

# shirley povich

Sports Editor, The Washington Post



DEFENSIVE STANDOUT — Bill Overmyer of Fremont, considered by Ashland College Coach Fred Martinelli as one of the top defensive members of the Eagles, has piled up 178 tackles in his two seasons with Ashland. The 6-2, 225-pound senior helped spearhead the defense, which allowed only 11 points per game in 1970.

### Musical Chairs

WASHINGTON — Bob Short wants to keep the Senators in Washington. Meanwhile, Bob Short is preparing to move them to Dallas. Bob Short does not intend to ask the American League to vote him permission to move the team. "But," says Bob Short, "I might." Bob Short says nobody has actually offered to buy the Senators. "But," Bob Short says, "it's not likely I'll be in baseball next year."

was, pleading for a better deal on his Kennedy Stadium rental. The man who will have the most impact on the meeting of the owners is Bowie Kuhn, the baseball commissioner. Kuhn personally will take to the owners his report on the actual state of Short's finances and the degree of the Senators' distress, an assessment in which American League president Joe Cronin will figure. For Kuhn, saving the Senators for Washington has become an important personal challenge in view of his frequent declarations that the team should not be moved. Kuhn's ability to sway the owner's votes, with only four needed to stymie a move by Short, will be under test if a vote is called for. Owner esteem for Kuhn has been growing.

land's Vernon Stouffer, who may be planning a move. Also, Short would have the support of those baseball businessmen who have declared, "We can't let him go bankrupt."

Jerold Hoffberger, Baltimore owner, has been the most vigorous opponent of a move by Short. He counts two other votes against Short as certain. The decisive fourth vote may be that of the New York Yankees, whose Mike Burke told the Washington Post, "The league bears a responsibility toward Washington fans after permitting Short to buy the team when he was under-financed. But it is useless to speculate on any vote until we hear the full report on Short's troubles."

Meanwhile, in response to Short's claim that no firm offers have been received from prospective Washington buyers, Kuhn reportedly has told Joseph E. Danzansky and Bill Veeck to submit their proposals in writing.

### All the Facts

A sameness of sentiment with respect to the meeting in Boston was reflected in a survey of several of the league's club owners by the Washington Post. "We'll wait until all the facts are laid on the table before we decide what our vote will be," was the common reaction. An Associated Press report that Short was assured the required nine votes to move was generally greeted with skepticism.

On the nature of the Kuhn-Cronin report, the destiny of the Senators will probably be decided. Short's critics predict that the club's books will reveal that his alleged \$3 million in losses in three years is an exaggeration, that much of that sum is a matter of bookkeeping, and that the actual operational losses are not great in view of the attendance figures.

The general manager of one American League team pointed out, "in 1969-1970, Short drew more than 1,700,000 attendance at the highest per capita admission price in the American League, with teams that finished far out of it. Bad front-office management is the only way to lose money on those figures."

There were references to Short's extravagances in overloading the payroll of the team and the unpopular deals he made for the team as a novice owner, and in the absence of a general manager. "Why transfer the league's problems from Washington to Dallas?" Was the question put by an owner who asked not to be identified.

### No Speculation

Short's strength in any vote to move lies among those owners like Charley Finley and Calvin Griffith, who have moved a franchise, or those like Cleveland's...

### Royals Open Exhibition Competition

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati Royals play their first exhibition game tonight at Clinton, Iowa with the Chicago Bulls, but without the services of Rookie Forward Ken Durrett or Veteran Center Darrell Imhoff.

Durrett, who reportedly signed a \$1.4 million multi-year contract, suffered a knee sprain Sunday in an intra-squad game.

The Royals meet Chicago again at Mount Prospect, Ill. Wednesday and Cleveland at Kent State University Thursday.

The Royals placed three veterans on waivers and cut another player. Waived were Bob Arzen, Tom Black and Moe Barr. John Mathis, a free agent, was cut.

Bob Short is the master of the "but," and the highly creative architect of confusion. Which is why the Senators are in flux, their destiny uncertain and a reading of Short's intentions impossible. With his riddles in semantics, Short, octopus-like, emits an inky murk at all attempts to get a true fix on his plans for the team.

More of the facts of Dallas' offer to Short have become available. In addition to a low-interest \$7 1/2 million line of credit that would enable him to consolidate the heavy debts he has amassed in Washington, Short has been guaranteed long-term television revenue of \$1 million a year; one dollar a year rent on the city-owned stadium at Arlington, Texas, midway between Fort Worth and Dallas, until the attendance reaches one million and 25 per cent of the gross concessions revenue.

### Time Factor

The meeting of the 12 American League club owners in Boston today was originally called to hear a report on Short's, and the Senators', financial condition, but with time becoming a factor Short may request permission to move.

Short is keeping all his options open, which is one reason for his stream of contradictions when questioned as to his plans. He is keeping Dallas, any prospective Washington buyers, the Armory Board, the league owners and his creditors on the hook. At the same time he was negotiating with Dallas bankers he

### J. Simpson To Play in Seven Tiffs

The John Simpson Bulldogs, under the coaching of Virgil Whims, will open their 1971 football season Sept. 25 against Wooster at John Sherman.

