

C. H. Runciman Victim At Own Hand:

Long-Time Civic Leader's Death Shocks Community

Messages Of Grief Pour In

The death of prominent Lowell businessman and community leader C. H. Runciman, Sr. in Lowell Tuesday brought an immediate outpouring of grief from government officials as well as close friends and business associates in the community.

From his Washington office, Congressman Gerald Ford of Grand Rapids issued this statement to the Ledger:

"The death of Mr. Runciman came as a blow to me, as I am sure it did to the entire community. He was a close personal friend of mine. I even presumed to call him 'Runc.' He was a fine person, a truly good human being. The people of Lowell are poorer for having lost him and so am I."

"Mr. Runciman lived a full and a good life. He knew what it meant to give of himself, and this must have brought him happiness, for a person is happy only in giving. His was a generous spirit or he would not have spent nearly four decades in service on the Lowell Board of Education or would not have performed so gladly as founder, captain and interlocutor of the Lowell Showboat. I was privileged to attend."

"Whatever he was of leaving this way of life, let us remember that Mr. Runciman gave his life to Lowell during the living of it."

Walter Gumsier, who served as superintendent of schools for many years while Mr. Runciman served as board president, said:

"In the death of our best known and most loved citizen, we acknowledge a greatness not only for the local community, but for the entire state."

Harold Englehart, president of the State Savings Bank of Lowell, declared:

"Runci was a great fellow, a really fine personal friend of mine. He did so many things for the community. I am deeply shocked at the loss of one of the finest men I ever knew."

Norm Borgerson, president of Lowell Rotary Club and a co-founder of Lowell Showboat with Mr. Runciman, stated:

"Carl Runciman lived in Lowell a little more than 50 years. He was a man who truly loved our home town. He gave without limit of his time and energy to Lowell and its people. He will be missed by all but the most by the unnumbered scores whom he had helped in one way or another. He was a man with a 'big heart.'"

William Doyle, president of Showboat, Inc., said:

"For many years, it was my privilege to be associated with Mr. Runciman in both business and civic relationships. He was an outstanding leader in all his endeavors and certainly deserved the title of Lowell's outstanding citizen."

Most people in our area know something of his many activities such as the welfare commission, Showboat leadership, 4-H affairs and countless others. (Continued on Page 3)

Ledger-Suburban Life

Serving Lowell, Ada, Cascade and Eastern Kent County

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NEWSSTAND PRICE 10c

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Seek Solution to Attempted Murder, Suicide in Twin Ada Tragedy

Tenant Turns on Owner

Teams of Kent County Sheriff's detectives were working around the clock in an attempt to solve the mystery surrounding a double shooting which occurred near Ada Tuesday afternoon.

It was a cold, gray day when the friendship of two elderly men culminated in a tragedy which left one man dead the other severely wounded.

According to Kent County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Tanner, he was returning from a call to Lowell when he was ordered to investigate a shooting in the 600 block of Pettis Avenue NE. He arrived at the address to find officer Bill Dice standing by the unconscious body of Glen Pettis, age 72, of Perkins Avenue in Grand Rapids.

When Dice arrived on the scene, finding Pettis lying in the ditch, the victim had told the officer that he had been shot by Arthur Hamlet, 68, of 421 Pettis Avenue, Ada.

Detective Tanner proceeded to that address and upon entering the house found the body of Hamlet slumped over a chair.

Bertha Hagen, age 88, reportedly of the same address, told Tanner that she had been present when Hamlet shot himself.

Following their preliminary investigation officers at present think that Pettis, who rented the house to Hamlet, was confronted by Hamlet. After he was shot, he apparently continued to drive south on Pettis Avenue toward Ada until he flagged down a car.

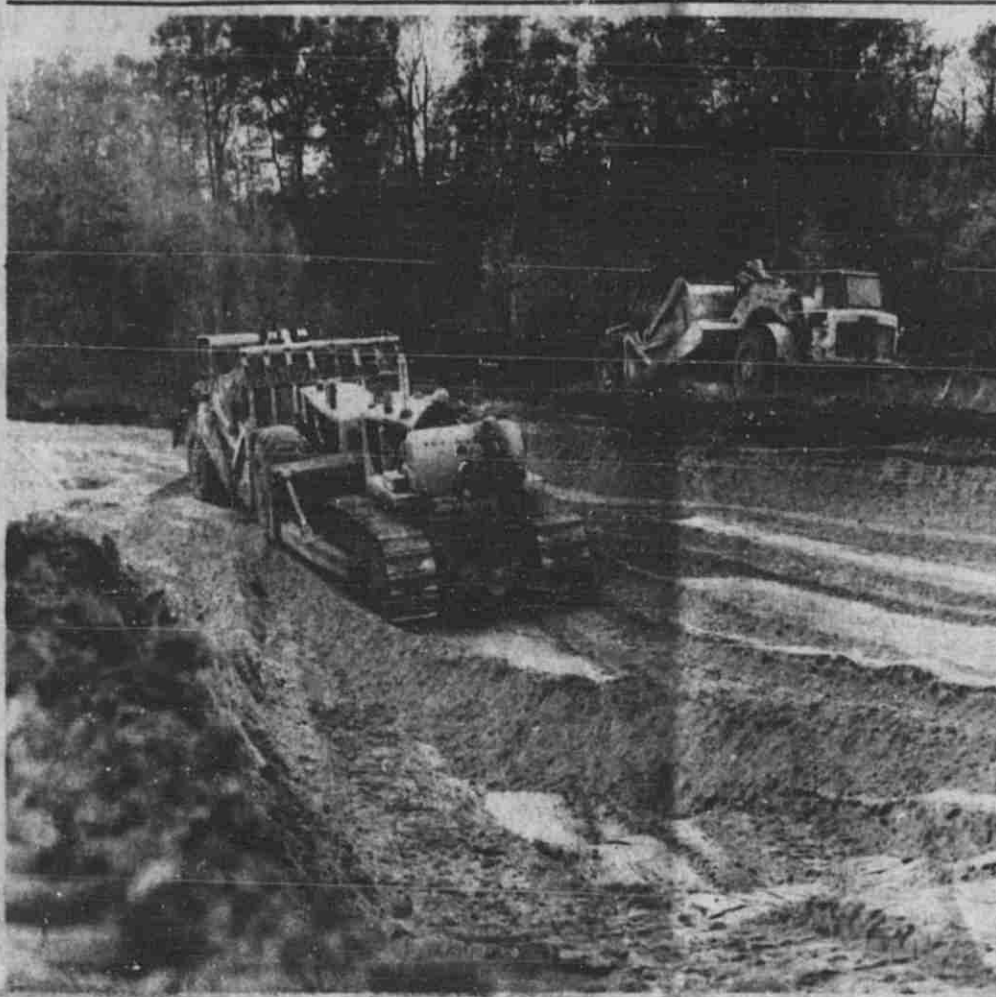
They assume the driver of the car continued to the nearest residence to phone for help. A Grand Rapids ambulance service was also called by an unknown person.

