

CROSSFIRE

By LOU CHIESI

Will Halas Dismiss Himself?

George Halas, owner, general manager and emperor of the Chicago Bears, faces a perplexing problem as the professional football season nears another spectacular finish.

Papa Bear must decide whether to fire Coach George Halas, the onetime master of pro football strategists who apparently has lost the winning touch.

The once fearsome Bears have become a miserable disappointment this season. Prominently mentioned as logical successors to the Chicago Colts as National Football League champions, the Bears require a victory Sunday against the Detroit Lions to post a winning campaign.

George Halas, coach of the Lions, and once one of Halas' most effective operators on the field, conceivably could end Halas' coaching career, a victory by the Lions might force Halas to resign himself.

Oddly, the current season has witnessed Wilson's emergence as a star of status. Halas' reputation has suffered grievously. It was a long time ago that the Bears last wore an NFL crown. Halas has tried other coaches but failed. Now he has returned to the sidelines and himself failed.

MOST IMPORTANT: Halas is stashed badly with a squad considered at least the equal of any in the league. Some observers believe the Bears possess more talent than any other club. They apparently have not uniform everything needed for a winning team.

But they do win in every thing. In contract, Wilson has developed a winner against the odds. The Lions do not field the same talent as the Bears, but George has managed to overcome a multitude of difficulties most of them off the field, to merit acclaim.

LAST SUNDAY'S 42-0 defeat by the Cleveland Browns, another worst in Bears' history, A second setback Sunday undoubtedly would seal the Bears' faithful fans searching for Halas' scalp.

Incidentally, nothing seems to go very well for George these days. He's the last of the coaches who grew up with pro football. He still exerts much influence in high circles. But a loser, even Halas, will find his standing much weaker.

And George was chairman of the NFL's expansion committee, which did nothing to overcome the rival American Football League to organize.

The Birmingham Eclectic

DECEMBER 15, 1960

Meet the Coach, Fans: 'Old-Timer' Lou Parry

Editor's Note - This is the second in a series of personality sketches of Birmingham's high school coaches.

The man who guides Seaholm High School's basketball fortunes these days—Lewis Daniel Parry—rates the term "old-timer" among Birmingham's present coaches.

THIS SPRING, he'll be taking the tennis reins for the first time. Parry is a native of Detroit where he played all sports at Southeastern High before he graduated in 1941.

AFTER THREE years in the Army, Parry returned to U.M. He graduated in 1949. Two years at Belding (Mich.) High followed where he was head man in basketball and baseball.

THE PEOPLE here have been real nice to me through the years," Parry says. "Further, the kids I've helped coach have always been cooperative. All in all, it's been a fine pleasure for me to coach in Birmingham."

LEW, WHO LIVES near Sylvan Lane in Pontiac, married Barbara Oehring of Saginaw in 1949. They have four children, girls Jan, 10, and Sue, 6; and boys Ruly, 8, and Jeff, 3.

LEW works with youngsters even in his off months during the summer. Last summer he was swimming pool director at a county club. And he referees kids' football games.

"ONLY WISH I had more time to devote to my own youngsters," Lew says a little sadly. "But I coaching takes more time than a lot of people may realize. Coaching is a real challenge to me. It adds a lot of variety to life."

In addition to his coaching duties, Parry handles five physical education classes at Seaholm each day.

Groves' Shots Scarce-- Result: A 47-45 Setback

By BOB BEEDLE Sports Editor

"You can't score if you don't shoot," says Groves High basketball coach Tom Carson as pin-pointing the Falcons' biggest weakness after they went down to their second loss of the season Tuesday night, 47-45, to Country Day.

The winners tried 71 shots to Groves' 50. The Falcons came away with a better field goal percentage (30 to 26) but wound up on the short end of the scoring.

"WE'RE IDLE Friday," Carson said, so we'll have some extra time to work on our shooting before we tackle Clawson (there) next Tuesday."

It looks like we'll have to learn to play a little more ball-control type of game," Groves, which was routed last Friday by Farmington, 78-45, kept reasonably close against Country Day, although never leading.

BEARDEN, who collected 13 points to pace Carson's crew in the loss to Farmington, again was high man with 15.

Guard Larry Huffman, who scored 10 in his last outing, didn't collect a point and fouled out midway through the final period to hurt Groves' chances.

Mike Kramer and Steve Solomon collected talls 14 and 12, respectively, for Country Day, which now is unbeaten in two starts.

