

Bentley Dumps F'ton

The Falcons flew high for 10 minutes Friday afternoon but then the rough and ready Bulldogs from Bentley High came snarling back to spoil the home opener of Farmington, 27-12.

It was the season inaugural for both clubs and the visiting Bulldogs demonstrated that they will have to be considered as a contender for honors in the Suburban Six League.

On the other side of the picture, Farmington started fast and faded just as fast. The Falcons were no match for the heavier Bentley machine after the opening 10 minutes.

The contest was barely five minutes old when Farmington struck through the air for 46 yards and the initial score. It was a 15 yard aerial from Quarterback Dan Wolman to Halfback Pete Haglund who raced the remaining distance. The try for extra point was blocked but Farmington was in front, 6-0.

Bentley came charging back and tried the ball down to the Farmington 26 before losing it on downs. Then Wolman gave the home crowd another chance to cheer when he found a hole in the Bentley defense for a long pass --Chris was all alone for the remainder of the 74 yards and Farmington had a 12-0 edge.

That was the end of the contest as far as the home team was concerned, play for the remaining three quarters was all in the hands of Bentley.

Halfback Mike Day brightened Bentley early in the second quarter when he broke loose around right end, received a couple of blocks and was all by himself going hardbound. He made 67 yards before Wolman came racing across field and tackled him on the Farmington 20--Mike dropped the ball and Farmington recovered and the six to remove that threat.

Farmington rolled off a first down before Dave Rice intercepted a heave on the Farmington 37. Three plays later Bowser and Fred Howell on the six-yard line for a 19 yard gain. Fullback Tim Malone carried to the one and then went over for the marker. Bowser passed the ball and the extra point and the score was 12-7.

Bentley started another march from its 35. Bowser pitched a strike to Halfback Ed Reisher for 10 and then to Ed Day Doyle for 28 to put the ball on the Farmington 13 with 35 seconds to play. An aerial in the flat to Halfback Leroy Watson completed the job and Bentley was ahead with one second remaining.

observing sports

Sports are infectious. There's nothing like a winner -- and sometimes a loser -- which can send an entire community into hysterics.

Take the current Tigers, as an example. They have just about everybody in the state mad -- talking about the greatest pennant race the American League ever has known.

There are those days -- like a week ago Saturday -- when just about everybody went daffy the way the Tigers rallied to beat Chicago.

Then there was the next day, when all of us, including the Tigers, figuratively died.

What sports can and often do outmatch just about anything else you can think of.

Consider those moments when the Lions are up, or down.

Nothing, next to the Tigers' double loss at Chicago, could match the feeling around town after the Lions wound up on the short end of the score in their exhibition game at Denver.

Imagine being beaten by an American League team! Well, it happened to the Lions, and all their fans reacted in groaning fashion.

THE ATHLETIC IMPACT on schools -- colleges and highs -- is no different than what you have in the professional phase of operations.

When there's a winner at Michigan State -- and when isn't there one? -- the students whip frantically around the Spartan campus.

What happens in the arts, the sciences, the languages, etc., seems to matter little. The BIG thing is what Duffy Daugherty's characters are doing on the gridirons.

In contrast, when a college team goes sour for a few years, the students take the situation to heart. They burn or hang the coach in effigy.

Moving into the prep ranks, a championship team in football and basketball, especially, seizes the spotlight from everything else.

It's particularly true if your school's basketball team should happen to reach the semifinal or final round of the state tournament.

In many smaller areas, whole towns and villages have been known to close shop, except for maybe a policeman or fireman, to troop to East Lansing to watch the heroes in action.

BOASTING SUCH a winner provides something to talk about for weeks, months and even years.

It makes it easier for school officials, desperately in the need of extra money, to get the folks to kick more dollars and cents into the pot.

All of this isn't meant as a slap at the music departments, the theater groups, the algebra groups, or what have you.

Needless to say, they all contribute to making our schools what they are.

But we can't deny that a star in math, or in physics, or in home economics or in science doesn't stir the school, the community and even the state the way a triple-threat quarterback on the football team might.

Or a prep basketball the likes of which Dave O'Busschere or Reggie Harding were at Detroit Austin and Eastern, respectively, or Lou Alcinder was at Power High in New York City.

ONE SUPPOSES that's just the way the cookies drop.

But sports -- be it football or golf or swimming or basketball or hockey -- personify action. We, as a nation, are action conscious.

Most of us are constantly on the move. The automobile has a lot to do with it. So have airplanes, like the one our better half buzzed from Detroit to London in the other afternoon in under seven hours.

Hence, you perhaps have the answer why sports make the psychological impact they do.

Why we scream with every big hit stroked by a Tiger these days -- cry when there's a strikeout with two or three on -- or an error.

Athletes require strong hearts. So do their fans.

It's Franklin By 33-0

It was walk-away for Franklin High School in its opening football game Friday.

The Livonians, showing much of the power that brought them a share of the Northwest Suburban League championship last year, made a shambles of Romulus, 33-0, to get off on the right foot.

Franklin took command from the opening kick-off.

Never relinquishing the ball, the Livonians marched from their 40 to the Romulus 32.

Then Gary Sica slipped through on a dive play, cut to his right, and instantly was in the clear as he went all the way to put Franklin in front 7-0.