Pettis, suffering critical shotgun wounds in the abdomen, underwent surgery at Blodgett Hospital in Grand Rapids Tuesday evening.

Dark Clothing Dangerous

November marks the end of long, sunny days and the advent of winter's added hours of darkness.

This means increased danger for pedestrians, points out Automobile Club of Michigan, especially when dark clothing is worn at night.



NEXT STOP: LOWELL - Construction crews plan the project is scheduled for completion this fall with early spring set for final leg from 30th Street to the city limits link Lowell with the I-96 Freeway. The initial at M-91.

Father Doing Nicely After Rugged Night

It will probably be a long time before Norton Brower forgets the birth date of his first son.

Brower, who managed the D&W Super Market at Cascade East, was at home with his wife, Jane, early Saturday

Will Aid Needy in Forest Hills

The eleventh annual Operation Santa Claus is now in motion.

The purpose of Operation Santa Claus is to provide a Merry Christmas for children who otherwise would not have one. Last year, 130 children in the Forest Hills area participated due to the contributions of many generous people.

On November 5, an organizational meeting was held in the Foster Bishop home. Many persons from the community were on hand to offer their services.

Persons wishing to contribute to this fund may contact Father John Stanley of St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Rev. Raymond Gaylord of Cascade Christian Church or Mrs. Foster Bishop, who is chairman of Operation Santa Claus this year.

Seeks Funds

A paper drive is being launched this Saturday in the hopes of raising enough money to purchase turkeys for Thanksgiving baskets.

The sixty-two members of Club 69, all senior girls at Forest Hills High School, will be out in full force throughout the day Saturday picking up papers from community-minded residents.

Anyone desiring to contribute to the paper drive is asked to call one of the officers: Mary Sneden, president at 949-7776; Wendy Grand, secretary 949-3770; or Janet Sweeney, treasurer 949-6764.

Open House Nov. 21 at Junior High

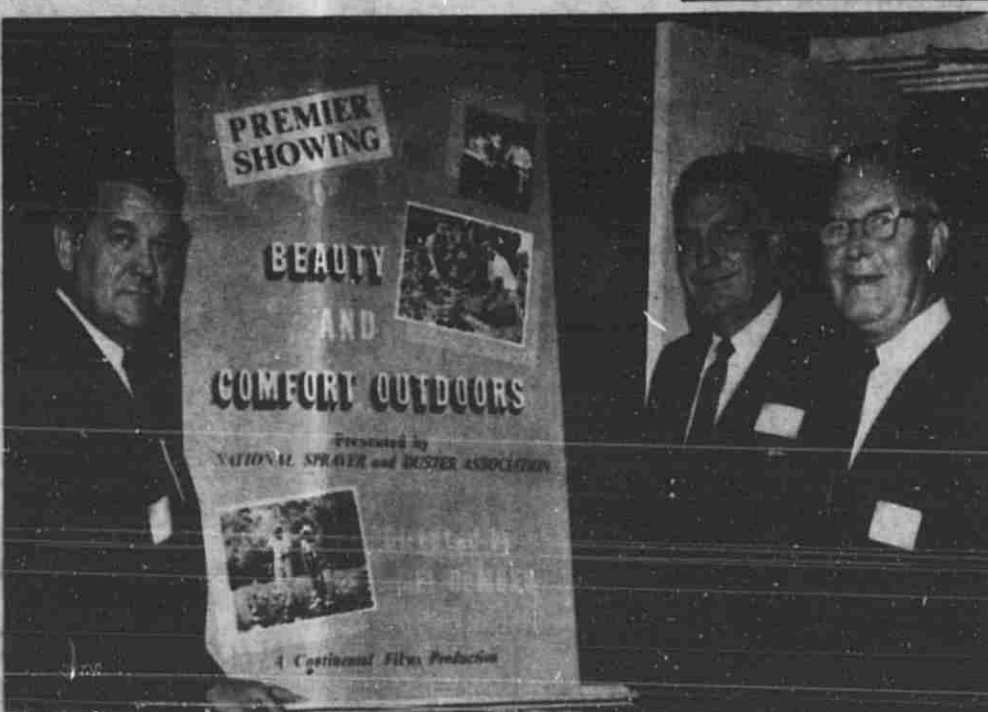
Lowell Junior High School's annual open house is scheduled for next Thursday, November 21, beginning at 7:30 p. m.

