average	13
218	First Downs	175
41%	Rushing Yardage	50%
55	Passing Percentage	74
4	Passing Yardage	6
25.4	Interceptions	17.5
10.6	Points	6.3
114	First Downs	98
38%	Rushing Yardage	33%
97	Passing Percentage	40
15	Passing Yardage	12
10.3	Interceptions	5.8
	Points	

RICE is the favored team in the title match, and some have given the Warriors a three-touchdown spread over Borgess. But Borgess is enjoying its role of the underdog, for the Spartans know they have to go out there and play that much harder.

Brother Rice is an all-boy school totaling 890 in enrollment and is located on 1 1/2 Mile Road and Lahser. Al Fracassa, in three years of coaching the Warriors, has compiled a 22-2-2 record. He lost a 14-0 contest with Catholic Central his first year

and lost the divisional playoff to Shrine last year 18-0. Fracassa coached varsity football for nine years at Shrine before making the move to Rice. He compiled a 44-15 record with the Shrine footballers.

The coaching staff at Rice consists of Ron Ranieri, offensive linemen coach, who was All-Big Ten for Michigan State in 1967; defensive coordinator Harold Burkholder; and Mike Popson, defensive secondary coach and offensive co-coordinator.

"We didn't have one returning letterman on our offensive unit," said Fracassa. "Borgess has a total of 22 returning lettermen."

RICE had five returning lettermen on a defense consisting of Mark Hendricks, Bob Zych, John Houseman, Dan Damiani and Tim Zimcosky.

"They are going to have to come at us, and we will have to jump at them," added Fracassa. "Our linemen average 180 pounds to Borgess's 205 per man."

Junior Halfback John Cullen has been the main ground gainer for the Rice attack with 883 yards in 107 carries, averaging 8.3 a carry. He has also collected nine touchdowns and one extra point to total 56 points.

Mike Ryan, Junior quarterback, has been the spark-plug of the Warriors. He has a 29 for 72 passing attack for 404 yards, has rushed for 163 yards and scored three touchdowns, four extra points rushing and kicked 11 conversions.

Bob Zych, voted best lineman in the Catholic League, has come up with 23 solo tackles and recovered three fumbles while Tim Zimcosky, voted best defensive back, has come up with six pass interceptions and 142 yards in returns.

BISHOP BORGESS is a co-ed school totaling 1,500

students and is located on Telegraph and Plymouth Roads.

Fred Mushinski is the head football coach at Borgess and is in his second year after leaving Divine Child. Up to this year, Borgess has not won more than two football games a season.

Mushinski played defensive and offensive tackle for Michigan State in 1960-64. His staff consists of Jim Brisky, backfield coach; Steve Staruch, secondary coach; and Dennis Brisky, defensive coach. Dennis played defensive end for University of Buffalo.

"This game with Rice has to be the biggest of my coaching career," said Mushinski. "We are trying to improve on our mistakes and show Rice an offensive 'winkle' or two."

"We are definitely the underdogs," added Mushinski. "Rice is even state-ranked."

BORGESS quarterback Jerry Sharon has connected on 45 of 88 passes for three touchdowns. He has carried the ball 62 times for 196 yards and scored seven touchdowns.

Halfback Neil Falls has gained 434 yards in 111 carries while Mark Szpond collected 307 yards in 69 carries including five touchdowns and rams.

Gym Meet Scheduled

The Southfield Assn. for Gymnastics will hold its final class for teachers of gymnastics at Southfield-Lathrup High School the evening of Nov. 16. Classes taught by these teachers will be announced shortly.

MSU Crowds

The two largest crowds in Michigan State home football history were attracted for games with MSU's top rivals - 80,083 in 1971 for Michigan and 80,011 for Notre Dame in 1966.

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CHAMPIONSHIP GAME UP FOR GRABS — The captains from Brother Rice and Bishop Borgess talk over game strategy before the Catholic League clash Sunday. Rice's captain Rick Costantini seems oversized next to Borgess's tri-captains, Mike Brennan, Kevin Clifford and Paul Bannon.