



M.H.S.A.A. Crowns Football Champs

CLASS A MIDLAND DOW

CLASS C FLAT ROCK

On Saturday, November 20, the second Michigan High School Football Playoffs were held at the Pontiac Silverdome. Some 29,423 attended the two sessions and the caliber of play was outstanding. Watching the game in the enclosed arena was a pleasure to all who attended.

In the morning game, Crystal Falls Forest Park won their second straight Class D championship with a close 14-6 win over a stubborn Flint Holy Rosary team. It appeared at the onset of the game that Forest Park would have little trouble winning as they jumped off to a 14-0 first quarter lead. Coach Richard Mettlach's Trojans played great defense and held off the hard fighting Holy Rosary team.

The Class A game was a real offensive battle with Midland Dow outscoring Farmington Harrison 36-27. The score changed hands several times and both squads gave the fans a real treat if you like wide open offensive football. Congratulations to Coach Al Quick and the Midland Dow Football Team.

In the only game of the day that was somewhat one-sided, Coach Larry Dugan's Flat Rock Rams dominated the Onaway Area Community Football Team and beat them by a score of 30-8. Flat Rock scored in every quarter and they had no trouble winning their first state championship in football.

CLASS B EAST GRAND RAPIDS

CLASS D CRYSTAL FALLS FOREST PARK

The last game of the day saw East Grand Rapids coached by George Barcheski defeat Okemos 26-7. The Pioneers had to overcome a 7 point deficit as Okemos led most of the first half. The fourth quarter was all East Grand Rapids as they scored 18 points.

The Michigan High School Football Playoffs are a real boost for the sport in the state of Michigan. All of the games were very well played and there were no unfavorable incidents to mar the game. All of the teams showed real sportsmanship and everyone seems to be in favor of the high school football playoffs.

Board Of Directors Elections

There will be an election for all the odd numbered regions Directorships and Alternate Directorships at the Fifth Annual MHSFCA Clinic on Jan. 28, 1977. The MHSFCA Regions correspond with the state MEA Regions except the Upper Peninsula of Michigan is combined into only one region (16).

If you are interested, send a letter of application to MHSFCA Secretary John Blackstock, Bad Axe High School, Bad Axe, Michigan 48413, by January 15, 1977.

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CLINIC

Jan. 28-29, 1977

**Hospitality
Friday Night**

**Free Saturday Lunch
To First 500 Registrants**

**PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN**

**MICHIGAN'S
FINEST HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL COACHES
SPEAKING**

MINI SESSIONS

**Clinic Fee Includes
Association Membership**

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Region 1

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Region 9

Jack VerDuin, Wyoming Park

George Barcheski, East Grand Rapids

Region 10

Fred Rademacher, Flint Powers

Dar Christiansen, Flint Southwestern

Region 11

Arnie Bessonon, Owen-Gage

Steve Lockman, Caro

Region 12

Dick Harris, Harrison

Jim Colville, Clare

Region 13

Tom Seroczynski, Fruit Port

Tim Holden, Fruit Port

Region 14

Art Gillespie, Alpena

Joe Veselenak, Rogers City

Region 15

Jim Ooley, Traverse City

Roger Wood, Traverse City

Region 16

John Srholec, Marquette

Jerry Cvenegros, Escanaba

CLINIC INFORMATION

Mark January 28-29, 1977, on your calendar and plan to attend the MHSFCA Football Clinic at Ann Arbor Pioneer High School. The clinic is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. on Jan. 28 and runs all day on the 29th.

Friday evening Coach "Bo" Schembechler of the University of Michigan will be a guest speaker along with Mr. Vern Norris from the MHSAA who will speak on rule changes. Ten high school coaches will also speak on what makes their programs a success. The feeling of the MHSFCA Board of Directors is that the high school coaches can give real inside information when they speak about coaching high school football players since they have first-hand experience. Mr. Norris will inform us on rule changes well in advance of next fall so that we, as coaches, can be better prepared.

There will be a "Beer Bust" at the Ypsilanti Armory following the Friday sessions. On Saturday morning the Regional Coaches of the Year will be honored, and the four State Coaches of the Year will be honored at the noon luncheon.

The MHSFCA Clinic is a "must" for all successful coaches.

