

**GEORGE BEAHON**  
**"In This Corner"**



Remember little Calvin Murphy, Niagara University's 5 foot, 10 inch "midget" playing in the land of the giants?

They said Calvin wouldn't make it in the pros, where height means even more than in high school or college. In the pros, give a guy an inch and he'll take a basket, or maybe even a three-pointer.

Well Calvin has fooled even the majority of pro scouts who said he wouldn't hack it in the National Basketball Association.

Calvin still stands only 5-10, but he has made it in the NBA, with the Houston Rockets, and wound up with some impressive stats last season.

Battling the biggest troops in professional athletics, Calvin managed an 18.2 per game scoring average.

He was second in the entire NBA in free throw percentage, a phenomenal .890, and he led his team in assists.

Early in the season, Calvin was relegated to spot assignments, coming off the bench to start offensive fires. "He's the type player," says his coach, Tex Winter, "who can come off the bench when you're 10 points down and suddenly get you even on the scoreboard."

Calvin's 18.2 scoring average is most remarkable because he didn't get a starting job until mid-season. Then at the end of the season he was subjected to knee surgery, but he's 100 per cent right now, and all those smart-necks who said he'd never make it in the pros can reach for the salt and pepper.

Okay, you say Calvin is the exception who proves the rule. Most likely.

But how about this kid from Michigan State, who'll be in Rochester for the Kodak Classic Dec. 29 and 30?

His name is Gary Ganakas, and he is a junior, and he is 5 feet, 5 inches short. That's FIVE, FIVE.

He was a regular guard in Big Ten competition last season, and he's likely to be performing in the Michigan State backcourt as a regular again this season, unless he's bumped by a 6 foot, 10 inch sophomore.

Ganakas rocks the scales at 134 pounds.

There's this kicker.

Gary's father, Gus, is the head basketball coach.

In Rochester for a press luncheon this week, Ganakas talks about a father-son, coach-player relationship.

"It's no good," said Ganakas, the father and coach.

"It's a constant problem, a relationship I can't enjoy. It's bigger for me than other father-coach situations because my son is only 5-5. He has to play flawlessly, and when he misses a shot, it's like someone else missing five."

When son Gary first arrived on the varsity scene he was greeted with boos. Now he gets applause. But his dad still doesn't like it.

"You can't win," says the father-coach. "There is a faction of people who feel nepotism and favoritism are involved, but nothing could be further from the truth. Every coach is trying to win and still utilize the personnel that will best strengthen the team."

The boy went to Michigan State because his father inherited the job when Gary was a freshman. "Michigan State became my backyard," explains the son, "and nobody else was looking for me to play. You have to play this game with a little reckless abandon, but I can't do that for fear of making a mistake."

Opposing coaches have cited the 5-5 striping as one of the Spartans' key players. But none of them tried to recruit the kid.

Father-coach Gus Ganakas had an advantage in that department. He knew the kid's mother pretty well.

But 5-5, and a starter in the Big Ten?

**JOHN DOSER**  
**Scholastic Notebook**



By now, St. John Fisher's football varsity may have doubled the number of offensive plays in its football handbook.

If coach Joe Repko's gridders did indeed do that, they would now have 12 plays instead of six.

Assistant coach Leo Hand told a reporter that the Cardinals kept things even easier when they opened their second season of club football last month — they only owned four plays.

"We wanted to execute and eliminate mistakes," Hand said.

He described Fisher's offense as being wide open, that is, he meant it isn't a secret.

It couldn't be, what with only six plays.

Hand said you could sit in the stands and see what Fisher is going to do. The Cards run the same play most of the time, he said.

What coaches Repko, Hand and Mike Piehler have done to Fisher football in just a few weeks is only inches short of terrific.

When Repko took over last month, the roster had dropped from about 25 to a handful of players. Repko's appointment induced 40 bodies to show up a few days later.

**Migrant Housing Survey Planned**

Sodus — Letters to area fruit growers were sent out this week by Wayco Housing Opportunities, Inc. (WHO, Inc.), concerning a survey of housing conditions in Sodus Townships.

The letter, signed by Mrs. Dorothy Witherspoon, WHO public relations coordinator, Rev. Ivory Simmons and Father George Wiant, board members, requests cooperation of farmers who maintain migrant housing.

The survey is part of a county-wide effort to pinpoint ways of providing decent farm labor housing. Interviewers will visit farmers to detail the purpose of the program prior to conducting the survey.

Courier-Journal

Repko's appointment also resulted in an immediate change in Fisher's football image — the Cards won their opener, 12-6, over Canisius, at Aquinas Stadium. The Canisius gridders, who bounced Steubenville College, 40-0, earlier, are still in a state of shock.

When the Cards met Steubenville two weeks ago in Ohio, the host team was lucky to escape with a 63-6 drubbing. We mean that the hosts were lucky to score.

Fisher led, unbelievably, 41-0, at halftime, over the Steubenville gridders.

Fisher still is playing club football brand of ball, but we quite agree with sportswriter Gene Duffey's analysis of the situation — he calls it "class" club football.

With Repko at the helm, we wouldn't be the least bit surprised to watch Fisher's football stock shoot straight up and possibly compare favorably with neighboring RIT or even Brockport State.

Club football teams do graduate. Plattsburgh State was club until this season and went full fledged varsity (which means the student body pays the bills instead of the players). And, Plattsburgh State beat Brockport a few Saturdays ago.

Fisher athletic director Bob Wanzer understandably refuses to take any credit for the Cards' football successes. He's not involved in any way in the administration of the sport. It's still strictly a student production.

"But," Wanzer said, "it's done a lot to generate a terrific amount of school spirit around here." Wanzer said it's still too soon to tell if and when the school's athletic department will take over the entity and install it as one of its varsity sports.

Ironically, Repko, the man who motivated Fisher to become a winner so quickly, may be out of action for the rest of the Cards' season. Joe's in a hospital with intestinal problems.

That leaves it up to Hand and Piehler. But they're a couple of dependable lieutenants, as they've already demonstrated.

**Marco Polo To Ride Again At Sibley's**

An "Evening With Marco Polo" has been scheduled Oct. 29 at Sibley's downtown store.

The event will be a benefit for the LeRoy V. Good Scholarship Endowment Fund. It is being produced by Sibley's, and all costs are being underwritten by the store. All the proceeds will go to the scholarship fund which has been established in memory

of the late president of Monroe Community College, to make it possible for worthy and needy students to obtain their education at Monroe Community.


The flavor and excitement of Marco Polo's experiences will be re-created at Sibley's with sights and marvels from the countries he visited. The whole store will be transformed into a wonderland of Oriental splen-

dor, with exhibits, displays, museum collections, fascinating Oriental visitors and bazaars.

The Rochester YWCA is lending its priceless collection of Japanese ceremonial dolls, which will be on display during the evening on the third floor, with local Japanese hostesses to explain the "doll ceremony" which is a part of every little Japanese girl's cultural training.

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