

Big Cooz? Look At Our Geno

Most players in the National Basketball Association will agree that Bob Cousy is the best guard ever to walk on a floor.

By the same token, they'll also agree that Detroit's Gene Shue... not Cousy... is the finest, all-around backcourter in the league.

The leading authority on this matter is none other than Dick McGuire, long-time rival of Cousy, one-time running mate of Shue, and now coach of the Detroit Pistons.

"Cousy, in his day, probably was a better player than Geno," declares Tricker Dick. "But the Cooz has slowed down some in recent years while Shue is just now starting to hit his stride."

It took Geno six long years to rise from No. 1 bench warmer with the New York Knicks to a star guard in the NBA. It was a career that almost was never recorded.

SHUE WAS drafted by Philadelphia in 1954, but soon found himself with the Knicks as several non-too-sparkling rookie efforts with the Warriors. This was quite a comedown for a youngster rated the finest cager in University of Maryland history.

Midway through the 1955-56 season, Shue reached rock bottom. An occasional starter with New York when Joe Lapchick was coach, Geno was relegated to almost full-time bench duty when Vince Boryta took over as Knicks' skipper.

"I was ready to call it quits right then and there," recalls Shue. "That summer, I took a small course near Baltimore. But my game went from bad to worse. I started looking around for something else to do to make a living."

THEN CAME the most important telephone call in Shue's life. The caller was Charley Eckman, then coach of the Pistons. Would Geno play for Eckman? "I couldn't say yes fast enough," he relates. Sheddling his club of anonymity, Shue emerged as a better-than-average guard in his first season with the Pistons.

Not even these choice plums, however, were good enough to earn a spot on the annual All-NBA squad chosen at the season's end. That is, until the spring of 1960.

Following a 75-game campaign in which he established league backcourt marks for total points (1712) and best scoring average (22.8). Final Players finally accorded Shue the long-awaited honor of a first team berth. Last season he won 22.6 average, second highest to Oscar Robertson among the guards.

FEW PLAYERS ever worked harder to attain a goal. Shue turned in 3,338 minutes played in 1959-60 to share, with Philadelphia's great Will Chamberlain, in another record-breaking effort. Last year, by coincidence, he also played 3,338 minutes, third high to Chamberlain and Boston's Bill Russell.

"I don't feel right sitting on the bench," says Shue when asked to explain why he plays so much. "Maybe that's because I remember those New York days all too well." Coach McGuire figures Shue should be around as a standout in more seasons despite his present 29 years of age.

"He's physically equipped for this game," McGuire. "Not too tall, not too heavy, and in perfect condition all the time."

That's quite a testimonial for the 6-2, 175-pounder... especially coming from a man like McGuire, who, but for Cousy, might have been the NBA's best guard during his illustrious playing career.



Passing Melons

Ripe muck melons aren't the best substitute to use for a football when it comes to demonstrating tips on passing and catching the ball, especially for the husky professionals of the Detroit Lions. But, when a nine-year-old admirer, Ted Case, 1192 Smith, Birmingham, showed up at the

Lions' Cranbrook training camp with a basket of melons and an offer to trade three for professional advice—he had a deal. Earl of the Lions, Darris McCord (left), Earl Morrall (center), and Nick Pietrosante (right) teamed up to give Ted the advice—and eat the melons.

The Birmingham Eccentric

SPORTS

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Johnny O' New Lion At Cranbrook Camp

There's a new face among the Detroit Lions at their Cranbrook training site. The newcomer is veteran fullback Johnny Olszewski. The Lions acquired Olszewski from the Washington Redskins for a future draft choice or a player they can agree upon later.

A serious injury to second-string fullback Ken Webb brought about the acquisition of the new man. Webb suffered three fractured vertebrae Saturday night when the Lions downed the St. Louis Cardinals 20-7 for their third victory in four games.

WEBB WAS hurt when he tried to recover a fumble and opposing players landed on top of him. He will be out at least a month according to team officials. Olszewski, or "Johnny O," as he was known during his college days, is a 6-foot, 292-pounder, who is in his ninth season of professional football.

He starred at the University of California and broke into the pro ranks with the Cardinals. He had the NBA for "at least five or six more seasons" despite his present 29 years of age.

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Birmingham Caddie Gets Evans Award

Daniel Pierce, 2409 Buckingham, Birmingham, a caddie at Bloomfield Hills Country Club, has been awarded an Evans College scholarship by the Golf Association of Michigan.

Pierce was one of 32 scholarship winners this summer from G.A.M. clubs.

The Birmingham boy will be among the 443 Evans scholars in the official start of a long-term college this fall, including Michigan. A total of 252 Michigan boys have been awarded such scholarships since 1948, the year that the G.A.M. affiliated with the Chick Evans program administered by Western Golf Association.