By halftime, it was 13-0 for Franklin, as Bob Santilli capped a 45-yard march by plunging across from two yards out.

No sooner did the third quarter start than Santilli was back in the spotlight for Franklin. This time, he intercepted a Romulus pass on the Romulus 40 and ran unimpeded into the land of sunshine.

Franklin came booming back before the period was over, the right foot.

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Kaline Gets

Livonian's Gift

A Franklin High School Junior Saturday presented Detroit Tiger star Al Kaline, whose fan club he heads, a trophy and gift for his runner-up finish in a "King Tiger" fan club contest.

Janice Rosenberg, 31395 Hathaway, and co-president Val Fischlin of Detroit made the presentation in Fan Club Day ceremonies at Tiger Stadium.

The gift, paid for from club dues of members all over the country, was a sterling silver pin and cuff links.

This time on a 55-yard march. Bob Rogalski, whose brother Gary was one of the big stars of last year's team, smacked from the five-yard line for the pay-off touchdown.

The fifth Franklin touchdown resulted from another long march, this one covering 40 yards. On a series of power plays, Franklin reached the Romulus two from where Bill Helstein smacked over.

Rogalski plunged for two of the extra points, while Dennis Hopkins boosted the other one.

Jeff Trick, Mark Belchenko and Santilli were the big guns on defense for Franklin.

Bags Ace

William Bohler of 3028 W. Seven Mile in Livonia enjoyed his visit to Northville Golf Club.

A six-year veteran of the links, Bohler scored the first hole-in-one of his career on the 130-yard, fourth hole, with a No. 6 iron. He had an 89 for his round.

Sorrows

Coach In Big Spot

Herb Coleman will have his work cut out when his Our Lady of Sorrows' football team takes the field in the 1967 season, hosting St. Rita at Farmington High School at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

Sorrows won the divisional championship last season, then triumphed in the Second Division semifinals before losing to Wayne St. Mary's in the title encounter.

Coleman, who has replaced Bud Webster as head Sorrows coach, must replace last year's entire starting backfield.

However, the Sorrows team boasts a strong line, led by Frank Walsh, a 243-pound tackle, who barring injury figures to rank as one of the area's top performers.

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MIKE BRIOLAT is slated to direct Sorrows from quarterback with Tim Lafond, the last of a great contingent of brothers, also working in the backfield. Tim's brother, Cliff, won All Catholic and Suburban honors last season.

Round two of the prep schedule for the area's public school teams will find Bentley and Dearborn next Friday afternoon at 3:30 p.m., while Clarenceville hosts Milford, Farmington goes to Plymouth, and North Farmington visits Kettering in Friday night action.

On Saturday Franklin entertained Detroit at 10 a.m. while Stevens had a home date with John Glenn at noon.

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Farmington Fast In X-Country

Farmington High's cross country team is off and running and so are the Williams brothers, Larry and Gerry.

With Larry leading out Garry in a pair of close finishes for individual honors, Farmington downed Redford Union and Franklin in a triangular meet with respective scores of 37, 38 and 47 and then downed Pontiac Northern, 26-30, in its Interlakes League debut.

Dwight Hollum ran eighth, Rick O'Connell 12th and Dave Pardo 14 for Farmington in the triangular meet while Hollum was fifth, O'Connell seventh and Stoddard 11th against Northern.

Jack Clark placed third and Dave Collins fifth for Franklin while Steve Pearce was ninth, John Pelester 11th and Bob Bagdasarian 19th.

N. Farmington Drops Opener

North Farmington High's cross country team got off on the wrong foot Tuesday, losing to Waterford, 18-38. The winners captured five of their six places. Rick Randall paced North Farmington, finishing third.

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Golfers Hail Stars In Finale

It was a gala windup for members of Livonia's Women's Golf League.

There was a serious touch... a fun touch... a big banquet.

Then, it was Auld Lang Syne for another year as the 1967 festivities came to an end at Joy Wyld.

Several trophies were passed out. Perhaps, the most significant, went to Eugenia Dallas, who was crowned as the "most improved" player during the '67 season.

The "best golfer" award went to Darlene Gayer, a young lady who turned in the low score week after week as she led the championship flight.

Ironically, on the final day, Miss Gayer wasn't low. Her 56 for nine holes took second behind Shirley Adams with a 55.

Faye Reinardy had 58 for third place in the championship group.

IN FLIGHT A, Marge Kandler was low with 61 followed by Lu Nelson and Wanda Hall, each with 61. Carlene Baldwin shot a 64 to lead in Flight B in which Barbara Custer had a 67 and Sandra DeBane a 68.

Tillie Perelli fired a 64 for low in Flight C, with Edith Pegrum scoring a 67 and Marge Reinardy a 72. Colleen Hunt's 75 led in Flight D where Wanda Souby was second with 85.

IN SPECIAL contests, Miss Gayer connected for the longest drive in the championship flight. Mrs. Nelson was tops in Flight A, while in the other flights, Mrs. Custer and Mrs. Howarth and Pam Demaree whacked 'em the hardest.

Jeannette Davies was elected new president for 1968. Verna Kendrick was named secretary and Wanda Hall treasurer.

Millie Phillips was named as rules chairman while Mrs. Nelson again will be in charge of prizes and publicity.

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