

GEORGE BEAHON

"In This Corner"



Hopscotching the sports beat . . . and if you figured that was a "hairy" World Series won by the Oakland moustaches, get ready for another fuzzy scene. This time it's the college area, and it's championship-bound Southern California which is featuring the fur. When Southern Cal plays Notre Dame on network TV on Dec. 2, you'll see six of the seven of USC's powerful offensive line sporting moustaches . . . Hottest rumor out of the World Series backrooms is that Gussie Busch is fed up with his once-beloved Cardinals and is negotiating to unload the St. Louis franchise. It's not an economy move — because his breweries are making zillions — just that Busch has been disenchanted ever since the athletes chose to co-strike with the owners last spring . . . Meanwhile, baseball is about ready to disclose figures revealing that 15 of the

24 major league clubs lost money in '72. Only three American-League clubs — Boston, Chicago and Detroit — managed to lure more than a million bodies each through their turnstiles.

All America Preview: two players from the Big Eight are brass-plated cinches to make most All America teams, but it'll take a football fanatic to come up with one of the names.

The obvious pick is Greg Pruitt, the roadrunner from Oklahoma, who's only 5-9 and 176 pounds. The other "can't miss" is a defensive lineman, Nebraska's Richie Glover, a modest 6-1 and 234 pounds. Now for the bad news: At least one of the finest passers in the history of collegiate football won't make it. That's because there are at least two stickouts, and only one gets to dance. They are Joe Ferguson of Arkansas, and Gary Huff of Florida State. Some pro scouts have labeled Huff the finest passer ever to drop back into the pocket in college competition. But Ferguson's publicity gives him an edge. College passers today are better than ever, and one reason advanced is that many kids have been watching good ones on the tube since they were youngsters, and have learned to imitate. Throwers and catchers are so expert, according to Alabama's Bear Bryant, that recruiters now are

starting to concentrate on landing key secondary personnel able to specialize in man for man defense.

Odds Without Ends: Recall the beef about umpire Bill Haller not working Detroit Tiger games because his brother Tom played for the Motown troops? Baltimore manager Earl Weaver started the rumpus. But if the Haller people needed any reference credentials, they could start with the fact that Tom made some sort of athletic history at the University of Illinois. He was first string quarterback in his junior year when he left to take a baseball bonus from the San Francisco Giants. What Tom Haller did is something possibly no other jock ever did. He reimbursed the university for the cost of his athletic scholarship . . . Latest report on the effect of Off Track Betting on Metropolitan New York racing: The attendance at Belmont and Aqueduct is down more than 15 per cent since the invasion of OTB, which contributes nickels to the treasury in Albany while the tracks are giving up big numbers in revenue lost to the state . . . Graduates of Detroit's Catholic League were lining up for a group photograph at Wayne State when one self-appointed photo director ordered: "Okay, all you guys in the front row — genuflect!"

JOHN DOSER

Scholastic Notebook



When McQuaid faced Aquinas Sunday in the annual Basilian-Jesuit football rivalry, things sure were different.

For one thing, Aquinas' Bob Rosmarino, who was seldom short of dialogue, was miles away coaching in Methuen, Mass., and who knows, maybe the ex-Irish head coach knew when to leave the friendly confines of Dewey Ave., and head back East.

While Rosy won a lot more games than he lost at AQ, we wonder if he knew the Maroon and White were in store for a down, if not rough year.

McQuaid went into Aquinas Stadium with a 3-2 record, ninth in the local coaches' poll, while Aquinas was 2-3-1, and not among the coaches' top ten for the first time in many years. (McQuaid won, 7-0.)

The Irish, for all their winning tradition and tough skeds over the years, have been involved in some ironic situations.

For 10 seasons McQuaid pursued an independent grid slate, minus Aquinas, until 1963 when Cardinal Mooney and Bishop Kearney appeared on the scene and indicated a willingness to play varsity ball against the Irish starting in 1965, when both new schools would mature to the varsity level.

McQuaid managed, therefore, to meet the Irish for the first time in 1964 and walked off with a one TD victory over the stunned Irish.

Aquinas was the choice in last year's showdown with Madison, but the Wilson Parkers won by three touchdowns, and again in this season's opener, won again, but by a much lesser margin.

We recall only three years ago when Jack Christiansen, then head coach at Franklin, said he was all for a metro football loop involving city, county and Catholic schools, but that he didn't want to be a part of metro unless the city public schools were on more of a par with the Catholic schools.

Equality has arrived. Ask anyone on the Dewey Ave. campus.

Although Christiansen has been succeeded by Trent Jackson at Franklin, the Quakers' 19-0 win over Aquinas proved again that the myth of Aquinas superiority in football has definitely been diluted.

Aquinas now is just another school in the City-Catholic circuit and no longer rates the "automatic" lead story on the school boy sports page.

The Irish will have to learn to earn their spurs like everybody else, from now on.