Highlights of the program will include a panel discussion of curriculum changes in effect this year at the school and an explanation of the November 25 special mileage election by Dr. Robert Reagan, president of the Board of Education.

The discussions will be held in the intermediate gymnasium.

Following this meeting, parents will meet with teachers in their respective classrooms. Coffee and refreshments will be served in the library-study hall from 8 to 9:30 p. m.

Announces that Kathy Rittersdorf has rejoined our staff of hair stylists. Call 897-7086, c2-33



PREVIEW MOVIE - Company president Richard Brash and Root-Lowell sales manager Philip L. Hauser are shown with Donald S. Watson (left), executive secretary of the National Sprayer and Duster Association, at the premiere of a special film entitled "Beauty and Comfort Outdoors" in Chicago. It will be made available for television showings and to garden clubs through the U. S.

'Mr. Lowell' Widely Known

Shocked, dazed and dismayed. These were the words of long-time friends and associates of civic and business leader Carleton H. Runciman, Sr., who died early Tuesday afternoon of self-inflicted pistol wounds.

Word of Mr. Runciman's death caught the city completely by surprise. Within minutes, telephones in the Ledger office were jammed by calls from community leaders seeking to substantiate the story.

Services for Mr. Runciman will be held Friday at 2 p. m. at Roth Funeral Home in Lowell with Reverend Robert Webber of First United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood cemetery.

Lowell police report that the incident occurred at about 12:15 p. m. in Mr. Runciman's office at the plant, located on South Broadway.

They were called to the scene after three employees reported hearing the shot that terminated the life of the man affectionately known as "Mr. Lowell".

The employees... Harold Kelly, Doris Draper and Jacqueline Raison... told Chief Avery Block they rushed to the office and found Mr. Runciman mortally wounded. They called Dr. Donald Gerard at once, then notified police.

Chief Block immediately requested assistance from the Kent County Sheriff's Department. Detective Robert Tanner answered the request as did Kent County Medical Examiner Dr. Ramon Lang, who pronounced Mr. Runciman dead on the scene of self-inflicted chest wounds.

Several friends disclosed that Mr. Runciman was despondent over continued poor health and sale of the C. H. Runciman Co. just hours before by J. P. Burroughs, Inc. of Saginaw, which purchased the concern in 1963 for a figure estimated in excess of \$1,000,000.

The latest purchase had been negotiated by King Milling Company of Lowell, whose property abuts the Runciman plant. A milling company spokesman said that Burroughs had offered to sell the Runciman storage facilities and that the transaction had been completed late Monday.

King Milling had announced plans last month to construct a new silo.

Burroughs on Tuesday released nine-month figures indicating that its total operations through September 30 showed a profit of just 3c per share on profits of \$48,000 from gross sales of \$21,125,000. Over the same period in 1967, the company returned 31c per share sales of \$20,825,000 and profits of \$446,000.

At the time of his death, Mr. Runciman was a director of J. P. Burroughs and maintained his office here. He reportedly was not active in actual administration of the plant here.

Several hours before his death, Mr. Runciman had attended a meeting of the Board of Directors of State Savings Bank, of which he served as chairman. Fellow directors indicated he was in good spirits throughout the meeting.

Grief-stricken friends, many of whom had known him since he established the firm bearing his name in 1917, paid solemn tribute to Mr. Runciman.

Speaking on behalf of the city, Mayor Arnold Wittenbach expressed the feeling of its citizens:

"We are all deeply shocked. Lowell will greatly miss Mr. Runciman. He was one of the great civic leaders of this community. We extend heartfelt sympathies to his family and his many friends and associates."

Plans to observe a period of official mourning were incomplete late Tuesday night.

Mr. Runciman came to Lowell in 1917 and quickly became prominent in business and civic affairs.

In 1920, he was elected to the Lowell Board of Education and began a 38-year period of service with that body. For 36 of those years, he acted as president of the board, and almost four decades of high school graduates received their diplomas from Mr. Runciman's hands.

As head of the board during those many years, Mr. Runciman provided the Lowell school system with steady leadership and an outstanding record of educational achievement. The citizens of Lowell felt a great loss when he had to announce his retirement, but he said at the time that, although he felt that it was time for new leaders to take on the responsibilities of education, his interest in the



C. H. RUNCIMAN

young people of the community would never diminish.

Lowell paid a small tribute to Mr. Runciman's service on the school board by naming one of the units in the school's ever-expanding educational complex "The Carleton H. Runciman Elementary Building."

Adding luster to Mr. Runciman's many years of community service was his long tenure as admiral and interlocutor of the Lowell Showboat. When the Showboat was founded in 1932 to relieve the boredom of the Depression, he was instrumental in guiding it on its successful maiden voyage.

For the following 22 years, Mr. Runciman could be seen in the pilot house of the Robert E. Lee as the boat rounded the bend each night during Showboat week. White uniform always spotless, manner dignified and at the same time jolly, he never missed a performance during the 114 trips the boat made during those years.

Aside from guiding the show at a fast pace and exchanging jokes with the endmen, "Runci" contributed much behind-the-scenes effort to Showboat's success.

