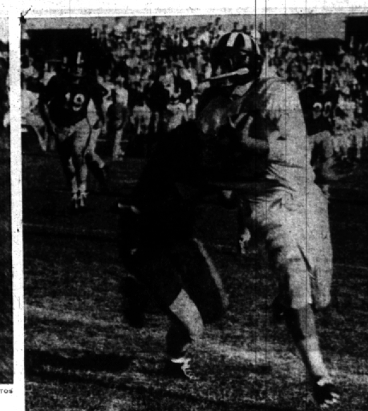
S'fld Smothers B'ham, B'fld Hills Shows Power, Troy Finally Wins

ECCENTRIC PHOTOS

CROSSING the Birmingham goal line for his second scoring trip of the afternoon is Bluejay quarterback, Ed Foster who went through the Birmingham defenses for 32 yards. Foster also used a talented toe, converting all three extra points in the 21-0 victory.



ATTEMPTING to swing around his own end is Maple halfback John Forester who was slowed down by the encircling arms of a southfield tackler. He was brought down for a slight gain.

Home Score

by Jack Kehoe

Talk about rolling out the carpet—green that is.

When the visiting Cranbrook team takes the field in the first Birmingham home game of the 1956 season, the hosting Maples and the community as a whole, can be mighty proud of beautiful football field.

The 100 and some odd yards that make up the Maples gridiron rates as one of the most luxurious turfs to be found at any high school plant in the state. I know of many big time college officials who would turn green with envy over the lush Birmingham greenery.

FROM THE esthetic standpoint, it is too bad that the opening game is a night contest because much of the rich color will be dulled under the lights.

Giving the field more than just a periodic inspection has been the Birmingham's athletic director, Frank Whitney, who sort of adopted it as his baby. During the past weeks he has been out there in old clothes working on the layout giving it all his attention.

Frank declares that he has become somewhat of an expert on the raising of grass and its proper care. "I've read every book and magazine I could get my hands on, to get this to look like it does".

And it looks very good from what we've seen.

OVER IN BACK of the football field another man involved in the athletic enterprises of the high school is putting in extra hours and work in making a usable cross country course.

Kermit Ambrose, track coach, designed the required two mile course for the Maples home meets. It was quite a chore considering all the construction and ground leveling work going on at the high school.

The coach has come up with an arrangement marked very well by a series of white stones winding around the baseball and football fields and into the woods. The finish line is at a spot right where spectators can see clearly the last quarter mile of the grueling run—the fifty yard line of the football field, directly in front of the stands.

THE LOCAL GRID tussle last Friday over at the Southfield stadium presented a couple of questions to the many high school fans and especially to the respective coaching staffs.

The first one is, how weak is Birmingham?

The second, how strong is Southfield?

I feel that Birmingham is a "green" team but not a poor one. Give them a couple of games to get organized and they will win ball games.

Southfield on the other hand, has decided strength at almost every position and can possibly go through the season with close to, or many an undefeated record.

Maples X-Country Romp to Big Win

The Birmingham high school cross country squad under the guidance of Kermit Ambrose, the Maples highly successful track coach, started off the fall season on a clear winning note.

The first meet had the local country runners matched against the boys from Thurston high school in Redford township.

Running like a group of fighter planes in close wing to wing formation, the Maples finished the two mile run 1-2-3-4-5 before a Thurston man made his appearance. The score was next to perfect as a 15-44 point spread was recorded.

LEADING the pack was Birmingham's Lynn Benn in a time of 10:44.5. Behind him, just a little over the 11-minute mark, came Bob Benson, 11:03, Dick Boyd, 11:04.5, Tom Thorson, 11:10.5 and Bill Landis, 11:17.

Just a second behind the sixth place Thurstson runner was Ken Gertz who came in seventh position with a time of 11:57-flat.

In the reserve meet with the same school, the Maples made a complete sweep of the affair by downing the Thurston runners with a perfect score, 15-50. Three of the Birmingham reserves time was better than Thurston's first varsity man. They were Gary Schack Steve Hunter, Rich Riley.

IT LOOKS like coach Ambrose will be able to have a good group of replacements to draw from throughout the season. The time turned in by the reserve runners will also have some of the varsity members hustling to retain their position on the team.

