

CROSSFIRE

**By LOU CHIESI
Even Colts
Grow Old
Too Fast**

The Baltimore Colts started the National Football League season as strong favorites to win a third consecutive championship. Instead, they lost their last four games and finished a well-deserved fourth in the western division.

In reverse, the Detroit Lions figured to finish far down in the race, but won their last four and ended in a tie for second place with a club which perhaps was the strongest in the entire league at the finish.

Such is the uncertainty of professional football. Last September the Colts appeared unbeatable. Now Coach Ween Ewbank is an almost impossible rebuilding job.

ALL OF A sudden, Gino Marchetti, Art Donovan, Big Dady Lipscomb, Alan Ameche and others aren't exactly scarce everywhere; instead, they are merely a bunch of old pros who may have trouble hanging on for a year or two more. Maybe they'll end up in the year-old American Football League, where old pros go just to fade away.

THE COLTS will remain dangerous as long as Johnny Unitas can throw a football and Les Lenzy Moore and Ray Berry to catch passes, but the Baltimore club appears headed for real trouble this season unless Ewbank can find six or seven top newcomers.

IT'S LIKELY, too, that the New York Giants in the eastern division must start a youth movement. Charley Conerly no longer can hold up at quarterback, and Alex Webster, Frank Gifford and Mel Triplett have suffered more than their quota of injuries.

Andy Robustelli, Jim Kavanaugh, Harland Svare and others up front can't win championships any longer. The Giants also faded rapidly at the close of the campaign.

Perhaps the most difficult decision facing the coach of a professional football champion is when to rebuild. Can he win one more championship with veterans? Or must he make drastic changes even after a championship season?

IMAGINE THE reaction of Baltimore fans had Ewbank traded veterans like Marchetti, Donovan or Lipscomb after the Colts' championship last season!

Now it becomes increasingly difficult to rebuild because Ewbank's stars of a year are merely showmen merchandise of reduced trading value.

Miami's chances of obtaining a National Football League franchise may depend on how well the Detroit Lions and Cleveland Browns draw in their playoff bowl game in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 7.

This contest is a new one, pitting the rumbermen teams in the NFL's two divisions. The Lions and Browns have been bitter rivals for years, so the Jan. 7 match has added luster. The Lions and Browns should meet in the regular season, either.

Miami was in strong contention for an NFL berth when the league mediated expansion last winter in conversation with Dallas. Dallas finally was awarded a franchise, with Minneapolis next on the list. Miami is still hopeful and the playoff bowl should convince NFL club owners one way or the other.

MIAMI WOULD give the NFL a warm air city for late November and December games, an increasingly important factor as the football seasons ends later and later.

It hasn't taken long for both Michigan and Michigan State basketball teams to establish their mediocrity. They may be battling each other to stay out of the Big Ten basement.

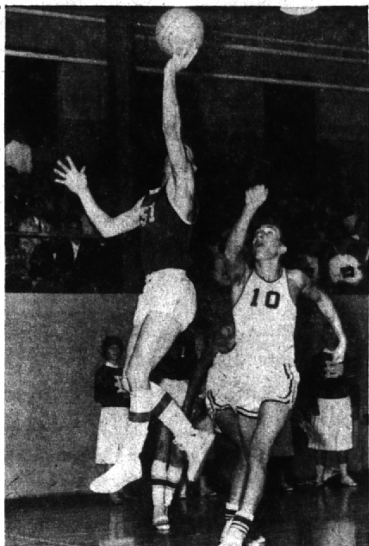
Neither squad has the talent necessary. Nor has either school apparently recruited a strong freshman team. So the Wolverine and Spartans figure to be far back among the also-rans for a few more years at least.

More proof that Michigan high school basketball lags badly.

After the Frank Bolling trade and the drafting of players by the new Los Angeles and Washington clubs of the American League, it appears that the Detroit Tigers will open next season with one of the best outfield in baseball, a minor league infield, minor league catching and an average major league pitching staff at best.

However, it's difficult to tell who and what is major in minor league these days. Perhaps the minor leagues finally whipped the majors by signing them. That's what happened to minor league baseball, by trading Bolling. The second baseman enjoyed an exceptional season two years ago, and Tiger brass immediately accepted that one season as Bolling's true real ability. He has proved otherwise.

SUCH MISCALCULATION has been commonplace in Tiger planning during recent years. One good season establishes a player as a major league star. The Tigers consistently have overrated their talent.



Up and—In!

It was this kind of shooting as executed by guard Art Tregenza that led Bloomfield Hills' cagers to a 60-52 victory over Clarenceville Friday night. Tregenza makes tipping them in look easy.

**Meet the Coach: Tom Carson
From Groves High School**

Editor's Note—This is the third basketball coach during his high school days in Detroit and also of Birmingham's high school during his coaching days.

