

Wednesday, November 29, 1972

# Churchill Looking For Repeat

This could be the year for Churchill High School. The Chargers swept the Western Six in football and finished with a perfect 9-0 record and the spotlight has now switched to the basketball squad which will be defending its first cage crown.

"Churchill has to be the team to beat," said Harrison Coach Bob Sutter whose squad finished 3-5 in the league last year and 7-9 overall. "Waterford Mott will be a contender, as well as ourselves and Northville, but Churchill has the momentum."

Churchill scored a 7-1 mark last year in the Western Six and finished 12-4 overall. But according to Churchill Coach Pat Montagano, it will be a wide open race.

"I don't see any one team dominating the action," said Montagano. "I really don't know how to figure this season. Anyone can be beaten."

"Our key will be hard work on defense and determination. These kids have been winning in every sport ever since they were sophomores and hopefully we can get them out of the clouds from their football season."

CHURCHILL'S varsity sports seven gridiron standouts. "A 5-2 record could win it all," added Montagano. "This could be the best club we have had at Churchill."

MARK REED is the lone starter from the '71-'72 club. The 6-5 senior center averaged nine points a game as a junior. Starting at guard will be a pair of 5-9 seniors in Phil Damaska and Phil Skender. Don Braun is the lone starting junior, checking in at 6-6½ and is called by Montagano as "the real horse of the bunch."

Don Phillips rounds out the starting five, standing 6-2½ at forward, with senior for Jim Foster the No. 6 man.

Front-line subs will be senior guard 5-9 Bobby Blais and junior 6-1 guard Rich VanWagoner, along with 6-0 junior guard Brian Kelly and 6-0 junior forward Al Leirstein.

KEN LANDINI, Rich Kahn and Ken Wood round out the roster, with 6-5 junior Don Forest.

"Our juniors are really coming on strong," added Montagano. "Our starting lineup of four seniors and one junior could very easily switch to a starting core of one senior and four juniors."

Harrison Coach Sutter has three starters back with the

key in 6-8, 205 pound Jeff Sioff who averaged 14 points and 17 rebounds a game in his junior stint.

"Sioff has to be by far the top big man in the Western Six," said Montagano.

"Sioff has put on about 15 pounds and could carry this team," added Sutter. "If we can get him the ball and if he scores, we will win."

The other two returning starters are senior 6-2 forward Mike McGrath, who averaged nine points a game, and 5-6 senior guard Dan Hickey.

Churchill won it with one defeat last season and there's no reason why the Chargers can't do it again, except maybe for a darkhorse in up and coming Northville.



BOB SUTTER  
Harrison Coach



PAT MONTAGANO  
Churchill Coach

## Stevenson May Give WL Central A Battle

The '72-'73 Inter-Lakes Conference basketball race has taken on the likes of the past football season with preseason talk centering around one word—balance.

"You can't by-pass anyone in the league this year," said Stevenson Coach George Van Wagoner whose Spartans placed second last season with a 7-3 mark.

Walled Lake Central won the Inter-Lakes last year going away and will be a top contender to defend its crown with 6-10 Randy McLean paving the way.

Stevenson and Pontiac Northern stand to offer the biggest threat in upending the Spartans, with Waterford and Farmington hoping to improve and surprise someone.

FARMINGTON finished 3-7 last year in the Inter-Lakes and 5-13 overall but this year could be different. The Falcons have a new coach in 28-year-old Bruce Brown and Farmington could enjoy a

winning basketball season, something it isn't accustomed to.

"We should have a winning team," said Brown. "It's just taking some time to get together with the kids, but once we do, we will be all right."

"From what everyone tells me, Walled Lake Central is the team to beat," added Brown. "They will have to prove that to me."

Brown is installing a new system into Farmington basketball. This will be a man-to-man setup instead of the zone which the Falcons have been using. They also will play a control offense.

Farmington boasts four starters off the '71-'72 club in 6-0 senior guard Joe Montgomery, 6-4 senior forward Jim Eathorne, 6-5 senior center Dennis Hagen and 6-3 senior forward Bill Mara.

THE FIFTH SLOT IS currently a battle between 6-0 junior Bob Drake, 5-11 Ron Maniowski and senior center Bill Clancy at 6-6.