BIRMINGHAM CROSS COUNTRY

Sept. 25—Mt. Clemens A 4 p.m.
Oct. 5—Hazel Park *H 4 p.m.
Oct. 12—Mt. Clemens *H 4 p.m.
Oct. 18—Eastern Michigan League Championship
Oct. 27—State Regional Meet Thurston HS
Nov. 3—State Final Eastern Mich. College Ypsilanti
Symbols—*-Conference, H-Home A-Away

The Birmingham Eccentric

SPORTS

PAGE 6 SEPTEMBER 20, 1956

Troy Ends Drought Slips by Detroit Lutheran, 26-20

After two years of bitter defeat Troy has finally entered the win column. Troy, headed by new coach Joe Bechard, came from behind to defeat Detroit Lutheran 26-20. The game was played last Friday at Troy's home field.

The Lutheran team got off to a quick lead on 32-yd.-run by Gerry Ford climaxing a 60-yd. drive. They scored again on a 7-yd. run by Glenn Roberts. The point after touchdown was scored by Ardium.

At this point in the game, Bechard desperately put in Dick Kelly, a 210-lb.-fullback who had not started because of a reoccurrence of an old knee injury in a practice session. His strategy paid off. A few plays later Kelly broke loose for a 52-yard-touchdown jaunt which was the spark Troy needed to get them started. At the half the score stood Lutheran 13, Troy 6.

TROY CAME roaring out for the second half and immediately rolled 80 yards for a TD. Sim Acton carried the ball over from the 6-yd.-line. The extra point failed.

Lutheran then came back with another TD on a 19-yard-pass play from Ford to Gordon Rebse. Roberts scored the point.

Troy's Jack Fifield took the following kick-off and dashed 85 yards to paydirt only to have the run nullified by a clipping penalty. Un-dismayed the Troy team marched downfield with Acton, scoring his second touchdown, going over from the 6-inch-line. Kelly got the point and Troy trailed by only 1 point, 20-19.

TROY GAINED possession of the ball again in the closing minutes. With a little more than one minute to play. Acton connected with Wayne Figley on a sparkling 47-yds-pass play for a TD. Kelly plunged over for the point and Troy went ahead 26-20.

Lutheran tried desperately to score on long pass plays but failed.

Troy had 19-first-downs. They rolled on the ground for 349 yards and struck through the airways for 75 yards for a total of 424 yds.

Kelly, Acton, and Figley were especially outstanding according to Bechard. He also praised Jack Fifield, Tom Terry and co-captains Roy Klusendorf and Chester Malachowski.

Springdale Ladies Finish Golf Season

As a conclusion to a long and active golf season, the local ladies who played in the Springdale Ladies League held their league championship over the nine-hole course last week.

The women have been playing regularly each Tuesday and Thursday at the community course. On each day the league went into action with ten two-member teams.

Winners of the tournament were:

Cup Winner
First Flight—Low Gross
Ann Vaughn—88
Second Flight—Low Net
Ilene Steiner—68
Consolation Prizes
Irene Munn, Ginny Merrill—lowered handicap most during season
Final Standings
Tues. Group—Lee Tibbets, Duffy Streeter
Thurs. Group—Mary Ann Hartrick, Audrey Fauteck

DETROIT—Aside from Detroit Lions football, both Ronnie Falls and Gene Cronin have he-man interest in sports. Falls played Lacrosse at Duke, Cronin starred in rugby at the College of the Pacific.

