

# CROSSFIRE

By LOU CHIESI

## First Look At Royals' 'Big O'

When Nick Kerbawy succumbed to the lure of gold three years ago and moved into the front office chair of the Detroit Pistons, he soon discovered that the Pistons possessed nothing resembling a system of scouting college talent.

Fred Zollner, the millionaire owner of the National Basketball Association club, had operated under the theory that he would buy the other fellow's players. Let somebody else find them, Fred would buy them.

Thus, the Pistons club which transferred its home base from Fort Wayne, Ind., to the Olympia was a collection of castoffs. The boys peddled their surplus players to Zollner.

THIS, SURMISED Kerbawy must stop if pro basketball were to succeed in Detroit. He had helped build the Detroit Lions into a national Football League championship team before joining the Pistons.

Castoffs helped the Lions get started, but a steady supply of collegiate talent kept the Lions powerful.

And so Kerbawy began first to organize a scouting system. Of the Pistons squad which came to Detroit, only Walter Dukes, the clubhouse lawyer, remains.

ON THE NIGHT of Oct. 10, at Seaholm gymnasium, Detroit area sports fans may see for themselves how well Kerbawy has succeeded in corraling the young players' hopes will develop into a championship club and boost pro basketball in Detroit to a national level.

The Pistons meet the Cincinnati Royals that night, and will display such pro newcomers as Jackie Moreland and Ron Johnson, a pair of big, strong front line performers, and yearlings Willie Jones and Frank Case.

Other new talent with limited professional experience, are forward Bob Ferry, formerly of the St. Louis Hawks, and guards Al Seiden and Don Orl. All are comparatively young and only recently played in college uniforms.

BAILEY HOWELL, proved a real find as a first-year player last season, and Kerbawy hopes two or more newcomers will develop this winter. Howell, Dukes and Gene Shue, the all-star guard and now one of the game's established scorers, proved the Pistons with a sound base.

However, even so, the Pistons' rookies probably will be over-scouted by Cincinnati's prize newcomers, the heralded Oscar Robertson. The game here will show the former University of Cincinnati forward to Detroit fans for the first time.

"Big O," as they called him at Cincinnati, was a star of the United States Olympic team and the most publicized collegiate player of recent years.

ROBERTSON'S arrival peps up a Cincinnati club which heretofore has offered only Jack Twyman, one of the game's greats. The Robertson-Twyman combination may generate the Royals into a formidable team, although the Pistons are wondering how they work on the same club.

But the Pistons are hoping that Robertson develops into another Elgin Baylor, even if he plays for a rival. In pro basketball, everybody knows the other fellow comes up with a star attraction to help draw fans. . . the Boston Celtics excepted, of course.

The championship Celtics already have too much talent for the lure of the league.

ROBERTSON'S presence is expected to have pro basketball in Cincinnati. He's the strong local attraction the Royals need.

And in two years, the club will acquire Jerry Lucas, college basketball's newest gladiator boy. Lucas, who paced Ohio State to an NCAA championship last winter as a sophomore, has two years remaining at Ohio State but he's already the property of the Royals.

When the Royals moved from Rochester to Cincinnati three years ago, Lucas was claimed by the team as part of the agreement within the league which led to the franchise change.

IT WAS THE last year in which the National Basketball Association permitted high school players to be drafted, and the NBA stretched the rules a bit to allow the Royals to claim Lucas, then a super star at Middletown, O.

The Pistons will need topflight young talent to match the competition in the next few years, so Kerbawy and Zollner hope their newcomers this winter will measure up.

Among recent visitors to the city was Harry Burrell, sports publicist of Iowa State, who enjoyed his stay principally because his team overpowered the University of Detroit footballers.

While enjoying an ice cream soda, Harry was asked whether Iowa State, a member of the Big Eight Conference, was profiting from the rival Big Ten's new recruiting code.

Said Harry: "We were at first, but then we suddenly found that a lot of the high school prospects were satisfied with whatever the Big Ten schools were offering them." The Big Ten greatly restricted financial aid to athletes.

DID THAT MEAN, Harry, that perhaps Big Ten coaches were offering a few inducements to the table to keep from losing too many big, healthy high school boys to other schools?

(See CROSSFIRE, 7-E)



Displaying a little bit of the old Charleston rhythm, this Cranbrook soccer player lets loose with a boot downfield as Chatham Collegiate defensemen try to concentrate on the ball. Although the score was limited to only one goal by the Cranes, there was plenty of action in Friday's league opener.

## Cranbrook's Soccer Team Gets Started on Right Foot

Cranbrook scored only once in its opening soccer game with Chatham Collegiate Friday, but that's all it took to send the Canadian visitors home defeated. It was the Cranes' sixth straight victory over Chatham.