"We have the size and we are going to have to use it," dominated Brown. "If we can't dominate the boards, I'll have to turn to the smaller guys who can run."

"If we keep working we will be right in the thick of it," concluded Brown.

LIVONIA STEVENSON and Van Wagoner are out to capture their third crown in six years.

"I see Pontiac Northern as the biggest threat," said Van Wagoner. "Waterford is improved and Central has the big man and Farmington a new coach, but we will be in there."

"I don't think a team could afford to lose more than one game and hope for the title," added Van Wagoner. "We have to improve our shooting and defense."

Senior captain 6-4 forward

Dale Haberman is the key to the Stevenson attack. He heads a list of four returning lettermen who have been on the varsity roster since their sophomore years.

Haberman averaged 15 points per game last year. The other three returning seniors are 6-3 forward Mike Patrick, 6-1 forward Jim May and 5-9 guard Dave Kelly.

A total of 10 seniors and two juniors round out the Spartan card.

Following the front four are seniors: Larry Fisher (5-10), Mike Taylor (5-11), Greg Eardley (6-5), Jeff Malar (6-0), a transfer from Milwaukee, Mark Heppner (6-1) a transfer from Indiana, and Tom Centers at 6-4.

TWO JUNIORS who could help Stevenson are 5-11 Ray Davis and 6-1 Dave Link. Stevenson will be out to match its football team in winning the Inter-Lakes and it appears that the Spartans can do it.



HARRISON'S KEY to a winning basketball season will rest in the shooting and rebounding of 6-8, 205 pound senior center Jeff Sioff who averaged 14 points and 17 rebounds a game last year.

## Prep Schedule

### BASKETBALL

#### FRIDAY

OLSL Mary at St. Agatha  
Farmington at Bendler  
Olive Child at Borgess  
Clarencville at Clawson  
N. Farmington at Harrison  
Wayne at Franklin  
Cherry Hill at GC West  
Glenn at GC West  
WL Central at Plymouth  
Rut Southfield  
Lake Orion at Lathrup  
Thurston at Stevenson

#### SATURDAY

Churchill at Theuton

#### TUESDAY

GC West at Borgess  
Churchill at Dearborn  
Harrison at Oak Park  
Plymouth at Franklin  
AA Pioneer at GC West  
Cherry Hill at Glenn  
Rut at Stevenson  
CC at Southfield  
Lathrup at Barkley

#### SWIMMING

#### THURSDAY

GC West at Clarencville  
Bentley at Churchill  
GC West, Ypsilanti at RU  
Plymouth at Harrison  
Thurston at Dearborn

#### SATURDAY

Kimball Relays

#### TUESDAY

Franklin at Wayne  
Churchill at Ann Arbor  
Glenn at Ypsilanti  
Southfield at Allen Park  
Farmington at Plymouth  
Belleville at N. Farmington  
Seaholm at Thurston

### WRESTLING

#### THURSDAY

Bentley at Fordson  
Harrison at Stevenson  
Churchill at Plymouth  
Farmington at RU  
Borgess at Southfield  
Franklin at Dearborn

#### FRIDAY

Bedford Invitational

#### SATURDAY

Wayne Dual  
Berkley Dual

#### MONDAY

Clarencville at Crestwood

#### TUESDAY

Bentley at Farmington  
Southfield at Churchill  
Plymouth at Harrison

### GIRL'S VOLLEYBALL

#### WEDNESDAY

Milford at Clarencville, 7 p.m.  
Northville at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

#### MONDAY

Kettering at N. Farmington, 4 p.m.

#### TUESDAY

Stevenson at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.

### GIRL'S BASKETBALL

#### WEDNESDAY

Seaholm at Lathrup, 4 p.m.

#### HOCKEY

#### WEDNESDAY

Bentley at Wyandotte, 8 p.m.

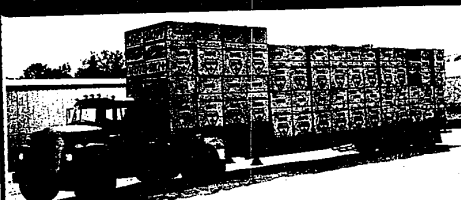
#### FRIDAY

CC vs Stevenson at Ford, 9 p.m.



BRUCE BROWN  
New Farmington Coach

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