

Groves Blitzed In Cage Opener

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor
It was a simple case of first

game jitters for Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm capitalized on numerous

Falcon turnovers to win the opening rival basketball clash 75-50.

"It was the first varsity start for all of my players," said Groves Coach Al Vordermark. "Seaholm had four seniors and one junior and we stacked up 'green' against them."

"In addition we had to pull our 6-5 center, Lindsay Miller, from the game in the second quarter because he had three fouls," added Vordermark. Miller fouled out of the contest early in the fourth quarter.

SEAHOLM got the opening tip and after three minutes, Groves led 4-3. Seaholm broke into a full-court press but Groves held a 10-7 lead midway through the first quarter, with Les Siegel paving the way.

With 42 seconds remaining in the quarter, Groves called a time-out and the score read 10-9. The Falcons had not scored in three minutes.

First quarter of play ended with Groves up 10-9. Seaholm's John Denning popped in a jump shot at the two minute mark for the first score of the second quarter and Seaholm had its first lead of the game and was never to fall behind again.

Midway through the quarter Groves trailed 16-15 but a Siegel pass went astray and Seaholm bounced in front 24-17 with three minutes in the half.

SCOTT HAMMOND, Jim Hughes, and Bob Lyle hit on successive baskets for Seaholm.

Tom Adams scored for Groves in the closing seconds but Seaholm had jumped out 39-19.

Groves got the second-half tip but turnovers plagued the

inexperienced Falcons and the third quarter ended with Seaholm in front 62-30.

"When the final buzzer sounded, Coach Vordermark glanced up at the scoreboard and realized it was going to be a long season."

"We need a lot of experience," said Vordermark. "We aren't big at all and the loss of Scott Love is really going to show this year."

GROVES was unbeaten last year in Northwest Suburban play with a 10-0 record and was 13-3 overall. This is the third year for Vordermark at Groves who has enjoyed 13-3 marks each season.

"We dominated the entire league last year," added Vordermark. "But we lost 10 of 12 players, and we really have to come back at it this year."

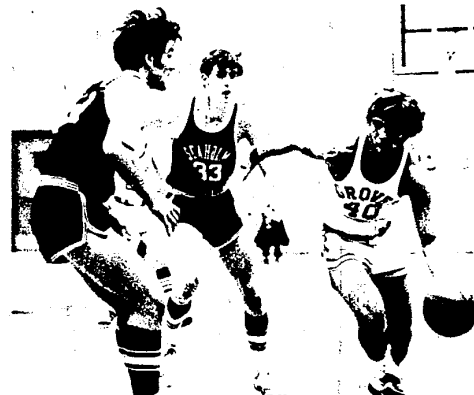
Groves opens league play with John Glenn on Dec. 10 but has a non-league clash with Kimball Friday at home.

"FRANKLIN has the best shot at the Northwest crown this year," added Vordermark. "If my kids can come around we might cause some headaches in the league, but it is going to be a rough trail."

Adams collected 13 points and Don Larsen 12 for Groves while Denning of Seaholm led scorers with 17.

Groves hit on 21 of 50 shots from the floor for 42 per cent and scored on eight of 23 from the line for a 35 per cent average.

Seaholm popped in 30 out of 74 from the floor for 41 per cent while hitting on 15 of 26 from the line for 75 per cent.



DRIVING IN for Groves is senior guard Les Siegel in the opening rival clash with Birmingham Seaholm. Jim Hughes (51) and Scott Hammond (33) of Seaholm defend on the play. (Observer photo)

Outhustled 70-64

Borgess Topped

Bishop Borgess went cold in the fourth quarter of its opening basketball clash against De LaSalle and ended up on the short end, 70-64.

With four minutes remaining, Borgess held a three point margin but DeLaSalle got hot and Borgess cold. De LaSalle scored four straight baskets and over a two minute span outscored Borgess 14-4.

Three bad shots in a row told the story for us," said Borgess Coach Tom Denewith. "They got hot and we just fell flat on our face."

BORGESS gained a 16-14 first quarter lead but De LaSalle fought back to tie it at the half, 27-27. De LaSalle pushed to a five point advantage at the end of three quarters, 53-48, but Borgess rebounded in the fourth only to have the tide change and De LaSalle come out the victor.

"De LaSalle's center, Bill Glowczewski, really killed us," said Denewith. "He collected 18 of his 29 points in the third quarter and was hitting on shots 25 feet out."