Birmingham Little League

FINAL 1956 AMERICAN LEAGUE BATTING STATISTICS

Player	Team	Pos.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	PCTG.
Fleming	Yankees	3B	5	3	3	2	0	0	0	1	.667
C. Kalocsay	Red Sox	P-3B	18	58	23	30	4	0	12	26	.509
Walton	Yankees	P-SS	18	50	16	26	5	0	3	10	.490
Harley	Indians	P-3B	18	43	12	18	4	2	3	22	.442
Ryan	Red Sox	3B-1B	18	61	21	24	8	0	1	13	.393
Gowing	Yankees	CF-1B	18	56	14	18	0	0	1	7	.391
Townend	Indians	P-SS	18	48	14	17	2	1	2	14	.354
Kirby	Red Sox	P-1B	18	50	14	17	6	0	1	11	.340
Oatman	Indians	1B	16	47	8	16	1	0	0	11	.340
Stevens	Red Sox	C	18	55	17	18	6	0	0	8	.327
Fouracre	Yankees	CF-P	18	52	17	17	1	0	0	9	.327
Mosher	Indians	CF-C	18	49	14	16	2	0	0	7	.326
Heavenrich	Red Sox	SS	18	50	11	15	3	0	0	9	.300
Kenjosky	Yankees	SS	16	20	6	6	2	0	0	3	.300
Muenchinger	Yankees	C	18	45	13	12	3	0	2	12	.266
Flaiz	Tigers	1B	18	45	5	12	3	0	0	7	.266
Mathews	Tigers	P-LF	17	42	6	11	2	0	0	2	.261
Mortimer	Indians	C	16	35	10	9	2	0	0	9	.257
Coons	Tigers	P-SS	14	35	3	9	3	0	0	2	.257
Ward	Indians	2B	15	25	5	6	0	0	0	2	.240
McCracken	Yankees	3B	18	46	6	11	1	0	0	9	.239
Patton	Yankees	2B	17	30	7	7	1	0	1	5	.233
Jeynes	Yankees	P-1B	17	46	8	10	2	0	1	5	.217
Mills	Yankees	LF	17	37	7	8	2	0	3	12	.216
Steiner	Tigers	C	16	39	3	8	1	0	0	4	.205
Shroyer	Red Sox	2B	16	45	10	9	0	0	0	7	.200
B. McDonald	Red Sox	CF	16	45	8	9	3	0	1	9	.200
Gibson	Red Sox	RF	18	35	6	7	1	0	0	5	.200
Martin	Indians	2B	6	5	1	1	0	0	0	2	.200
Morrow	Indians	CF	8	5	2	1	0	0	0	1	.200
Diamond	Indians	CF	13	27	2	5	1	0	0	0	.185
Foster	Red Sox	LF	17	44	3	8	1	1	0	6	.181
King	Indians	LF	9	11	1	2	0	0	0	0	.181
VanHartesvt	Tigers	RF	17	40	5	7	2	0	0	5	.175
Angell	Yankees	2B-RF	17	35	7	6	1	0	0	3	.171
Fleischman	Indians	LF	9	12	3	2	0	0	0	1	.166
P. Springer	Tigers	3B-CF	16	39	1	6	1	0	0	1	.153
Savage	Indians	2B	18	40	12	6	3	0	0	2	.150
Sather	Tigers	3B-SS	13	21	4	3	0	0	0	0	.142
Hutton	Indians	SS	17	37	5	5	0	0	0	3	.135
M. Klein	Tigers	CF	17	38	8	6	1	0	0	3	.133
D. Kalocsay	Indiens	RF	15	34	5	4	0	0	2	3	.117
T. Downey	Yankees	RF	10	9	2	1	0	0	0	1	.111
Correll	Tigers	C-LF	16	35	2	3	0	0	0	1	.085
P. Klein	Tigers	2B	12	15	1	1	0	0	0	1	.066
Seestadt	Tigers	2B-3B	11	25	4	2	0	0	0	2	.040
Loupe	Tigers	CF	6	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Frohberg	Red Sox	2B	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
J. McDonald	Red Sox	SS	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Jones	Red Sox	LF	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Kennedy	Indians	LF	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
M. Springer	Tigers	RF	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Cook	Red Sox	CF	8	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	.000
Wisniewski	Yankees	RF	6	7	3	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Schaefer	Red Sox	SS	9	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	[illegible]
Conlan	Yankees	RF	8	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Kurz	Red Sox	P	10	12	4	0	0	0	0	0	.000

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S'fld Bluejays Dig Into Paydirt, 21-0 Using Ground Attack

By JACK KEHOE

Ignoring the aerial lanes with only one exception, the Southfield Bluejays remained on the ground Friday afternoon and ground out a sweet tasting 21-0 victory over Birmingham.

In their first win in three years over a Maple team, the Jays presented a backfield combination with bull-dozer like power and some fancy footwork ability.

Guiding the thrusting attack for Southfield was quarterback Ed Foster who displayed a wide variety of talents accounting for two of the touchdowns and all three extra points. Foster's play calling was a factor in keeping the Birmingham defense off balance for most of the second half.

HE REPEATEDLY gave the ball to bruising 180-pound Ron Brewer who blasted into the Maple line for long, short and medium gains. He left the field with 164 yards to his credit. When Brewer failed to gain, he did accomplish considerable softening up of the Maple's forward wall.

