

COURIER Sports

IN THIS CORNER

George Bush

As a member of the Football Writers Association of America, you get to meet some hot humans. Like the big name, big time coaches who probably have to handle more pressure with sideline decisions than any other people in all of sports.

Bear Bryant over the years never was the most popular with his peers or with the journalists. Probably his biggest trouble was winning too often, avoiding the press and just plain poor press and public relations outside of his home diggings in Alabama, where they spread the word that The Bear could walk on water.

Now that he's consistently LOSING bowl games, Bryant says he's become most popular with his fellow biggies. These old boys come up to me and say, 'Let's go to the same place (bowl) next New Year's.' And bless his heart, Ara (Parseghian of Notre Dame) checks on me every week. He wants to meet me any place on New Year's."

Bryant's losing streak in bowls actually seems to have humanized him with both peers and press. On this occasion he sat still for some questions that several years ago might have sent him stomping out of the room.

Q—Did you want your athletes to return from the Sugar Bowl defeat as good or bad losers?

A—I want my athletes to be BAD losers. I don't want any good losers. I want 'em to be bad losers, but with dignity; hold their heads high and lose with dignity.

Q—Is there any difference in coaching blacks and whites?

A—We don't have any black athletes. We have athletes. We don't have any whites, blacks, greens or yellows — we just have athletes. You ask me how many black players I have now, I honestly don't know. I don't coach whites alike. I don't coach blacks alike. If you're managing people, everyone has a different personality, everyone has a different disposition so everyone is a different problem. I try to

manage everybody differently but fairly and that's all anybody can do.

Q—How do you handle alumni who give illegal aid to a prospect?

A—I tell 'em if they do it, I'm not gonna play him.

Q—How do you think recruiting violations can be stopped?

A—The thing to do is not penalize the school or coach but make the athlete ineligible for life. That would stop it.

Q—What's kept you in football so long, besides winning?

A—Well, actually, football is a way of life for me. I really don't think I could do without it. I still get a kick out of going to practice. I honestly, when I go out to practice, get cold chills running up my back. If I was out of it, I'd probably dry up on the vine and die in two years.

Q—What's your goal in life after such a distinguished career?

A—To win a bunch of national championships. I'll be the first to know when I'm not contributing. Then we'll have a family meeting and I'll walk over to the president's office and we'll work something out. I'm not gonna quit as long as we're winning. But we start having those 6 and 5 years again, it won't be three years in a row.

Q—Wouldn't you like to just play golf?

A—Not me. I love it. The coaching, the contact with the players, the competition, the band playing, going into the game — but all that other stuff, worrying about academics, recruiting, all that bull, I'd like to get away from that, but not the coaching.

Q—What would you have done if not football?

A—Probably be the best plowhand in Arkansas. I guarantee you, I wouldn't be no average one.

Youth Resource Book Available from CYO

The Catholic Youth Organization has published its 1974-75 Youth Development Resource Book. The book contains 67 pages of detailed information which should prove most helpful to parish youth committees and other groups in developing comprehensive youth programs.

Part I outlines a sample step-by-step procedure that can be utilized by youth committees and their CYO regional youth director to devise a multi-faceted program tailored to the expressed needs and interests of their neighborhood youth. Sample survey forms and examples of different youth program models are included.

Part II deals with a vast number of program ideas that can be developed as well as steps for carrying out many of these ideas. Areas covered are social and recreational suggestions, fund

raising ideas, cultural suggestions, ideas for activities of spiritual and personal development, and a listing of about 75 community service possibilities for teenagers in Monroe County. This listing covers the needs and opportunities at each particular agency or organization and gives the name of the contact person.

Part III is a listing and description of more than a dozen types of programs offered by the CYO Youth Development Staff. These offerings (such as Christian community-building and leadership development experiences) can help to enrich a neighborhood or parish youth program. Part III also includes 10 issues of Leadership Ideas, an idea sheet with many suggestions for injecting both fun and depth into youth gatherings.

Persons interested in obtaining a free copy of the CYO Youth Development Resource Book should call or write to:

Resource Book
Catholic Youth Organization
50 Chestnut St.
Rochester, N.Y. 14604
716/454-2030

COURIER DEADLINE

The Courier-Journal deadline is noon Thursday for articles intended for the following Wednesday edition.

CYO Worker Expresses Need for Youth Center

CYO Inner City Youth Director Roberto Burgos was one of the leaders of a march by a large group of Puerto Rican young people to the steps of the Rochester City Hall last Wednesday. The group presented to Paul M. Grattet, assistant city manager, a series of complaints together with a proposal for a youth center at Washington Playground, 48 1/2 Thomas St.

