

# Gridders Start Drills

(Continued from Page 2-B) The defensive situation shapes up as a fairly happy one for Burkholder where eight of the 11 players are back. On offense, the story is 77 vacancies to fill.

Three-year veterans Charles Dobbs (quarterback), Gary Kalen (guard) and Bill Gray (defensive back) will top the returnees.

## REDFORD UNION

John Rogers, the veteran head coach, will greet his charges for physicals Friday at 1 p.m. The equipment will be passed out two days later. Rogers figures to have around 60-75 candidates on hand for drills and his major chore will be rebuild the interior of the RU line where graduation struck a rough blow.

RU's fine all-conference quarterback Glen Davis is returning. So are ends Leland Bjerke and Bill Mieras, indicating that RU may do a lot of passing.

## THURSTON

Coach Bill McDonald will meet his players for physicals on Thursday with equipment to be passed out later in the day.

McDonald has some plugging to do with the loss of key personnel from a year ago. But he is convinced that the 1966 Thurston team will improve on last year's aggregation.

## PLYMOUTH

Coach John McFall visions an improvement for the Rocks who will have 13 letter candidates back among 65 reporting Monday morning.

The Rocks hit "bottom" last season when for the first time they failed to win a single game—seven losses and one tie. McFall needs help in the backfield and in the line as he gets ready for the new season.

Players already have undergone their physicals and received their equipment.

## GARDEN CITY WEST

Harold Burkholder will find 16 lettermen among the 75-80 who assemble for physicals at the high school Saturday morning.

# Bowlcraft Gals Win Slo-Pitch League Honors

Redford Township's Women's Slo-Pitch Softball League has something new. This year's champs went undefeated through 14 regular season games.

Bowlcraft Lanes came out on top with its closest tied for second with eight wins and six losses. Bowlcraft Lanes is coached by Ward Dalton and Buss DeBussey.

## GARDEN CITY EAST

Gary Humphries is new head coach and he's taking over in the second year of East's program.

Physical exams and other pre-season chores will be in reverse with eight out of taken care of on Friday.

## JOHN GLENN

Coach Bob Lusk anticipates a turnout of 100 with 18 lettermen in the group. Replacing the offensive backfield will take up most of Lusk's time in the early workouts.

Veterans Mike Knight, Mike Mahanik, Larry Welch, Paul Folan and Dennis Jackson are all back for their third year of varsity play.

## OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Physicals are carded for Thursday morning at Farmington High at 9 o'clock and North Farmington Friday at 9. Equipment will be issued Saturday at 8 a.m. at the high school field house.

Coach Bud Webster declares his big question mark is the line, where Frank Walsh, a 210-pounder, looms as the towering giant.

## ST. AGATHA

John Treiley again is the coach. Most of the players already have had their physicals and received their equipment. He will greet 35 candidates Monday morning.

There are eight veterans in the group. Big problems for St. Agatha: plugging a weak backfield at guard and one in the backfield.

# Observing SPORTS

By George Maskin

One wonders if the Detroit Race Course, located in Livonia, hasn't been struck a LOW BLOW.

Headline after headline of late has rapped apart the sport of kings in Michigan, but from what we have gathered, very little has had to do with the current meeting at the DRC.

Much of the "news" started elsewhere—at Hazel Park—and appears to have some connection with gentlemen who have something to do with the oval on the other side of town.

But because the horses now are running at the DRC, the Livonia oval has suffered in some respects—although undeservedly so.

As we have said before, the operators at DRC from the start have striven to present the best in races and under the best conditions possible.

They have succeeded in their goals.

If there's to be any BIG criticism of horse racing in Michigan, we say the blame belongs on the various governors who, over the years, have made a habit of picking unqualified gentlemen to serve as racing commissioners.

We'll mention no names—either of governors or commissioners.

But the fact remains that racing in Michigan has become better than a \$200,000,000 operation every year. This being so, why has a man who is a shoemaker or a dentist or a carpenter run the show?

Why pay the stewards, who represent the state of Michigan, more money than the commissioner? Why not have somebody in the commissioner's chair who grew up with horse racing . . . or maybe has run his own stable . . . or somewhere along the line of life either was a jockey or a trainer?

The job always seems to have been dished out as a political plum.

It's not that some of the commissioner's haven't worked hard . . . and made some accomplishments. Simply they may have done better had their background been better suited for the job.

Just what the newest commissioner, Joseph Childs, will do, we don't know.

Granted Mr. Childs had a fine background as a police administrator. He has been referred to as "the policeman's policeman." But does this qualify him to oversee our vast racing program in Michigan?

What does he know about breeding horses? About the life of a jockey?

Suppose that Mr. Childs turns out to be a great commissioner! What happens if the governor's position undergoes a change . . . and a Democrat takes over?

Mr. Childs must go . . . the way the situation currently operates.

In the interim, Mr. Childs has a big job to do. He has to remove the stigma that has covered certain aspects of the racing program in Michigan.

Maybe he should think about expanding the seasons in Detroit and paving the way for track on

this side of the river to prepare themselves for winter racing.

It's a shame that American money must be poured across the river into the Windsor track and thus deprive our state and local communities of tax revenues they desperately could use.

The fans have indicated they want to bet the year around.

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