Each year he put in long hours of practice with the endmen, he attended Showboat chorus rehearsals to whip up enthusiasm and often climaxed the practice sessions by treating everyone to sodas at Chris's.

He served on many committees connected with the Showboat, including the entertainment committee, which he headed for several years after his retirement as interlocutor.

The son of James H. and Elizabeth (Hartigan) Runciman, Carlton H. Runciman was born on a farm near Chelsea, Michigan, on August 14, 1889. He graduated from Chelsea High School in 1908 and entered Ferris Institute in Big Rapids, withdrawing in 1909 because of the death of his father.

Mr. Runciman then enrolled in Michigan State Normal College (Eastern Michigan University), from which he received a Life Certificate in 1911. During his college years, he participated in both track and football for two seasons.

(Continued on Page 3)

OK Liquor-by-glass, But Ordinance Strict

Sale of liquor by the glass in Cascade Township may have been approved in last week's election, but chances are that awarding of two available licenses could be a long, drawn-out affair.

Township residents endorsed the referendum by a vote of 1141 to 912, thus giving the township board and the Michigan Liquor Control Commission the right to award the licenses.

A township ordinance, adopted in December, 1962, gives the township board wide discretionary powers in approving the site or sites of prospective licenses.

It is expected that several applicants may appear next Monday afternoon when the board convenes at 1 p. m. for

its regular semi-monthly meeting in the Administration Bldg.

Two local groups took vigorous stands on the matter with Concerned Citizens of Cascade in opposition and the Cascade Economic Development Committee urging an affirmative vote.

One section of the ordinance stipulates that licenses may only be granted to bonafide restaurant operations with a minimum seating for 100, off-street parking for not less than 50 automobiles and strict traffic control from the parking lot to public highways.

The 1960 census, used as a guide by the MLCC for license consideration, allows for only two permits in the township. By 1970, it is estimated that as many as four or five licenses could be granted.

Ex-Alto Resident Now Poet

S. Paul Curtis, now a resident of Portland, Oregon, but who was born and raised in the Morse Lake area near Alto, started composing poetry about ten years ago. This literary hobby has become one of the outstanding interests of his retirement years and to date 121 of his poems have been published.

Even though he has had long love affairs with the beautiful Oregon countryside, nostalgia for his boyhood home and memories of his youth in this area have suggested many ideas for his poems.

The Ledger is pleased to present two of Mr. Curtis' poems.

THE OLD TOWN PUMP

The Old Town Pump, On the wooden walk, Stop for a drink, And have a little talk, Up to the watering trough When you drive into town, Give the horses a breather And help the ladies down. The mud hole By the Old Town Pump, Caused many a slip, To someone's jump, The old hitch rack, By the general store, Horsses cribbing 'til Their teeth were sore, You remember the smell Of that old general store, Kerosene, groceries And clothing that you wore, Dry goods, candy And a case of meat, Rubbers, leather, Just anything for your feet, Saturday nights All hitch racks were full With wagons and buggies, Good horses to pull, You did your shopping, Then attended grange, At the end of the meeting, A big feed for a change, Water lights and mud Around the Old Town Pump, Many a lad, Got quite a thump, Field day we had, In our little town, Of baseball and races, That was quite renown, The sack race and three-legged race, It was all fun, You cheered for them all, Whoever won, You loved these things, For you were a boy, Looking back at these events With the greatest of joy, There was the blacksmith shop And the apple drier.

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Pheasant Contest Winners
First Prize - Brown Hunting Coat - GEORGE McDONOUGH
Grand River Drive, Lowell 23 1/2" tall feather.
Second Prize - \$6.00 Quiver - MIKE WORD
Pinckney Road, R 2, Saranac, 23 1/2" tall feather.
Third Prize - Box Shells, any gauge - BILL FERGUSON
9665 Bennett Road, Ada, 23 1/2" tall feather.

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CAR CARE TODAY
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At what pressure does oil flow through lubrication lanes of the engine? The oil pressure gauge gives you that information.

It does not indicate the amount of oil in the crankcase. The dip stick on the side of the engine block does that.

On some cars, the oil pressure gauge is a dial with pointer. On others, lack of sufficient pressure is indicated by a red light.

Oil pressure may be likened to blood pressure in the human body. Extra high pressure usually indicates that the oil is stiff. This could be caused by cold temperatures. Avoid racing the engine under such conditions.

Cold oil must be given time to circulate properly. A smart driver always starts out at a slow rate of speed.

Watch Next Week for "Oil Pressure Gauge Warnings"

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Half Gallon **29¢**

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CROSSWORD WINNERS

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ALL GRINDS
2 1/2 lbs. **\$1.19**

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DOVE SPECIAL LABEL LIQUID DETERGENT
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TWENTY	\$20
ELEVEN	\$11
FIVE	\$5
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Slab Bacon
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Right Guard Spray Deodorant 4 fl. oz. **59¢**
Jergen's Lotion With Dispenser 14 fl. oz. **97¢**
J&J Baby Powder 9 oz. **56¢**
Gold Shield Mouthwash (Green) pt. ml. **33¢**
Gold Shield Mouthwash (Red) pt. ml. **29¢**
Spartan Alcohol pt. ml. **16¢**

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ALTO MOTHERS CLUB
The Alto Mothers Club will meet in the all-purpose room of the school on Tuesday, November 19, at 8 p. m. Robert Crump chairman of the Physically Handicapped Learning Center in Grand Rapids will speak and show a special film on the importance of visual and hearing screening.