A good example of an area school which has absolutely reversed its dismal football image is Penfield.

Coach Ed Decker has converted his football ragamuffins and soccer rejects into the most respected and feared grid machines in the Rochester area.

Decker did it from less than scratch. In fact to try and find an original Penfield football booster from four years ago is impossible, but they're all over the place now because the Chiefs have earned their spurs.

They're not as organized as are other school booster groups, but they're not yet used to the idea that Penfield can win football games.

We know one Penfield mother who overheard her daughter discussing a recent Penfield football victory. "You mean 'our' Penfield?" she asked.

That's the inferiority myth the Chiefs have destroyed in the last five weeks. The Chiefs are getting so much newspaper ink that reading newspapers has replaced watching haircuts as the next best attraction to Chiefs' football.

Reading about those Chiefs, we mean.

NOTEBOOK — Sean McGinnis, who used to run for Aquinas, helped McQuaid win the C-C cross country championship with 10 wins in 10 runs . . . Ironically, CBA of Syracuse, a Catholic school, is eligible as Syra-

cuse city champ and best in Section 3, to compete in intersectionals being held in Section 5 this year at Alfred-Almond, while C-C champ McQuaid is not eligible because it is a Catholic school . . . D&C headline read "Aquinas Romps in Playoff," but followers of East High soccer Orientals knew better . . . East won, 8-1 . . . Brockport State plays first night soccer game on home pitch Friday against Buf State . . . All high school and college students in county will be admitted free . . . that's free . . . F-r-e-e . . .

Memorial Mass At Mercy High

Our Lady of Mercy Alumnae Association will hold a memorial Mass for deceased members of the "Mercy Family" on Sunday Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Mercy Motherhouse Chapel on Blossom Rd.

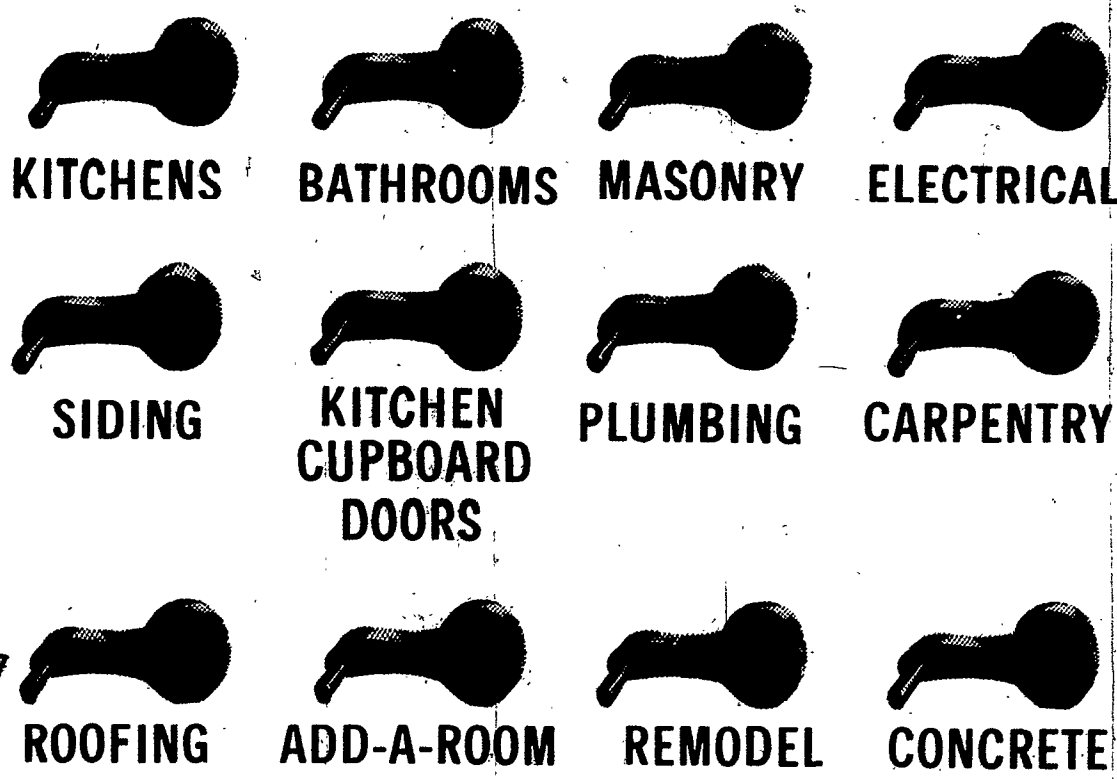
Mass will be offered for deceased alumnae, deceased husbands, children, fathers and

mothers of alumnae, and deceased faculty and students.

The Mass will be concelebrated by Msgr. Donald J. Mulcahy, executive secretary of the Pastoral Council Formation Committee and Father Conrad Sundholm of St. Cecilia's Church. They will be assisted by Father Anthony Valente, Mercy High School chaplain.

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