MHSFCA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS

1. Jan. 10, 1977, at Pioneer High School at 7:00 p.m. to check over clinic site.
2. Jan. 28, 1977, at Pioneer High School at 4:00 p.m.

Newsletter

The Newsletter is the official publication of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association with the expressed aim of keeping the membership informed.

Editor

Don Lessner

Riverview High School

Riverview, Michigan 48192

Printed by

Hebda Service Printing
of Wyandotte, Michigan

VERN MORRIS INFORMS MHSFCA DIRECTORS

At the Dec. 2 meeting of the MHSFCA Board of Directors, Mr. Vern Morris of the MHSAA presented several interesting points about the playoffs.

A sum of \$12,000 is needed to have the playoffs and "the playoffs were a success in terms of finances" according to Mr. Norris. The MHSAA pays 18% for rent of the Silverdome and the \$12,000 pays for officials and for expenses of schools for both the semi-final and final games.

Questionnaires have been sent out by the MHSAA to superintendents, athletic directors, coaches, principals, cheerleading sponsors, and band directors of the competing teams on possible ways to improve the playoffs. The MHSAA is interested in a response to the following questions: what information do you need prior to the playoffs? how many field passes should be issued, are the locker rooms adequate? how many players per participating team?

The news media was well represented at the playoffs with 15 radio stations and 82 writers. The format of the program will be changed next year and an attempt may be made to give past scores of the participating teams. It may be possible to have the Saturday after Thanksgiving as a permanent date for the playoffs. There were no problems with the 1976 football playoffs and the relationship with the officials at the Pontiac Stadium is excellent.

Of the 35 undefeated teams, 11 qualified for the playoffs. Two regions had 5 undefeated teams and 1 region had no undefeated teams. There will always be a problem in selecting teams for the playoffs. The average point spread between first and second place finishers this past fall was 4.24 points.

The MHSAA Council will determine if there will be quarter-finals next fall. The MHSFCA is in favor of quarter-finals. There is some talk of Friday night games, but this would double the expenses. There will not be TV coverage so as to keep the attendance up.

'Coach Of The Year' Selections

At the December 2, 1976, meeting of the MHSFCA Board of Directors, the "Coaches of the Year" were selected in the four classes. Last November each high school football coach was sent a ballot to vote for four coaches in this region. Four coaches were selected from each of the four regions which gives sixteen Regional Coaches and a total of sixty-four coaches for all of the classifications. From the list of sixty-four coaches, four were selected as "State Coaches of the Year". They were:

CLASS A — AL QUICK MIDLAND DOW

Al Quick is one of the most respected coaches in the state of Michigan and his 1976 Dow Football Team won the state Class A Title posting a perfect 11-0 record. His record is a very impressive 104-54-7 for his 21 years of service as a head coach, and he has also coached at Anchor Bay, Ravenna, and Buena Vista High Schools. Midland Dow captured the Class A Championship with a strong comeback win over Lincoln Park and 36-27 win over Farmington Harrison.

CLASS B — NICK ANNESE CORUNNA

Coach Annese is ending a brilliant coaching career at Corunna and he ended it the right way--with a perfect 9-0 record. He has been a head coach for 27 years and his teams posted 5 straight league championships at New Lathrup and 7 league championships in 14 years at Corunna. His overall coaching record is 155-65-6 and while he was coaching New Lathrup, his teams won 38 straight games. We wish Coach Annese the very best for his many years of service, and we hope that he has found his many years of coaching to be very rewarding.

CLASS C — LARRY DUGAN FLAT ROCK

Although the youngest of the 4 coaches selected for "State Coach of the Year" honors, Larry Dugan has demonstrated that he is a real winner. For the last 2 years his teams have won the Huron League Championship which is a real feat since Flat Rock is the only Class C team in the otherwise all Class B Huron League. This past fall his team recorded a perfect 11-0 season and his overall record as a head coach for 8 years is 47-27. The community of Flat Rock is very fortunate to have as knowledgeable and dedicated a man as Larry Dugan for their head football coach.