ALTO GARDEN CLUB
Alto Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, November 20, at 2 p. m. at the Alto Methodist Church. Hostesses, Tea and Table Committee: Mrs. Hazel Yetter, Mrs. Marion Yetter, Mrs. Ruby Avery, Mrs. Mildred Statler, Mrs. Marion Stauffer and Mable Bergy.

There will be a sale with each donor pricing her own gift.

Election of officers will be held and it will be an open election.

A public hearing will be held on Thursday, November 21, 1968 at the Alto Library so that the Bowne Township voters can consider an amendment in the township zoning ordinance to permit some trailers in the township.

Township clerk, Evelyn Smith, urges a good attendance at this meeting.

ALMA FINGLETON PASSES
Mrs. Alma Fingleton, 79, nee Wingler, passed away at the Barry County Medical Facility at Hastings, on Friday, November 8th.

She is survived by 4 children, 2 sons and 2 daughters, 13 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Also one brother, Alex E. Wingler and one sister, Mrs. Frieda Russell, and a host of nephews, and nieces.

Funeral services were held in the Leonard Osgood Funeral Home on Monday, November 11th, with the Rev. Emory Price officiating. Burial was made in Bowne Center Cemetery.

Mrs. Fingleton was a native of Bowne Center and well known to many of the older residents.

Other Alto News
Mrs. Betty Livingston and children of Clarksville were Saturday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Loveland and Fred.
Owen Steckle of Freeport was a Thursday caller at the Alvir Berry home.
Mrs. William Whitmore and family of East Lansing were Sunday evening lunch guests of Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Watts.
Ron Merriman attended a party for the 10th birthday of Tim Bergy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Bergy, Wednesday, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Deming attended the wedding Saturday evening of Miss Doris Williams of Belding, and Bill Bander in the R.L.D.S. Church, Veran Bauman of Greenville was the officiating clergyman.
James Deming was a weekend guest of Mike Dodd and his parents of Muskegon.
Last Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Yetter were Mr. and Mrs. Ford Euz of Woodland and Pauline Euz of Lake Odessa.
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Yetter called on the latter's brother, Earl Kinyon and wife, Mr. Kinyon came home from Butterworth Hospital Monday.
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Fairchild and Mrs. Hazel Taylor and Eileen Taylor of Lowell, were among those who enjoyed Sunday dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Rittenger.
Mrs. Marguerite Porritt was a guest Sunday at a pre-Thanksgiving Dinner at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Heaven of Elm Dale.

Dr. Waterman To Speak at PTO Meeting
The Ada P.T.O. will have a meeting for all parents, Tuesday, November 19, 7:30 p. m. in the Multi-purpose room.

A short business meeting will be held followed by a talk by Dr. Donald Waterman. His topic will be "What to Expect of Your Child."

Teachers will exhibit some of the teaching aids they purchased at the latest Teachers Institute.

Hostess will be the fifth grade room mothers.

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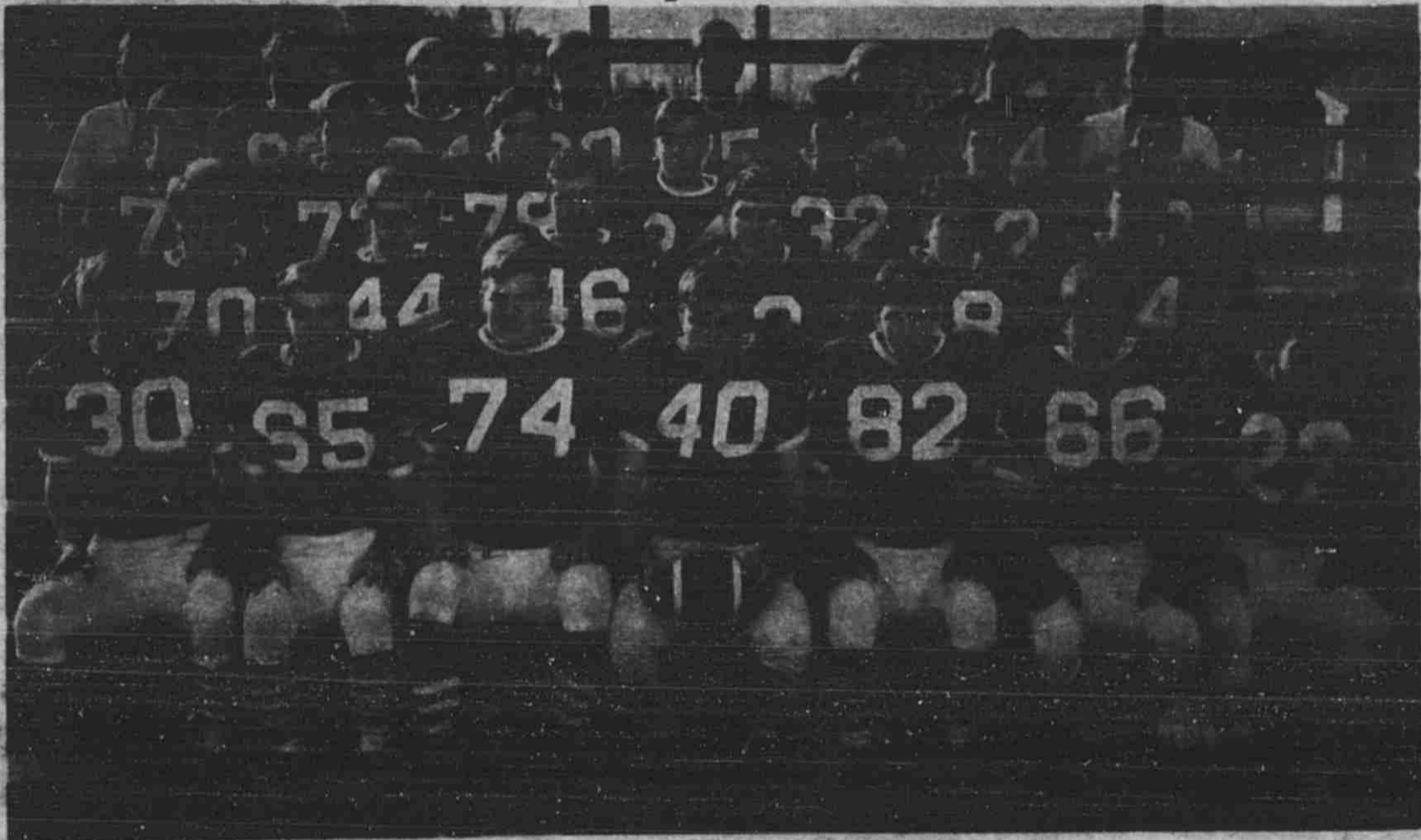
Serving Lowell, Ada, Cascade and Eastern Kent County