The Southfield advances were characterized by some sharp, crisp blocking both on the line and into the Maple secondary. Also, used with a good result were tackle and guard trap plays leaving big holes for the Jays to ramble through.

WHEN NOT handing off to one of his backs, Foster would hang onto the ball himself and go slashing off tackle and end slots for good yardage. All and all, during the afternoon's activities Foster accumulated 111 yards in his solo trips. On two of these jaunts he went over for touchdowns.

Although he didn't reach the scoring column, Brewer was the player who was the real work horse moving the ball when needed. In his secondary position on defense he was also responsible for a pass interception and other smart defensive work.

USING THE belly series very skillfully, Foster went about 12 yards for the first score and came back just as strong for his second TD run of 32 yards during the third period.

When the Bluejays called for another goal crossing, Fred Rankin dashed 10 yards for the final tally in the fourth quarter.

In the first stages of the game 't look like Birmingham with help of some blue ribbon breaks was going to take charge of the ball game and push a couple of TD' across. Well within their own territory Southfield fumbled on three occasions. Each time the alert Maples dropped on the ball. But nothing they tried could produce a score.

IN THEIR FIRST near miss, Birmingham had moved to the nine yard line on running plays when Dale Burrows flip a bull's eye pass to Mike Nordstrom all alone in the end zone. Nordstrom got his hands on the ball but let it drop.

Once again the Bluejays lost possession on a fumble and the Maples after recovering, tried to go through the air. Birmingham halfback, George Miller got behind the defense and had the ball in his grasp but it also slip through.

After these two close and disheartening scoring attempts the Maples were not able to organize an effective threat for the rest of the game.

Poor punting also hurt the Maples as they lost yardage in the fourth down exchanges.

ON THE OTHER hand where Monte Charles, Southfield coach, was worried, proved to be no trouble at all as his kicker, Henry Kopek had a 38-yard average in the punting department.

Mike Norstrom was the most effective runner for the Maples on offense and also was able to make some fine defensive plays.

In the Southfield line it was Don Mariuz and Ron Mytty who produce a tight and hard hitting defense. They broke through to harass quarterback Burrows on many occasions.

Birmingham	0	0	0	0	—0
Southfield	0	0	14	7	—21

Birmingham		Southfield
173	Yards Gained	320
72	Rushing	320
101	Passing	0
10	First Downs	14
13	Passes Attemped	10
66	Passes Completed	0
2	Passes Intercepted	0
1	Fumbles Lost	3
3	Fumbles Recovered	1
18.3	Punt Average	38.3
21	Yards Penalized	60

B'ham Wolverines, Tigers Win in Little Football

Birmingham entries in the All-American league got off the little football season last Saturday with all teams seeing action. One of the squads, the Wolverines traveled to Dearborn to meet the township team while two other members, the Tigers and Browns, had a local tussel among themselves.

Both the Wolverines teams, varsity and freshmen came out on the winning side of the score. In the Tigers-Brown game the squads split with Tigers taking the varsity game and the Wolverines winning the freshmen.

B'ham Wolverines Varsity 6, Dearborn Township Varsity 0

Dearborn drove to the Wolverines 10 after receiving the kickoff but the attack stalled. After this initial shock the Wolverines took over the offensive but time after time penalties voided hard won gains.

It was not until the final five minutes that the policy of fresh players paid off as fullback John Slater powered his way for eight yards around right end for the only score of the day for the varsity.

An attempted plunge for the extra point failed.

B'ham Wolverines Freshmen 20 Dearborn Township Freshmen 0

Early in the second quarter Dick Mosher, HB, swept left end on a 43-yard-jaunt for the TD. QB Mike Lindquist converted for the extra point with a QB sneak.

Toward the end of the second quarter FB Tom Fritz swept right end and in a brilliant exhibition of broken field running went 75 yards for the second TD. An attempted plunge for the extra point failed.

The third period was scoreless with see-saw mid-field action. Soon after the start of the fourth quarter end Tim Gray snagged a Dearborn pass on the Dearborn 25 and went over for the final B'ham TD.

QB Tom Abbott worked a sneak for the point after.

