

## Coach Schelke optimistic

# 38 grid candidates prep for season

Nineteen lettermen are among 38 candidates working out under the watchful eye of Coach Don Schelke as the Cass City Red Hawks prepare for the 1980

grid season which opens Sept. 5.

Always optimistic, Schelke sees the Hawks in the battle for the Thumb B Conference title despite the

loss of several key players and a 6-3 record last season.

One reason may be that the race appears wide open in the Thumb B Conference this season. Defending

champion Caro will be tough and so will North Branch, Schelke believes. Cass City lost several close games last season and ended tied for fourth with North Branch.

Most observers believe that last year's squad was better than the final record indicated. A 2-point loss to Caro, a one-point loss to Sandusky and a one-

touchdown defeat by Vassar ruined the year for Hawk fans.

Cass City will need a few breaks to better last year's mark, judging by the players lost via graduation. Start with the ends, probably as fine a pair as any to play in Cass City back to the days of Bob Wallace and Tim Burdon, about 30 years ago. Ken Martin was all conference and Tim Fahrner received honorable mention even though he suffered from an injury late in the season.

Another all-conference player gone is Rusty Hoag, the quarterback.

On defense, Cass City's most aggressive player, Mike Vatter, an all-conference linebacker, and Jack Groombridge, all-conference interior lineman, leave hard shoes for Cass City to fill.

Also gone are Jim Nicol and Bob O'Dell, both of whom received honorable mention in all-conference voting.

Schelke says that the

depleted linebacking corps and the lack of experience at quarterback are the most pressing needs for the team this year.

At quarterback, a couple of seniors who won letters, mostly on defense, are battling to direct the team. Brian deBeaubien, who showed well on the Junior Varsity as a sophomore, has exhibited a fine passing touch. Brad Hartel also can pass, but has relatively little experience at quarterback. If he doesn't play quarterback, he will probably see action on defense.

Playing with the new quarterback will be a couple of outstanding backs. Rob Sawdon is lightning quick and plays much tougher than his 5-6, 164 pounds would indicate. He's a game breaking halfback. Another back counted on is Tim Sontag. He's probably Cass City's best football player. He loves to hit. Both Sawdon and Sontag will be after their third varsity letter. Another player that could go both

ways is Mike Loomis. He'll be in the offensive line and at linebacker on defense.

There are plenty of other lettermen from whom Schelke can mold this year's team. There's some size, too, but the Hawks won't be as big as they were last year. We'll be quicker this season, Schelke promises.

Among the letterwinners with size are Scott Stine, 190 pounds; Jim Jensen, 225 pounds; Dave Whittaker, 210 pounds; Jerry Page, 245 pounds, and Randy Stine, 210 pounds.

The Hawks have just one week to iron out the wrinkles. They open at home, Sept. 5, against Standish-Sterling.

The schedule:  
Sept. 5 Standish, home  
12 Lakers, away  
19 Caro, home  
26 Bad Axe, away  
Oct. 3 North Branch, away  
10 Sandusky, home  
17 Marlette, away  
24 Vassar, home  
31 Mayville, away



THE 1980 RED HAWK FOOTBALL TEAM - Seated on floor, from left: Managers Brian Adkins and Gary Crickon. First row: Scott Stine, Danny Stine, Clayton Harmer, Tim Sontag, Rob Sawdon, Mike Loomis, Doug Sowden, Kent Wischmeyer.

Second row: "Buck" Zawilinski, Brad Hartel, Tom Loomis, Leslie Loomis, Shawn Papp, Brian deBeaubien, Randy Severance, Jim Jensen, Dave Whittaker.

Third row: Trainer Dave Lockwood, Terry Sweeney, Steve Steely, Brian Moore, Doug Hyatt, Phil Tuckey, Darryl Hoag, Greg Hutchinson, Steve Hollis, Jerry Page.

Fourth row: Coach Don Schelke, Dave Osentoski, Blake Fisher, Joe Kappen, Tim Horner, Jim Crickon, Chuck Erla, Joe Decker, Jim Adkins.