Section B

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1968

Area Salutes Forest Hills '77':

Teamwork Pays Off With Title



FOREST HILLS HIGH SCHOOL'S CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL TEAM - 1968

Photo by Scot Jefferies

It takes more than good players to develop a championship football program.

Organization, determination and pride... these were the basic ingredients that went into the make-up of Forest Hills High's gridiron success in the recently-completed 1968 campaign.

Under new coach Frank Rosengren, all three facets came into prominence and, with new-found spirit from the student body, parents and alumni, the Rangers blossomed into a team that attracted state-wide attention for the first time in school history.

That Forest Hills won seven of its eight games and came within a whisker of tying the

Year Makes Difference in Grid Fortunes

What a difference a year makes!

In 1947, Forest Hills High football teams managed to win just three games... and two of those were varsity triumphs in the last three games of the season.

The Rangers' overall record for 1968 was 20 wins, three losses and one tie with the varsity and junior varsity registering 7-1 records and the freshman squad posting a 6-1 effort.

other is now a matter of record. But the manner in which the transition was made is another story.

It started several weeks before practice got underway when Rosengren met with the members of the coaching staff to go over plans for the year.

"Those meetings probably were the most productive I've ever seen," explains Rosengren. "We spent hours reviewing game films of the 1967 team, then sat down to analyze our talent and what type of offense and defense could be developed to best take advantage of our strengths."

Rosengren followed by calling for a meeting of players and parents, during which he outlined plans for the season.

"When practice started," he declares, "you could sense an eagerness on the part of everyone... coaches, players and parents, to get started and see if what we had in mind would work."

Rosengren installed an intricate offense which stresses running, but which also calls for a passing quarterback. In senior Scott Wingeier, he had a willing and able student... one who could be the "sleeper" in this year's Class B signal-calling crop.

Most of Forest Hills' running plays demand time to form blocking, especially from the guards who pull out to lead interference. In many re-

spect, it resembles the Green Bay Packer offense.

"We knew going into the

'Bunk' Lauded For Standout Defense at FH

Forest Hills High out-scored its opponents, 248-75, during the 1968 season... giving the Rangers an offensive average of 31 points per game and a defensive mark of 9.4 points per contest.

Credit for the defensive efforts go to assistant coach Bernard (Bunk) Van Ark.

"He's the man who makes it work," praises Head Coach Frank Rosengren. "And you can believe me when I say that Bunk has really helped me with the offense, too."

'ABOUT-FACE' STREAKS

Forest Hills High has a six-game winning streak to carry into the 1969 season and has won nine of its last 11 starts. Prior to that, Ranger teams had gone 18 straight games without a victory dating back to 1965.

GAME FILMS AVAILABLE

Game films of 1968 Forest Hills High football contests will be available in the near future for groups wishing to view them, according to Athletic Director Ed Shy. Call the high school office (949-2410) for further information.

season that it would take three or four games before the offense really got rolling. However, the guys responded so well that things started to jell even earlier than that," added Rosengren.

The 31-year-old native of Bay City, who served six years as assistant at St. Johns High before coming to Forest Hills, often refers to his players as "the guys." This is just one of his many departures from tradition... most other coaches using terms such as "kids," "boys" or simply "players" in referring to their charges.

Two of the "guys" who attracted most attention during the drive to Forest Hills' first football title in seven years were Tackle Dan Mosher and Fullback Randy Simon.

In Rosengren's estimation, all 26 members of the varsity contributed equally to the victorious campaign.

"There was hardly a time that each and every one of them didn't contribute when called upon to do so," he declares. "It was team effort... total team effort... that pulled us together."

Teamed with Wingeier and Simon in the basic starting backfield were Stan Grochowalski and either Brad Van Sluyters or Doug Griffith, the latter a junior.

Simon's specialty was a tackle... a play that produced the bulk of Forest Hills' 2,115

yards rushing for the eight games.

Grochowalski, Van Sluyters and Griffith were utilized most effectively on off-tackle slants or wide-sweeping reverses... all designed to keep the middle open for Simon's rushes or the passing threat of Wingeier to his two favorite receivers, seniors Tom Teft and Bob VandenBos.