Youth from both the Clinton Avenue and the Bay Street areas have received what they consider adverse publicity and have been labeled as "gangs." On the basis of this publicity, the city manager initiated an investigation through the Rochester Police and the Monroe County Youth Board. Burgos mentioned that the investigation was done through agencies which have virtually no contact with the specific groups of youth in question.

Burgos in his talk before City Hall, claimed that the basic and underlying problem was a lack of recreation centers and programs for Spanish-speaking youth. This situation results in youth having no place to gather except on street corners. He stated, "The Puerto Rican and Hispanic youth of Rochester have been virtually excluded from presently existing youth programs and agencies, especially recreation centers. This exclusion has been demonstrated by the extreme lack of participation on behalf of Hispanic youth. Present youth programs have failed to hire

adequate staff or to develop programs that will attract and render a service for Hispanic youth. The arrest rate for Spanish-speaking youth in the Model Cities area has jumped close to 100% for the first eight months of this year. Present youth centers claim that they are filled to capacity. Therefore, it is essential that a new recreation center be established to service Hispanic youth."

Burgos helped to formulate the proposal and has served as an

advocate and spokesman for Latin youth in various meetings with city officials.

Burgos also helped obtain \$4,000 from the Council of Inner-City Parishes Alternative Ministries Fund to begin renovation of this facility. However, an additional \$70,000 is said to be needed to staff and maintain the two-story structure with a gym and various recreation and meeting rooms. This was the proposal presented to the city manager.

SCHOLASTIC NOTEBOOK

John Davis

"A coach knows there comes a time when he has to stop arguing with an official," Jim DeBell, Jefferson High athletic director, believes.

DeBell, asked for a reaction to the resignation of Brighton High soccer coach Clarence Mephram last week which resulted from Mephram's over-complaining and subsequent forfeit by the Barons to Pittsford Sutherland, reminded us that "officials aren't going to change their decisions and that coaches, as well as players, must adjust their style of play to the officials; officials don't adjust to you."

The whole situation, beyond the initial negative aspects of the resignation, "is bad for the school, bad for athletics, and didn't help the image created by that TV show showing coaches knocking and hitting their players around," DeBell said.

"I have mixed feelings about it," DeBell said. "The coach blew his cool because of his son (Ed Note — Coach Mephram's son was injured during the game and missed the fourth period of play), but officials are human too and make mistakes. But if a coach persists in arguing, there comes a time when the official has to end it."

It was referee Frank Campo, who warned Mephram that he was treading on dangerous ground by continuing his verbal barrage against Campo's brother official, Jim DuPont.

"I told Clarence that he was already given a yellow card (warning, by DuPont) and I asked him not to make me forfeit the game to Sutherland," Campo said.

But Mephram continued and Campo waved the teams off the field.

Rochester area soccer coaches, in a rare moment of agreement, were pleased as punch for coach George Steitz of Penfield and the fact that the Chiefs, then unbeaten in 11 games, were picked as the best high school soccer team in the state.

Aquinas soccer coach Dave Missell said the selection of Penfield does as much for Section 5 as it does for Penfield. "There are an awful lot of good soccer players who go on to college coming out of the Rochester area and a few of them become All-Americans," Missell said.

Ironically, two of Rochester's most recent soccer All-Americans, Dave Sarachan and Terry Lippman, learned their soccer under former Brighton High soccer coach Mephram.

Fairport High athletic director Dave Martens, who personally doesn't believe in polls of any

sort, soccer or otherwise, said there's no question of the soccer program at Penfield and in this area as being great.

"Don't take me wrong," Martens said, "I'm not taking a thing away from Penfield soccer, I just have to question the validity of the polls which do these things. I mean, who's on these committees who are picking these teams? I'd like to know."

Besides Penfield, Webster Thomas was picked sixth, and Spencerport ninth, in the most recent Top 20 soccer poll conducted by the New York State Sportswriters Association.

Martens deploras polls for another reason which we believe to be a very good reason — "When polls create by products where one team believes it has to run up a large score in order to be recognized by a poll, it's just not an educational thing for kids."

"And I like to think that's what teaching and coaching is all about."

Mercy Lists Soccer Team

Our Lady of Mercy High School has announced members of the new soccer team. They are:

Pat Guiffre, senior; Lauren McDonald, senior; Judy Peace, senior; Pat Rogers, senior; Ann Trama, senior; Elaine Valby, junior; Patti Van Hove, sophomore; Mary Ellen Weber, sophomore; Debbie Rogers, junior; Colleen Cleary, sophomore; Eileen Delaney, sophomore; Diane Schmidt, sophomore; Mary K. Allen, sophomore; Eileen Smith, sophomore; Margy Meath, freshman; Mary Jo Porreca, senior, Scorekeeper.

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