After center forward Al Wilkinson's late first quarter goal, on a cross from right wing Dave Kessel, the Cranes sweat out three remaining periods protecting their slim lead.

Chatham kickers kept Cranbrook

goalie Jack Schaefer pretty busy with 24 shots on goal, almost twice as many as the Cranes attempted. BIT, ALERT Schaefer seemed to have a knack for being in the

right places at the right times to make several good saves. The evenly matched teams took turns in botching up scoring opportunities. Chatham's best chance came late in the fourth quarter when a shot on the untended Cranbrook goal bounced back off the top bar of the goal.

Earlier in the quarter Wilkinson had a clear shot at goal but the

(See SOCCER, 7-E)

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## Cranbrook's Speed and Size Dump Young Falcons, 40-7

Cranbrook's speed, size and experience were too much for the young Groves gridders Friday as the Falcons went down 40-7 in their first varsity contest.

It was Groves' first season in taking over Seaholm's spot as Cranbrook's traditional rival. Although the falcons couldn't offer much degree of competition that he Maples have in past years, the sophomore-junior squad gave it everything they had—and then some.

But Cranbrook's swift backfield displayed exceptional teamwork and the talented signal calling of quarterback Dick Mosher.

OUTCLASSED, outplayed and outscored, the Falcons left the field with their heads high for the few they had tried—what more can any coach ask for from new and growing school.

The fancy ball handling of Mosher, running power of backs John Seelye, Dave Schultz and Tom Demrick kept the Falcons confused at every turn. Defensively, he Cranes' beefy, alert, hard driving line left Groves little time for passing or running.

Although the well-coordinated Cranbrook backfield seemed to run circles around Groves, the Falcons displayed an admirable spirit of drive and determination in the face of certain defeat.

ONE THING is certain. The Falcons are off on the right foot, having both the spirit and desire to win. With next year's completion of the 12th grade and bigger and more experienced material, Groves should present a challenge to any team in their newly formed league.

Groves lone touchdown came late in the fourth quarter after recovering a fumble on Cranbrook's 35-yard line. The Falcons came alive as halfback Art Schuler

took a handoff from Larry Huffman and raced to the 20.

A five-yard run by quarterback Bill Pauls and a 10-yard jaunt by quarterback Doug Moore set up an off tackle dash by Schuler who broke into the end zone.

GROVES' FANS went wild as though the Falcons had just scored the winning touchdown. Pauls returned to hit end Norm Goffrank in the end zone for the extra point after Groves was penalized 15-yards for holding.

Tom Demrick at the center of the line. Demrick's kick was good, giving the Cranes the lead, 7-0.

The play followed the same pattern most of the night with Mosher executing quick, well hidden hand-offs and pichouts to Seelye, Schultz and Demrick.

"Well, we won the cheering section," commented a group of Groves' fans as they left the stands. And that they did, for the

Seaholm will be bidding for its second Eastern Michigan league victory tomorrow night when the undefeated Maples

clash with Hazel Park. And the Parkers may have to sprout wings to keep up with speedster Steve Jacobson who tore up the gridiron for the second straight week last Friday as the Maples downed Royal Oak Kimball 13-0.

The fast-breaking halfback added the final touches to a 60-yard drive by scoring both Maple touchdowns on five-yard runs in the first and second quarters.

RUNNING FOR an average of 9.3 yards per carry, Jacobson ground out a majority of the Maples' 200 total yards gained. The track star's 80-yard dash down the sidelines to the Kimball 10-yard line with just five seconds left in the half fell short of another score.

A third quarter Kimball threat

deep in Seaholm territory was broken up by Worcester's breakthrough on the Knights' quarterback for an eight-yard loss. Kimball then lost the ball on downs after failing to complete a pass.

JIM STEPHENSON, who kicked the extra point, and fullback Fred Glassford, who excelled in bucking the Kimball line, also offered key support.

The scoreless second half dragged on with little threat from either side. It was Seaholm's second shutout victory in a row over Kimball. The Maples turned them away last Saturday.

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## Jays Lose to Ferndale By 2 TD's

Southfield bowed to Ferndale's speed and aerial power Friday night to the tune of 33-20 as the Jays swallowed their second non-league defeat of the season.

Although the Blue Jays scored first on quarterback Phil Svalby's 12-yard pass to Tom Sweet in the end zone, it didn't take long for Ferndale to catch fire.

Ferndale's halfback Dorie Reid took Southfield's kickoff and galloped 85 yards for the tying touchdown. Fullback Bob Michau boot-

ed the point to make it 7-0 and the Jays never regained the lead.

AFTER SOUTHFIELD was forced into punting, Ferndale bounced right back with a 60-yard drive in two pass plays from quarterback Mike Brown to Bill Daniels.