The 6'2" quarterback connected on 51 percent of his pass attempts (49 for 96) for 881 yards and 10 touchdowns. Only five passes were intercepted.

The Rangers' offense might have been even more volatile had Wingeier been a more effective runner. As it was, he

(Continued on 2B)

Simon Stars on Defense; Mosher, Too

Fullback Randy Simon is being boomed for all-state honors on offense, but the 5'10", 195-pound Forest Hills High senior also rates a nod for his defensive work.

Final figures disclose that Simon was the No. 1 tackler on the Rangers squad with 86... four more than Tackle Dan Mosher, a 6'2", 195-pound senior who also is receiving considerable attention for Class B all-state laurels.

Not Rated at Start, Rangers Win 6 in Row

Few high school football observers felt when Forest Hills High opened the season with a 14-7 non-league win over Rockford on September 13 that they were watching two championship teams in action.

The Rangers, who lost their next game, went on to post an overall record of 7-1 and won the Ottawa-Kent Red Division championship handily with a 5-1 mark.

Rockford repeated as champion in the Tri-River Conference, winning all seven games following its loss to Forest Hills.

Here, in capsule form, is a run-down of the Rangers season:

Forest Hills 14, Rockford 7

Forest Hills scored twice in the first half, the clincher coming on 57-yard pass-run play from Wingeier to Griffith just 14 seconds before the half. Rockford scored early in the fourth quarter, but failed to muster a further threat as the Rangers broke a five-year jinx to defeat the Rams for the first time.

Kentwood 14, Forest Hills 13

The Rangers won the battle of statistics, but lost to the opportunistic Falcons. Kentwood's only pass completion of the night helped set up the go-ahead touchdown on the first play of the fourth quarter. With 31 seconds left, Forest Hills scored on a Wingeier-to-Teft pass, but Simon was stopped short of the goal line on a plunge for the extra point. A clipping penalty in the second quarter nullified another potential scoring drive for the Rangers.

Forest Hills 34, Wyoming Pk. 0

Two scoring passes by Wingeier, one to Van Sluyters and the other to Teft, plus a 67-yard runback of an interception by Teft, paced the lopsided victory over Wyoming Park. VandenBos was assigned the job of kicking for extra points and converted four of five attempts.

Forest Hills 20, W. Ottawa 20

Forest Hills nosed into a tie for the conference lead by routing previously-undefeated West Ottawa, considered by

Title

(Continued from 1B) collected four additional six-pointers on the ground.

Simon was the leader in rushing and scoring, getting credit officially for 1,009 yards on 135 carries for an average of 7.5 yards per carry. He scored 13 touchdowns, several on long bursts up the middle against over-shifted defenses.

Grochowalski scampered to paydirt eight times and finished the season with 519 yards rushing on 74 carries for a 7.0 yard average. Griffith and Van Sluyters both posted mark of 6.0, the former carrying 33 times for 185 yards and the latter gaining 150 yards on 25 attempts.

Teft was the most proficient receiver for the Green and White, gathering in 26 passes for 554 yards (an average of 21 yards) and seven touchdowns. He also ran back two interceptions for TDs.

Grochowalski picked up 183 yards on 15 receptions and one six-pointer via the aerial route, VandenBos, whose scoring was limited to one interception runback and points-after-touchdown, caught four passes for 108 yards while Griffith scored one TD on a pass and caught two others for 80 yards. Van Sluyters reached paydirt once on two catches for 14 yards and senior end Tom Norman snared two for 23 yards.

Wingeier's understudy was Steve Cribley, a senior of whom Rosengren declares:

"I sure wish we had him coming back... he was just starting to come into his own about halfway through the season."

In all, 17 seniors will depart next June, leaving the Rangers with nine lettermen around which to mold the 1969 squad. Included among the future graduates, in addition to those mentioned previously, are guards Tom Dygert and Steve Grabarek; tackles Jim Witzel, Bill Buell, Paul Jenks and Mike Krause; end Gary Gromer; and halfback Kevin Gary.

Joining Griffith among those scheduled to return next year are halfback Joe Page, centers Rob Roy and Lyn Delake; guards Ron McCormick and Jim Meier; tackles Kurt Lin-scott and Ken Postema; and end Doug Hall.

All 26 players... plus members of the junior varsity and freshman squads... were honored Tuesday night at the annual fall sports banquet.

Way of Life Changes with Winner — Mom

(Editor's Note: Mrs. Fred (Shirley) Dygert is a regular contributor to Suburban Life. In the letter below to a friend, she reveals the transition that came with being associated this past season with Forest Hills High's championship football team.)

Dear Jeanne:

We're Number One! Our football team at Forest Hills High School took the Conference Championship. Unless this has happened to you, you can't imagine the exulting thrill of watching a team climb out of a hole and rise to the top in just one season.

You've heard of Golf Widows? Well, I am a Football Mother, which is really something else! From the first time Tom met his new coach, I had a feeling that we were in for a different kind of fall. This is known as Mom's Intuition.

That very first game was like a curtain opening on a new play and when it rang down both the audience and the critics cheered. The whole school caught the fever and the grandstands were never without a huge crowd.

"Teamwork" could sound trite, but that's what happened. Among other duties as a Football Mother, I picked up a carload of boys after practice almost every night and I never heard a gripe. Everyone was for everyone.

Coach Rosengren instilled that spirit in the boys and then he got the fathers into the act as well. Every Monday night the mothers got left home by Football Fathers as they tripped off to school to watch the films of the previous game. Once the distaff side was invited to the Inner Sanctum, too, and it was fun to relive one of those whirlwind games.