The contest was filled with turnovers with Borgess fumbling 22 while De LaSalle collected 15.

Borgess junior forward,

Mark Sopko, pumped in 20 points to lead the offensive attack with Greg Battle collecting 12 and Shawn McCarthy 10.

10 feet of the basket," said Denewith. "In addition we missed eight layups." "The kids were hustling but just couldn't pop it in," concluded Denewith.

Borgess travels to Garden City East Tuesday night in what should shape up to be its toughest game. A clash with Mt. Carmel is on store Friday with its first league encounter on Dec. 17 at Sacred Heart Dearborn.

"We missed 16 shots within

Prep Schedule

BASKETBALL FRIDAY

Harrison at North Farmington
Southfield at Redford Union
Shrine at Brother Rice
Garden City West at John Glenn
Franklin at Wayne
Bentley at Farmington
Thurston at Churchill
Kimball at Birmingham Groves
Plymouth at Walled Lake
Mt. Carmel at St. Agatha
St. Clements at Bishop Borgess

SATURDAY
Stevenson at Thurston

St. Agatha Tightens Defense To Sneak By Lourdes 54-48



St. Agatha won its cage opener at the free-throw line in a 54-48 conquest of River Rouge Lourdes High School. The Aggies popped in 20 of 44 from the line while Lourdes scored on only two of 11 free throws.

ST. AGATHA trailed in the contest to the three minute mark of the fourth quarter when senior center Tom Churches scored the go-ahead basket. The Aggies never looked back.

"We were top-notch on defense and didn't commit a foul the entire first half," said

Agatha Coach Tom Sankovic. "They were a bit sloppy, but we drove a lot, forcing them to commit fouls."

Lourdes committed 31 fouls in contrast to nine by St. Agatha.

The Aggies had four players in double figures with Churches leading the squad with 17 points. Pat Brown followed with 14 while Phil Hickey collected 11 and Mark Miron 10.

DAN SHIELDS was high scorer for Lourdes with 24 points.

"Our defense tightened up the second half," said

Southfield Hockey

SQUAD				W	L	P
Seminoles				2	0	6
Shawnee				2	1	6
Sioux				1	2	3
Shiawassee				0	2	2
Results						
Seminoles 1, Shiawassee 1						
Shawnee 5, Sioux 2						
Pee Wee Results						
Kiowa 1, Cherokee 1						
Troquille 4, Osage 3						
Troquille 3, Kiowa 1						
Cherokee 5, Osage 0						
BANTAM						
SQUAD	W	L	T	P		
Chickasaw	4	0	0	8		
Camden	4	0	0	8		
Chippewas	2	2	0	4		
Crows	1	3	0	2		
Cres	0	1	1	1		
Choctaws	0	3	1	1		
Results						
Camden 3, Crows 2						
Crows 2, Choctaws 1						
Camden 3, Crows 1						
Midget Results						
Horns 4, Mohawks 2						

LAYING THE BALL UP for a St. Agatha score is senior forward Tom Churches. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

Lathrup Grid Stars Honored In Banquet

By W. W. EDGAR

Rated the second best football team in the state after being ignored in the rankings for most of the season, members of the undefeated Southfield Lathrup High School football team learned Sunday that they are not without honor in their home community.

They were toasted and praised by a gathering of more than 150 persons that included parents, boosters, educators, coaches and school officials in the first such banquet in the history of the school.

Members of the school board, in turn, lauded them for the heaps of praise they brought to the school that now

is known the length and breadth of the state.

THE PARENTS stated their praise with a giant banner across the head table that read "This Is Proud Country."

The team finished the season undefeated, successfully defended its Inter-Lakes title and ran its string of consecutive victories to 17 -- the longest streak of any Class A team in the state.

To top of the season, nine of the players earned places on various all-star teams.

"This was not a miracle team," Athletic Director Ed Litogot told the parents. "You don't build miracles in four years. This team was started four years ago and by hard

work it finally landed on top -- and we're proud of every member."

The dinner was co-sponsored by the Home Owners Association and parents of the players.

Each player was presented with a group picture of the squad in color and the players, in turn, presented Coach Darryl Harper with an autographed football.

Ed Youngs, an assistant to Duffy Daugherty at Michigan State, was the main speaker and spent most of his time on the podium relating the procedure of obtaining an athletic scholarship.

It was the first football banquet for Lathrup, but the parents vowed that it wouldn't be the last.

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