By LES LANGLOIS
Sports Writer

After 12 years in the coaching game, basketball coach Tom Carson at Groves high school has some pretty definite ideas about his field. A variety of jobs in just about every sport has given him a keen and sensitive insight into the spirit and problems of teenage athletics.

Carson appeared on the Birmingham sports scene at Seaholm in 1953 when he worked with the reserve football and basketball squads and assisted in track.

WITH THE OPENING of Groves in 1958, Carson transferred to the new school as head of the physical education department. And with a handful of freshman athletes he developed a well rounded athletic program.

Carson hails from Toronto, Ontario, but his folks moved to Fort Huron when he was five. He was captain of St. Rita's football and



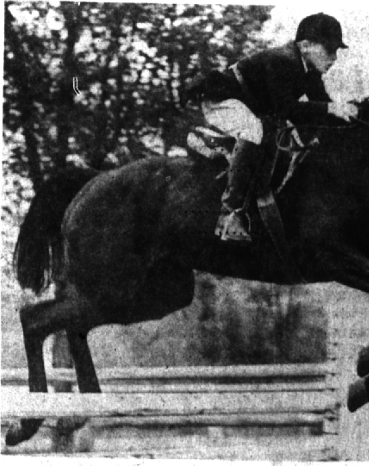
TOM CARSON

Recreation Round-Up

MUNICIPAL RINK: An additional open skating period will be included in the municipal ice rink schedule on weekdays from 1 to 3 p.m. during the holiday season. The rink will close on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve at 4 p.m. The rink schedule for Christmas and New Year's Day is open skating from 3 to 6 and 7 to 10 p.m.

For further information on schedules or ice condition, call MI 7-0664.

SATURDAY SWIMMING CLASSES: Registrations are being accepted by mail in the Recreation Office for the children's swimming classes which begin the first Saturday in January. Deadline for registration is Dec. 30. Application



Up Big Fella—Hi-Yo-Suki, Away!

Little Tommy Bachman hangs on to the reins as Suki carries him over the hurdles. Tommy took first place honors in the A class in junior riding competition Sunday at the

**Yellowjackets
Lose, 67-50,
To Maumee**

"One man can't beat five men. That's why we lost," said Detroit Country Day Coach Dick Anderson after his cagers dropped a 67-50 game to Maumee last week. Anderson was referring to guard Jerry Jaffe, who hooped a total of 25 points. No other Yellowjacket scored in the double figure column. Forward Mike Kramer registered the second highest Country Day points total—seven. Jaffe came within one point of equalling his total point output for the two previous games in scoring 26 last week.

"MAUMEE is an excellent ball club. They have a 6'3" center Dick Burr, who brings back memories of Dave DeBuschere in the great University of Detroit cager. His brother, Jim, a 6'3" forward, just adds to the threat the Barons pose to other teams," said Anderson.

Regardless of the disadvantages, the game was a fairly even one. Maumee led by only eight points at halftime, 21-29. The Yellowjackets fought within four points of the Barons in the third period. But the Barons soon pulled ahead. They broke away from Yellowjackets in the first half, and in the second half, they beat themselves 19-11, ahead near the end of the game.

"DESPITE the vigorous competition the Yellowjackets staged," Anderson said, "our boys played sloppily."

"I'm not pleased with their showing against the Barons or against Groves the previous week," he said. "But we should have beaten them more soundly than we did. In the Maumee game, more of our players should have scored more points."

The loss gives Country Day a (See DCD, 7-E)

**Hazel Park Cools Off Late Threat
To Squeeze Past Seaholm, 52-49**

The Maples' attempt to break to the win column Friday night in the last few minutes of play at Hazel Park's five rallied to squeeze by the Seaholm cagers 52-49.

Although Seaholm jumped off with an early 10-0 lead, Hazel Park's new gym sparked the Vikings to bounce back and take command before the first quarter ended.

The Maples' 6'5" center Hap Dunn took the scoring honors for the night over both squads, sinking 14 points. Dunn is the only veteran Maple back from last year's squad.

It would be a mistake to count on the Maples in the Eastern Michigan league competition at this stage of the game.

TRAILING BY 14 points, 43-29, Seaholm seemed to find new strength in the fourth quarter. Dunn monopolized the backboard and joined Ron Ricketts and Steve

art Harley in a last minute scoring spree. It looked like the Maples were going to pull one out of the bag during the last five minutes as the scoring trio pulled within a basket of Hazel Park. But the Vikings recovered with only seconds to go for a 52-49 victory. With a couple breaks Seaholm could have racked up its first win

SEAHOLM		HAZEL PARK	
Wills	15	Baker	15
Dunn	14	Barnes	15
Ricketts	8	Harvey	10
Harvey	4	Govert	10
Stewart	2	Stewart	2
Subit	1	Subit	1
Total	41	Total	60

**Cranes Win
One and Lose
Two Events**

Cranbrook won one and lost two in athletic events last week. The Cranbrook basketball squad salvaged the only win of the period as they downed South Lyon, 65-44.