The contest at Clawson Tuesday night was the last action before the holidays.

COUNTRY DAY GROVES

FARMINGTON (DEC. 9) GROVES

Maple Tankers Grab 3rd in 'Cereal' Relays

Capturing two second places and a pair of thirds, Seaholm's swimming squad grabbed off third place in the 14th annual Cereal Bowl Invitational Relays Saturday at Battle Creek.

Perennial power Battle Creek Central High won the meet with 64 points, followed by Jackson's 46 points and Birmingham's 35. Ann Arbor was fourth with 28.

All-Stater Jim Elliott was a member of both Seaholm's runner-up finishes. Elliott, Jim Bearden, Don Spencer and Fred Osann were beaten out by Jackson in the 400-yard individual relay.

IN THE 400-yard freestyle event, Hugh Clark, Mike McCarthy and Jim Leachy joined Elliott to form behind winner Battle Creek Central.

Birmingham divers Don Morris and Bud Heft gave the best performance in the preliminaries, but slipped to a third place in the finals.

The other local third place was taken by Larry Severyn, Lotero, Clark and Spencer in the 400-yard individual relay.

Jays' Matmen Drop Opener

SOUTHFIELD - Bill Shelton (138 pounds) and Fred Penness (135 pounds) managed the only pins for Southfield High as the Bluejays went down to a 30-10 scoring defeat in a 30-minute relay team.

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LEW PARRY

Week's Prep Sports Card

(Time listed for basketball games in reserve game starting time, varsity to follow.)

TODAY (Basketball) CRANBROOK at Riverside (6:30, 4 p.m.)

SEAHOLM at Highland Park (8:00 p.m.)

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Ailments Harass Maple '5'

Three of his starters were ailing this week, but coach Lou Parry hopes they'll all be ready to go against Hazel Park Friday night at Seaholm High for its first basketball victory of the winter.

Bob Sayle continued to suffer from the bronchitis which plagued him during Seaholm's lone contest thus far, a 68-42 defeat to Royal Oak Drovers.

Steve Willis, 6-1 forward, had a slight pulled muscle. This trio, along with guards Ron Rickets and Stu Harter, are the normal starters for Seaholm.

JOHN MAGIERA's Hazel Parkers will have a 3-0 record, their latest victory being Southfield, Tuesday night, 46-33.

The Maples, who finished second in the Eastern Michigan League last year, had Hazel Park in both their meetings last season. The Aces finished in the EMJ's second division.

Advertisement for BIRMINGHAM LUMBER featuring 'HOLIDAY SEASON VALUES' and 'A BIRMINGHAM LUMBER' with details on work benches, window shutters, and ping pong tables.

B'ham LL Football Chooses Wandel President for 1961

Robert C. Wandel II was elected president and John S. French, Farmington, as the second Birmingham Little Football League membership meeting at the Community House.

Other new officers are: Frank Richards, vice president; Thomas Cavan, Jr., secretary; Robert W. Page, treasurer; and William S. O'Brien, general manager.

The Birmingham YMCA will stage Christmas vintage archery, table pool and ping pong tournaments, Dec. 27-29.

Archery (Dec. 27) and ping pong (Dec. 29) will have four divisions: high school, junior high school, elementary school and father-and-son.

The table pool tourney (Dec. 29) will have high school, junior high and elementary divisions.

Advertisement for B'ham 'Y' Plans Holiday Tourneys with details on registration, fees, and divisions for archery, ping pong, and table pool.

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The public is invited to participate in a series of three years.

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Two Area Men Place in Nassau

Franklin resident Dr. James C. Miller and Glenn Baldwin, 1501 Derby, Birmingham, finished second and fourth, respectively, with their Lotus cars in the Gonfreville class of the recent 260-mile Nassau Two-Day Race in the Bahamas.

Dr. Miller's car, driven by Bernie Keller of Mansfield, O., finished fourth in the field of 46 starters while Baldwin, driving his mile race for two-thirds of the distance, but had to proceed 112 1/2 miles overall in the field.

Ken Nielsen, 1075 Covington Road, Bloomfield Township, completed nine laps of the 12-lap Pan American championship race formula junos, but left the race with engine trouble in his Elva.

DOUG, 21, a 1956 graduate of Birmingham High is majoring in physical education at Western Michigan University, was a guest at the \$500-a-plate Football Hall of Fame dinner in New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel last week.

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