## Charmont bows in regional tourney

It was a short regional fast-pitch tourney for Charmont of Cass City at Owosso last week end.

The team bowed to Owosso Retailers, 2-0, in the opening round. Cass City was able to collect just three hits. Al Bosch pitched his usual good game for Charmont but

his teammates were unable to get anything going behind him.

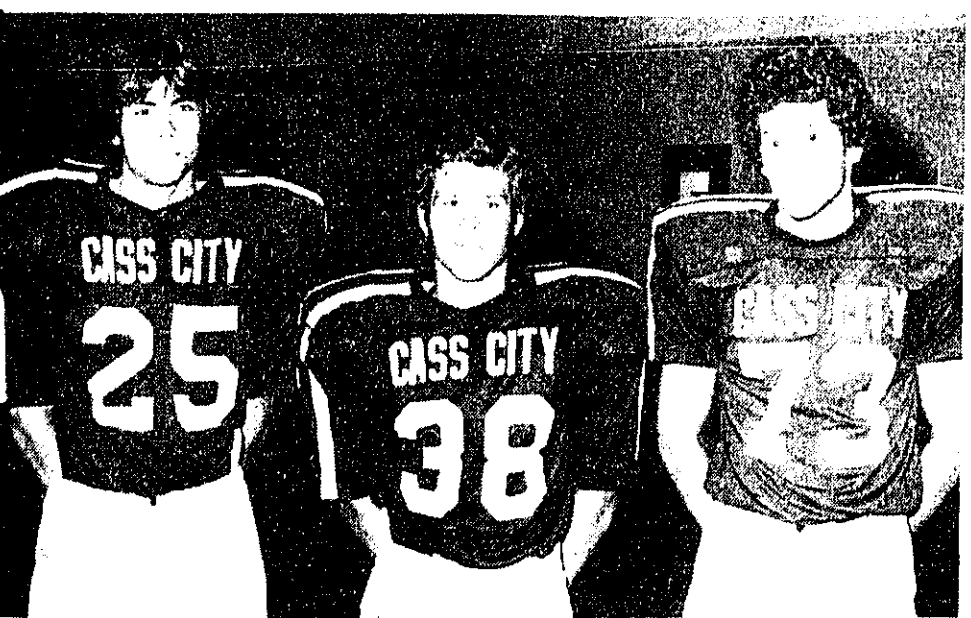
In the second game Oakland Community College won in 11 innings, 2-1. Charmont had two chances earlier to put away the game but spectacular fielding by Oakland quelled the rallies. Brian Helwig took the loss.



DEFENSE LETTERMEN returning include, front row, Randy Stine, Shawn Papp and Jim Jensen. Back row: Mike Loomis, Tim Sontag, Buck Zawilinski and Brad Hartel. Some of the veterans will see duty both on offense and defense.



OFFENSIVE LETTERMEN - Front row: Scott Stine, Clayton Harmer, Dave Whittaker and Jerry Page. Second row: Brian deBeaubien, Tom Loomis, Rob Sawdon, Doug Sowden.



LEADING THE TEAM this fall will be these seniors, named co-captains: Tim Sontag, Rob Sawdon and Mike Loomis.

## Cass City police team wins 5-county pistol shoot

Cass City police officers Don Miller, Phil Klaus and Duane Sprague won first place Saturday in the Class C division of the Thumb Area Law Enforcement Pistol Shoot near Sandusky.

The trio took first in the three-man team competition.

The first annual event, sponsored by the Sanilac County Sheriff's Depart-

ment, was open to all law enforcement departments in Sanilac, Tuscola, Huron, Lapeer and St. Clair counties.

The officers shot at the targets at various distances.



READY TO HELP the Hawks to victories are these cheerleaders. First row: Brenda Langenburg, Bobbi MacKay, Alesia Hoag, Leah Britton. Second row: Dawn Herron, Tammie Tibbits, Deb Golding, Chris Buehrly.



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