B'ham Tigers Varsity 25, Browns Varsity 0

With 12 in the first quarter, 6 in the third quarter, and seven points in the final' period, the TIGERS varsity ran up 25 points against the Browns. RH Larry DuCharme swept left end for the first tally early in the first period. Sneak for extra point failed. LH Dick Egger plunged off right tackle for 30 yards and the second TD to end the quarters scoring. Shortly after the third period opened Egger swept right end for 25 yards and a TD after John McCracken cleared the way with a beautiful two-man block. In the final period Egger again swept right end for 28 yards and a TD. Right End Kirby scored the point after on an end-around. George Jobin came within a yard of another TD when his 55 yard jaunt fell short just before the final gun.

B'ham Tiger Freshmen 0, B'ham Browns Freshmen 14

Midway in the second quarter RH John Bishop swept left end for 40 yards and the TD. Bishop also added the extra point with a sweep around the right end. In the fourth quarter LH Marshall Scherba intercepted a Tiger pass on the 43 and went on in unmolested. Bishop swept right end to convert.

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B'fld Hills Buries Oak Park Under, 45-6

Bloomfield Hills gridders permitted the visiting team from Oak Park to take a good look at them before they started to flex their football muscles. When the Barons settled down to work they kept crossing the visitors goal line like they had a special pass.

Final score 45-6 with coach Don Hoff using every player on the bench.

Chief muscle man for the Barons was fullback Jim Kearney who made four of his teams touchdowns on various runs throughout the afternoon.

Oak Park was first to get a marker on the scoreboard as they sent their fleet footed halfback Mike Mazia 50 yards to score in he first period.

AFTER THAT the pounding of the Barons forward line prevented most anyone on the Oak Park eleven from going any place. Couple of standouts on defense were 198-pound Tom Little and guard Jay Miller. Little was especially strong as his tackle position coming in on almost every tackle.

Bloomfield's first scoring came through a block punt on the Oak Park nine-yard line. Couple of runs into the line and around the end brought the ball down to the one-yard stripe. Jim Kearney took the hand off and bulled over.

AGAIN in the second period Bloomfield scored through alert ball playing. Kearney pounced on a loose fumble, taking position on the Oak Park 48-yard line. The Barons moved down on a series of plays with Kearney finally going over.

The run was called back because of penalty. Al Bowland the Hill's quarterback then took over and drove home for the score on a quarterback sneak. Dan Dinen converted the extra point.

In the last part of the first half, Jim Kearney ran from the Oak Park 15-yard-line for another six points and Dinen booted another point after touchdown.

DURING the third period the Bloomfield line had the visitors bottled up all the time, so that they had to give up the ball on downs in their own territory.

The next scoring play started from the 39-yard marker, the Hill's Al Bowland did some slight of hand tricks, kept the pigskin and barrelled up the center for his second scoring effort. After three kicking attempts to convert the extra point, all nullified by penalties, Dave Drury passed for the extra point.

Jim Kearney came back in the same period and put on a fine display of broken field running behind low, hard blocking to notch another TD. Jim Jones made the key block in that 43-yard dash.

Even in the fourth period the onslaught didn't simmer down as both Jim Kearney 45-yard run and Al Bowland came across for more points in the big defeat.

Oak Park	6	0	0	0	—6
Bloomfield Hills	0	20	13	12	—45

Bloomfield Hills		Oak Park
8	First Downs	3
107	Passing Yardage	34
6	Passes	3
4	Completions	1
0	Interceptions	1
270	Rushing Yardage	134
1	Punts	0
0	Fumbles Lost	0
2	Fumbles Recovered	0
80	Yards Penalized	25

Commissioner Waits Reeve's Bet Witness

Michigan Racing Commissioner James H. Inglis is waiting for suspended Birmingham service station owner, Samuel Reeves, who owns and runs harness horses, to produce two witnesses.

In earlier testimony before the commission Reeves stated there were two people who could support his claim to have bet $100 on his horse during a questionable race.

Recently, racing investigators were able to get a recorded and signed admission from Reeves' driver, Duane Hoose, to the effect that Reeves had ordered him to hold back his own horse, Miss M. Direct on August 2 at Northville Downs.

REEVES HAS denied the charges and contends that he had placed a $100 bet on his horse.

Commissioner Inglis declared Tuesday, he hasn't heard from Reeves and will wait until the end of the week for him to bring forth his witnesses. The hearing will be reconvened the first part of next week, he added.

Reeves was unavailable for comment.

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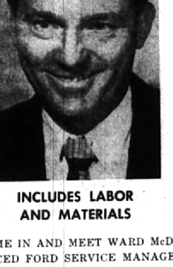

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