I also know how dirty those uniforms can become when the team is ploughing down the field. But who cared? I actually didn't mind soaking those white pants in the new enzymes because I wanted them to look great. That never lasted beyond the first few minutes of play.

Most of the parents arrived at the games early and grabbed the fifty-yard line seats at the top of the grandstand. We made ourselves hoarse by trying to out-yell the student body and I pounded my poor husband so hard that he may carry the bruises throughout the winter.

"That was one team we wanted to be certain we had a good 'book' on," he said. Concern for Godwin Heights was well-founded. The Rangers scored a 19-7 decision... the closest margin of the conference season except for a 14-13 loss to Kentwood.

Rosengren also pointed to the efforts of team physicians Dr. Ronald Deem and Dr. Robert E. Bakeman.

"We didn't have a critical injury all season long," he said, "and the ones we did have were treated at once and efficiently."

He also had praise for student manager Kirt Leyndkye:

"We never had to worry about equipment... either at practice sessions or during games. He did a fine job."

One of the mothers told me that her son always slept before a game... how could he? Tom ate early and then sat around. I never did say "Good Luck"... oh, there is nothing superstitious about me, nosiree. A Football Mother has to be very careful of these delicate matters.

I certainly learned the meaning of being "UP" for a game. My only worry was that the other team was going to be further "up" as the reputation of the team and its coach began to spread. Football Mothers began to read the sports pages as avidly as their counterparts. When the team became rated, we could all be heard cheering Coach Rosengren who had inspired our sons.

One thing though, I don't believe that the boys ever felt overconfident; they may have gotten well ahead, but they kept right on working to the end of the game.

In fact, the season closed all too soon... the boys and their Football Mothers and Fathers were all so geared up that I think we would have had the strength to go on for another six spectacular games. We had all found out how it feels to win... and that's great.


I imagine that everyone of those boys will get a lot more out of this season of striving for the top than they now realize. If you want to get somewhere, you have to work for it. You can't do it alone. You can't do it protesting. Those kids wanted 40 points for the coach and they got them. Then they wanted the conference and they got that. If I sound like a thrilled Football Mother, why not?

But enough... in the words of Coach Rosengren:

"Keep your poise."

Shirley

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many as a pre-season choice for title honors. Simon scored three touchdowns and Grochowalski sparked an 80-yard drive on successive reverses good for 34 and 41 yards. Grochowalski scored the tying TD that left the teams deadlocked at halftime 14-14, before a capacity homecoming crowd.

Forest Hills 19, Godwin Hgts. 7

The Rangers went into the conference lead to stay with a 19-point rally in the second half after Godwin had taken a 7-0 lead at the start of the third quarter. Grochowalski scored the tying and winning TDs. Two other Forest Hills drives in the first half reached the Godwin one-yard line, only to be stopped by the Wolverines.

Forest Hills 30, Lee 7

Wingeier scored twice on the ground and passed to Teft for another TD in the non-conference win over the Rebels. Forest Hills went 99 yards for one of its scores with the assist of a fumbled punt by Lee. The Rangers had a shutout until less than three minutes remained when a long run produced Lee's only points.

Forest Hills 46, Hudsonville 6

Nothing less than a co-championship was assured following the romp over Hudsonville in the final home game of the campaign. The 46-point total, highest in school history, was sparked by Simon's four touchdown runs and two tallies by Teft, one on a pass from Wingeier and the other on a 67-yard runback of an intercepted pass. Grochowalski scored in his sixth straight game to produce the record-setting touchdown in the closing moments.

Forest Hills 44, Rogers 14

Forest Hills cheerleaders and fans, who had chanted all season long "We're No. 1," finally were able to back the claim as the Rangers rushed to a 19-0 lead in the first quarter and coasted to their sixth straight victory. Simon scored three touchdowns and gained 204 yards to raise his season total for the season above the 1,000 yard mark. VandenBos contributed to the victory by returning a Rogers interception 28 yards for a touchdown.

Scouting Proves Help

The team effort that marked Forest Hills High's football success in 1968 was not limited to just the players.

"It took a lot of time and effort on the part of everyone to produce this team," reflects Coach Frank Rosengren.

Special two-man scouting teams were assigned to look over future opponents at least twice... and these men then manned the press box phones or worked along the sidelines when the Rangers met the rival they had scouted.

The staff consisted of junior varsity coach Paul Northuis and assistant Paul Leavenworth, freshman coach and athletic director Ed Shy and assistant Leon Schaub as well as Jim Wagner and Ben Em-den from the junior high.

Rosengren revealed that For-

est Hills scouted Godwin Heights three times.

"That was one team we wanted to be certain we had a good 'book' on," he said.

Concern for Godwin Heights was well-founded. The Rangers scored a 19-7 decision... the closest margin of the conference season except for a 14-13 loss to Kentwood.

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He also had praise for student manager Kirt Leyndkye:

"We never had to worry about equipment... either at practice sessions or during games. He did a fine job."

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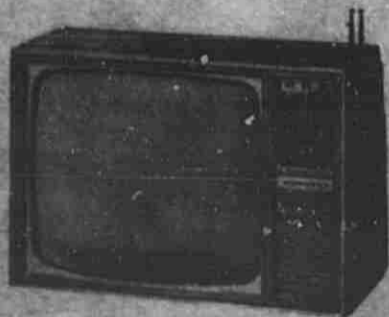


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