

1969-1970 Coaching Change

All In The Game



A Big Loss For Ross High

BY ROY WILHELM
News-Messenger Sports Editor

The announcement of Don Purvis' plans to leave came as a surprise to this corner and undoubtedly to most people in the community. We feel sure that most along with us are more than a little sorry to see him leave and yet realize that this must represent a good opportunity for a young man on the way up.

Purvis has a varied sports background and has contributed much to the Ross high school athletic program. He served as assistant basketball coach in the strong program headed by Dick Norman and then took over the top spot. He was head baseball coach for a highly successful eight year period.

A graduate of Bowling Green State university, Purvis came to Ross in 1961 after serving one year as freshman baseball coach at Bowling Green, where he was a graduate assistant—meaning he was doing post graduate studies, while assisting on the university faculty—in this case as a coach and physical education instructor.

At Ross, Purvis headed a strong baseball program. Twice his teams went to regional tournament play and four times they reached district competition. His 1964 team won the Buckeye Conference championship.

During his eight years as Ross baseball coach, his teams won 100 games and lost just 41. Thirteen of his baseballers have gone on to play the game in college and still more will undoubtedly be added to that total before his most recent crop is fully harvested.

At Aquinas, Purvis will serve as head baseball and assistant basketball coach and will be a physical education instructor. He places the Aquinas program on the approximate level of the Ohio Conference. The school's athletic teams, which do not include football, compete on an independent basis.

A new field house recently was completed at the school, providing excellent indoor track facilities and space for early baseball practices—a factor which must please Purvis. In discussing the fine facility, Purvis said he thought there was enough room available for a full infield workout in addition to the pitching and hitting facilities.

Part of Purvis' success as coach may very well be due to his own success as an athlete. At Berea high school southwest of Cleveland, Purvis played football, basketball and baseball. At Bowling Green he was a member of the basketball and baseball teams until he signed a contract with the New York Yankee organization during his sophomore year.

From 1957 through 1960, he attended school for one semester and then went to spring training and played minor league baseball in the Yankee chain. During the four years he played for St. Petersburg in the Florida State League; Fargo, N.D., in the Northern League; Modesto, Calif., in the California league; Greensboro, N.C., in the Carolina league; Binghamton, N.Y., in the Eastern League, and New Orleans in the Southern League.

Mrs. Purvis also will be missed in the community and the school system. During her five years of teaching in the Fremont system, she served as advisor to the cheerleaders. Just this past summer, she took the Ross cheering group to a clinic and they brought home honors for the local school.

We want to take this space to congratulate the Purvises for their contributions and successes here and to wish them all the luck in the future at Aquinas college or wherever it may be.



Don Purvis

Clark Heads Basketball

Ross High Coaching Vacancies Filled

Vacancies created by the departure of Don Purvis from the Ross high school athletic scene were filled from within the ranks this week according to an announcement from the office of Dr. George Conti, superintendent of Fremont City Schools.

Alex Clark, a top notch player in his own right, has been moved up from assistant basketball coach to head basketball coach. Tom Dorman, who piloted the local Legion team to a fine summer season in 1968, was named as head base-

ball coach. Charles Wegner, a former northwestern Ohio scholastic star, was named reserve basketball coach.

Ross high school Principal Duane Wamsley and Athletic Director Richard Sherman recommended the appointments to Dr. Conti and he accepted the recommendations. Dr. Conti will inform the board of education at its Thursday, August 21, meeting.

Clark will be taking over with a good knowledge of the program and the athletes he will be tutoring. Clark has ton college. At Bluffton he

served the Fremont system for three years and has been a part of the basketball program for all three years.

After graduation from Bluffton College in 1966, Clark joined the Fremont faculty. He served one year as junior high school basketball and track coach.

For the next two years he

played four years of basketball, senior years, being selected to the second team all-District team in the NAIA's twenty-second district, in his senior year and receiving the Burkley award for athletic achievement and sportsmanship in his senior year.

Clark will continue to teach biology at Ross.

Dorman has served the Ross high school for one year, during which time he worked as an assistant football coach.

Clark was graduated from Ridgeway high school in Hardin County before attending Bluffton.

He taught in the mathematics department at Ross.

Prior to coming to Ross high,

Dorman was head baseball and head football coach at Mohawk high school. Before that he was assistant football coach, assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach at Bluffton high school.

He went on to play baseball at

Ohio State University.

Wegner also teaches in the

mathematics department.

The vacancies were created

by moves made by Don Purvis,

who had been head baseball

and basketball coach. Purvis

first resigned as head baseball

coach in order to devote full

time to basketball and then re-

signed completely from the

school system in order to join

the faculty at Aquinas College

in Michigan, where he will be

head baseball coach and assist-

ant basketball coach.

Dorman Leads Baseball

He teaches in the mathematics department at Ross.

Wegner also is in his second year at Ross high, having come to the Fremont school system

after serving two years at Pleasant View high school in

Grove City and one year at

Port Clinton high school. At

both schools, he was an assistant

football coach and an assistant

basketball coach.

A graduate of Maumee high

school, Wegner was a high

school All-American in football

and an all Ohio baseballer.



Thornwood Tourney Launched

Play opens today in the first major match play tournament at Thornwood Golf Links. Owner Fred Durmwald said the 32 golfers represent the largest field for any match play event tried at the local golf course. Pairings for what amounts to the course handicap championship followed a month of qualifying rounds.

Matches will be played at full difference of handicap over 18 holes. First two rounds of play must be completed by August 24. Third round dead-



ALEX CLARK
Basketball



TOM DORMAN
Baseball



CHARLES WEGNER
Basketball Aide