Bob Blanchard led all scorers for Cranbrook with 25 points. In other sports, the wrestling team was pinned by Royal Oak Kimball, 33-8.

INDIVIDUAL winners for Cranbrook were Bob Hughes with a pin in the heavyweight division and Bill Barnes with a decision. Riverside, Ontario skated away to victory over the Cranbrook in the only hockey action of the week.

All sporting activity at the school will be suspended until after the holidays.

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**Southfield Swimmers
Win, 60-44**

With only two individual winners and no entrant in the diving event, the undermanned swimmers from Groves High lost to Southfield, 60-44.

The Falcon's Bob Sutton, 50 freestyle, and Lee Driver, 100-yard breaststroke, were the two repeat winners for Groves. They won their events in both matches this season.

INDIVIDUAL winners from Southfield were: Day (Gardwick) 100-yard butterfly, 1:05.8; Bob Mowers, 100-yard backstroke, 1:03.4; Jerry Casey, 100-yard freestyle, 57.8; and Rod Moore won both 200 and 400-yard freestyle, 2:13.9 and 4:53.2. Moore set a Groves pool record in the 400-yard freestyle, and he was the only double winner of the afternoon.

Southfield's wrestling team didn't match up to the success of their swimming counterparts, Hazel Park defeated them, 35-18, last Thursday at Hazel Park.

**B'ham Bowl Gets
New Ball Gadget**

The Machine Age has not reached its apex. Now there are even machines to help increase a bowler's strike output.

Gil-Mac, a precision ball drilling machine manufactured by Brunswick corporation, was recently installed at the Birmingham Bowl at Lincoln and Woodward.

Brunswick gives franchisees to various bowling establishments for use of the machine. Only one franchise is given for each area.

Also installed was a Brunswick Custom-Matic, a machine for measuring the span of a bowler's fingers. The span is measured and the Gil-Mac is used for drilling the holes. Gil-Mac also has gauges which measure the spread of fingers.

**Birmingham Area
Hockey Results**

MIDGET DIVISION:
Green Hornets 4, Banhees 3
Yellow Jackets 3, Eldorado 2
Scorers for the Green Hornets were: Randy Mathews (2), Tom Stevens (1), Rick Thornton (1).
Banhees: Steve Billings (2), Tom Mortimer (1).

Yellow Jackets: Tim Gray (2), Don Massey (1).
Eldorado: Mike Davis (1), Doug Gipsom (1).

JUVENILE DIVISION:
Tigers 3, Huskies 3
Bulldogs 1, Jets 0
Scorers were: Tigers: Bob Behler (2), Ron Borquist (1).
Huskies: Stu Forrest (2), Bob Town (1).
Bulldogs: Stevenson (1).
Jets: 0.

Inter-City Hockey League:
The Inter-City Hockey League composed of teams from Birmingham, Oak Park, Royal Oak and Ferndale will begin scheduled play on Saturday. Ferndale will meet Birmingham varsity at the Municipal Rink at 11:30 a.m. and Oak Park will take on Royal Oak at the same time.

**BOH Riders
Cop Two
Top Places**

A junior olympic riding event was held Sunday at the Bloomfield Hunt. Local participants included those from the South, Oakland Stables and the Bloomfield Hunt. Guests were from Toledo and Grose Pointe.

Grant's freshmen won first place in the competition for A teams, those whose riders and horses are more experienced. BOH Mavericks took second place.

INDIVIDUAL LOW score rider in the A competition was Tommy Bachman.

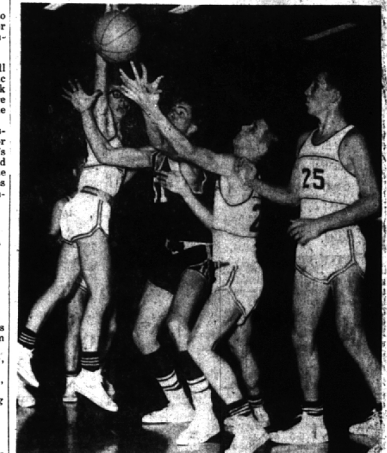
In the B class, Grose Pointe Fox heads captured first place with no faults. Two BOH teams, the Colts and Eagles, took second and third places respectively.

Southfield's B competition was Peter Foley.

NOEL

May the Christmas Star bring you the Gifts of Faith, Love and Happiness. We wish you a Joyous and Blessed Christmas!

HUSTON
HARDWARE COMPANY



'Don't Crowd, Fellas'

Leading scorer 66" center Hap Dunn of Seaholm fights his way through a crowd of Hazel Park cagers for a rebound in Friday night's 52-49 battle. Although Dunn tallied 24 points, the Maples dropped the contest in the last minute of play.

to all our friendly customers

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