Regional Coaches Of The Year

Class A

Region I

Al Baumgart, Detroit Notre Dame
Michael D'Angelo, St. Claire Shores
Lakeshore
Bob Radlinski, Sterling Heights
Ronald Ruzzin, East Detroit

Region II

John Herrington, Farmington Harrison
Iverson Loftin, Royal Oak Dondero
Jerry Lutri, Westland John Glenn
Jack Reardon, Livonia Stevenson

Region III

Don Blanchard, Kalamazoo Loy Norrix
Ron Pascuzzi, Lincoln Park
Ralph Perriello, Ypsilanti
Jeff Smith, East Lansing

Region IV

Dar Christianson, Flint Southwestern
Larry Harp, Muskegon
Jim Ooley, Traverse City

**Al Quick, Midland Dow

Class B

Region I

George Barcheski, East Grand Rapids
Fred Julian, G.R. West Catholic
Dave Mutchler, Coopersville
Jack VerDuin, Wyoming Park

Region II

Hilt Foster, Mt. Pleasant
Chuck Koons, Saginaw Swan Valley
Larry Quellman, Oscoda
Irvin Sigler, Cheboygan

Region III

**Nick Annese, Corunna
Dennis Bongard, Ionia
Gary Cole, Flint Ainsworth
Pete Schmidt, Okemos

Region IV

Dick Comar, Aquinas
Robert LaPointe, Divine Child
John Osborne, Novi
Pete Pucher, Detroit Austin Catholic

Class C

Region I

Dick Bartz, Berrien Springs
Bill Maskill, Galesburg Augusta
Dick Soisson, Kalamazoo Hackett
Tim Wood, Jonesville

Region II

Walt Braun, Marysville
**Lawrence Dugan, Flat Rock
Art Paddy, Orchard Lake St. Mary's
Tom Saylor, Hudson

Region III

John Dillon, Harbor Beach
Ray Dombroski, Bay City All Saints
Gene Hackney, Shepherd
Jim Van Paris, Reese

Region IV

John Connell, Onaway
Robert Giannunzio, Norway
Dick Koski, Negaunee
Larry Sellers, Traverse City St. Francis

Class D

Region I

Dave Marco, North Adams
Dave McCarney, Ann Arbor St. Thomas
Rick Senica, Deerfield
Joe Wood, Marcellus

Region II

Arnie Besonen, Owen Gage
Valdis Gailitis, Beal City
Bill Herrmann, Flint Holy Rosary
Freeman Nelson, Genesee

Region III

Thomas Grange, Manistee Catholic
Central
Darrel Spragg, Hillman
Jim Taylor, Onkama
Gary Tuz, Johannesburg-Lewiston

Region IV

Dave Collins, Powers North Central
Dave Koski, White Pine
**Dick Mettlach, Crystal Falls Forest Park
Charles Paige, Harbor Springs

**Denotes "State Coach of the Year" in his Class.

**CLASS D
RICHARD METTLACH
CRYSTAL FALLS
FOREST PARK**

The only repeater from last year's "State Coach of the Year" selections is Coach Mettlach from Crystal Falls Forest Park of the U.P. For the second straight year his Trojan team won the Class D Championship, and he has coached 5 undefeated teams and 9 conference champions. His overall record is an outstanding 128-40-5 over 21 years as the head coach at Forest Park. In the two championship games his team has outscored their opponents 81 to 6.

NOTICE TO HEAD FOOTBALL COACHES

It's that time of year to check to see that all of your football coaches are members of the MHSFCA. If a coach attends the MHSFCA Clinic in January they will automatically be paid up for the 77-78 school year. Membership in the MHSFCA runs from July 1 to June 30. For an additional \$2.00, a coach can be a member of both the MHSFCA and the Michigan High School Coaches Association (MHSCA). Attending the MHSFCA Clinic and paying the additional \$2.00 is well worth the money and a wise investment. Registration in the MHSCA is also for the 77-78 school year. Please see that you and your assistant coaches are registered for the January Clinic and are members of the MHSFCA.

**Michigan
High School
Football Coaches
Association**

**APPLICATION
FORM**

CHECK ONE:

☐ MHSFCA ONLY - \$2.00

☐ JOINT—
MHSFCA-MHSCA - \$5.00

NAME _____

SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS (street) _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

POSITION _____

HOME ADDRESS (street) _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

MEA REGION _____ PHONE _____

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHES ASSN.

John Blackstock, Secretary-Treasurer
Bad Axe High School
Bad Axe, Michigan 48413

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