Each scholarship, which covers full tuition and room rent, is renewable for four years. Its cash value is in excess of \$2,000.

PIERCE'S SELECTION was made possible by the financial support given to the nationwide Evans program by more than 30,000 golfers this year. A graduate of Seaholm High

Seaholm Gridders Prepare For 'Year of Rebuilding'

By JOE CADARIU
Sports Editor

"We've got a lot of work to do," said Seaholm football coach Carl Lemle, in what is probably one of the young season's major undertakings.

At the end of the 1960 grid season, the Maples had a team of 87 boys. Thirty-two of these have departed for one reason or another.

All 32 will be missed, according to Lemle, and among those who have gone is all-star Steve Jacobsen.

"We'll miss him like mad," said the coach. "We also miss Jim Stephenson, who was a quarterback and halfback, and lineman Bob Kling."

also back are end Carter Dinklo, a runner from the track squad; Jack Harvey, a junior fullback; and starting offensive end Carl Lemle, in what is probably one of the young season's major undertakings.

Among the good-looking newcomers, according to Lemle, is end Chris Townsend, a transfer student from Pittsburgh.

Mike Pricer, a fallback on last year's reserve squad, has been converted to tackle where he has shown some promise.

HOW WILL the Maples fare in the tough Eastern Michigan game?

"We'll be in there fighting," said Lemle. "We think this is our year for rebuilding. We may surprise a few teams."

Right now it looks like Royal Oak Kimball has the edge. Most of last year's players are back there. Hazel Park also is real tough.

One of the most visible differences between last year's version of the fighting Maples and this year's is the line. Gone is the mammoth defensive

wall which averaged about 219 pounds. One of the largest on the squad is Fralher, who is about 6-1 and runs near 200 pounds.

"OUR FIRST game is next Friday against Groves," said Lemle, and I guess they're ready. They've and their team together for three years. I wish we could have played them last year."

After the first game with the cross-town rival, Seaholm will meet six consecutive league schools: Kimball, Hazel Park, Fort Huron, Ferndale, Mt. Clemens and East Detroit.

The Maples cap their season with games against Royal Oak Dondoro and traditional rival Southfield.

BACK FROM last year's team are Fred Muenchinger, a senior quarterback, and tackle Bill Graber. These two are co-captains for

Troy Half Pinters To Play at Stadium

The Troy Half Pint Football Team, will play a contest at half-time when the Detroit Lions and the Chicago Bears meet at Tiger Stadium on October 8. Southgate will be the opponents.

All boys between the ages of 9 and 12 as of September 1, and weighing between 65 and 120 pounds when in uniform, are eligible. Two complete uniforms are furnished. The 12 modern safeguards. There is \$4,000 insurance on each boy, covering him to and from the field, as well as on the field.

There are some 440,000 pleasure craft registered in Michigan.



With fall just around the corner, local golf is fast reaching its climax. Most of the country and golf clubs have already held their championships.

Add the names of Don Stevens, John Conroy, Ron Tepper, Buddy Badger, George Haggarty, Bob Prymski, Chuck Grammer, Joe Greenberg, Harry Hubar and James Sheridan to the list of men's titleholders.

STEVENS successfully defended his Plum Hollow championship with a 2 and a victor over Funston, who has won the title 11 North Hills.

CONROY, 27-year-old son of North Hills pro Leo Conroy, won at Oakland Hills with a 54-hole medal-play score of 226. Seventeen-year-old Fred Ewert was second with 222.

TOEPPER became the champ at Bloomfield Hills Country Club when he defeated Tom O'Shaner in the final Harold Finney 2-up. The winner also won the title in 1953.

BADGER, a Michigan State student from Bloomfield Hills, shot a 71-68-74-213 to edge Lloyd Martz by five strokes for the Red Run title. Tom Draper, former state champion, was third with 221.

HAGGETT repeated as champ at Bloomfield Hills Country Club when he dunned George Webb, 3-8. Haggerty had two distinct disadvantages in his journey—his age and his style. He is 59-years-old and shoots from the left side.

PRYMSKI won the Stoneycroft title by beating Elliott Arkes of East Oak Hills. He seized a 1-up advantage on the 17th hole and led the rest of the way in the 36-hole event.

GRANBER became the champ at Birmingham Country Club when he defeated Gale Stringer, 2-1. GREENBERG retained his knowledge of the game with a 10-9 win over Dick Fyake.

HUBAR took the Franklin Hills title for the sixth time. He shot 312 for 72 holes, was eight better than second-place David Rose.

SHERIDAN won the championship at Orchard Lake. Among the women titleholders are Mrs. J. S. Kerr, Bloomfield Hills; Jerry Hengle, Stoneycroft; Mrs. Gale Stringer, Birmingham; CC; Mrs. J. G. Israel, for the 10th straight year at Knollwood; Mrs. Low Smed, Oakland Hills; Mrs. W. L. Mosher Jr., Orchard Lake; and Mrs. David G. Harper, Plum Hollow.

LADIES' WINNER Pat Fleming, a member of the

Recreation Round-Up

The Birmingham Recreation Board's fall swimming classes will begin Saturday, September 30. Application blanks which will be distributed to the schools next week should be mailed with the registration fee to the recreation office before September 22.

Classes will be offered at Seaholm, Derby and Barnum pools for Actioners, polyweeds, intermediate and advanced swimmers.

Instructors in beginning diving will be offered at Seaholm and Derby pools and a new competitive swimming class will be held at Barnum pool for the more advanced swimmers.

Classes will be held each Saturday morning for a period of ten weeks. This activity is open to residents of the city and school district of Birmingham.

SENIOR MEN'S CLUB The Birmingham Senior Men's Club opened its new 1961-62 season on September 1 after a pleasant August vacation when friends of the club were entertained at the homes of Mrs. Ewald E. Schaffer and Mrs. Fred Gould. The fifth annual club picnic at the Pontiac Yacht Club was held on September 2. At the first meeting the membership was most complimentary about the expanded facilities of the Ranch House and a letter of appreciation is being sent to the Community House for the improvement.

The meeting's opened with a prayer by Ray F. Wolfenden and a moment of silence for the departed.

A birthday song honored Charles Wilson, "Doc" Laine, C. D. Hart, "Tom" Crawford, Harry Fromm, Henry Wagner, Earl Roy, Fred Grupper and H. F. Walmsey. The Stock Committee reported on visits to Doctor and Mrs. Tom Neal, Otto Seier, Leonard Brown and others.

THE FEATURE of the meeting was provided by Harry Reed who showed color slides of his visits to New Hampshire, Niagara, Lake Louise and other places.

After lunch the discussion group met to formulate plans for the new season. The subject for Friday's meeting will be "Should the Post Office Department be set up to pay its own way?"

Pistons Plan 30 Tilts For Convention Arena

Elton Baylor, who holds scoring records in three National Basketball Association cities, will get first crack at Detroit's new Convention Arena.

The 1961-62 Detroit Pistons home schedule, which was announced Saturday, calls for Baylor to lead the lead Los Angeles Lakers against the Pistons on October 25, in the inaugural basketball contest to be played in the riverfront sports palace.

Baylor matched the league's single-game record when he poured in 71 points at New York last winter. He also boasts or shares arena marks at the Pistons former home—Olympia (57 points) and U. of D. (47 points)—and at Los Angeles (56 points).

The Piston-Laker curtain raiser will take place in a 30-game home schedule for the Pistons as they

embark on their fifth NBA campaign in Detroit and also herald the official start of a long-term lease at the Arena. The Pistons have signed a two-year contract with the arena, which is under use of the Civic Center building.

THE PISTONS will offer two "established" days for home games during 1961-62. Friday dates, including five of the six doubleheaders, are listed for Wednesday evenings while another eight are booked for Saturdays. There will be three games each on Sundays and Fridays and one on a Monday (New Year's Night).

"The arena schedule we've planned," states Fran Smith, Pistons director of staff, "with a fine new building and a much-improved team. The Pistons' outlook for 1961-62 appears extremely bright."

A new starting time of 8:30 p.m. has been set for all single-game, evening attractions. Doubleheaders will continue to start at 7 p.m. with Saturday afternoon tilts at 2 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m.

The Western Division champion St. Louis Hawks will top opposing tilts in their visits to the Arena with seven appearances. Cincinnati, Los Angeles and the new Chicago Packers will come to Detroit six times each. Philadelphia and New York, five apiece, Boston four and Syracuse three.

FOR THE first time the Pistons will face a back-to-back, weekend stand at home. They will entertain Los Angeles on Saturday, November 25, then remain in Detroit to host Boston the next evening.

The overall Piston schedule lists six games. Except for one or two in late season, the road tilts are set, including the season's opener at Boston on Saturday, October 21. Four games are slated at Fort Wayne, Ind.

(See PISTONS, 7-B)

DANIEL PIERCE

Labor Isn't Lost

Donald L. Cummings, 1351 Cedar Drive, Birmingham, is glad he stayed home Labor Day. While making the rounds at Springdale Golf Course, he got his first hole-in-one. Cummings aged the 124-year sixth hole, using a three-iron.

LADIES' WINNER Pat Fleming, a member of the

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Hurdles Barrier

Young Allison Gram has found her place in the sports world. The Birmingham miss is an astute rider who represents the Bloomfield Open Hunt in jumping events at most of the Michigan horse shows. This season Allison has been one of the best riders in her age class and has won numerous first place trophies.