The 40-member Bulldog squad will play a seven-game schedule, which ends Nov. 4. Greg Knackstadt, Stan Tillman and Edward Williams are returning lettermen.

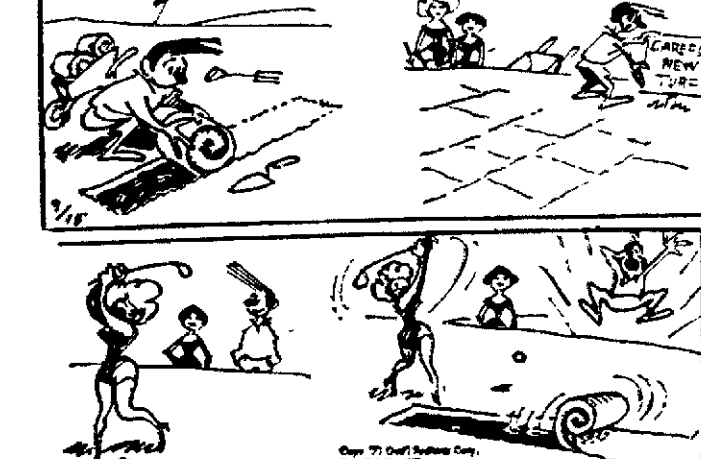
JOHN SIMPSON BULLDOGS  
COACH: Virgil Whims. ASSISTANTS: John Malters, Mike Ogden, Jeff Davis.  
1971 ROSTER

Player	Pos	WT
Tony Bluester	G	130
Tony Taylor	HB	135
Harlan Brown	FB	125
Norm Cushing	G	140
Maurice Davis	T	187
Dave Fox	T	150
Walt Furman	G	135
Sylvester Ginn	E	155
Lute Glenn	HB	130
Charles Gordon	HB	130
Vince Harford	T	140
Ken Henry	T	140
Mike Hill	E	130
John Jekich	E	130
Tom Keen	C	180
Greg Knackstadt	C	180
Barry Lawrence	QB	125
Van Leech	T	130
Don Mahone	C	135
Jeff Martin	HB	105
Mike Mason	FB	185
Don Matthews	E	130
Jeff Merrill	FB	120
Nate Moore	FB	120
Horace Montgomery	G	125
Sam Morris	T	150
Mike Pate	G	140
Paul Petrella	G	125
Tony Morris	E	110
Bill Simpson	HB	125
Tom Simpson	HB	110
Lloyd Tate	T	140
Adolphus Taylor	T	155
Don Tolt	E	140
Stan Tillman	HB	110
Lamar Washington	E	135
Dave Williams	QB	145
Edward Williams	HB	120
Robert Winston	HB	120
Robby Yeager	FB	120

(X—denotes letterman.)  
JOHN SIMPSON JR. HIGH  
1971 SCHEDULE  
Sept. 25—Wooster at Sherman, 11 a.m.  
Sept. 28—Madison at Stadium, 4:30 p.m.  
Oct. 4—Sherman at Arlin, 1:15 p.m.  
Oct. 11—Ashland at Stadium, 4:30 p.m.  
Oct. 18—Appelstedt at Arlin, 7:15 p.m.  
Oct. 20—Garden, 9 a.m.  
Oct. 27—Madison South, 4:30 p.m.

### LITTLE SPORT

By Rouson



# Martinelli Praises Opening Game Effort Ashland Preps for Second 1971 Battle

By FRANK H. VALK  
ASHLAND — "Getting better" is always anticipated.

Ashland College Coach Fred Martinelli sees it as a necessity regardless of the fact that the Eagles' opening contest backed up pre-season optimism.

"It was the best played opening game by two teams that I have ever seen," Martinelli said, commenting on the Eagles' 20-7 victory Saturday over Capital University. "Capital played and executed well and we played and executed just slightly better."

"We still have some areas that have to be worked on. For instance I'm very concerned with our kicking game and our passing attack wasn't what I would like it to be. Our interceptions and inability to pick up any more yardage than we did is a real problem."

With this in mind, Martinelli plays on drilling the offense into a more viable passing team, which will be an important factor when the Eagles take on Otterbein Saturday at Otterbein.

The Eagles have proved what they could do on the ground, looking to backs Larry Johnson, Jon Viar and Marc Bernard, who combined for 193 yards against Capital. That won't be enough against Otterbein, who edged Kenyon College, 15-14, in its season opener.

"I don't think Otterbein is going to let us run as much," Martinelli commented. "They have a stronger defensive team

than a year ago and they're a lot tighter (in giving up ground yardage). That's why we have to be able to throw the football."

With the Capital game as an indication the Eagle defense should be prepared for Otterbein.

Martinelli was very pleased with the way the defensive ends and backs were able to contain Capital's option play, which it runs the triple option better than any college division

team he has seen. Ashland will have its work cut out again this weekend with what Martinelli figures to be a very quick offense.

"Otterbein uses a professional type offense where they do a lot of quick pitching, sweeping and passing," he said.

Against Kenyon Otterbein used three quarterbacks, including third stringer Gary Miller who directed the squad to its victory.

## Plymouth Talented

PLYMOUTH — The Plymouth High School cross country team is talented, according to Coach Bob James. Although it faces nine tough meets on the remainder of its schedule, James said it could easily win its sectional meet and go the state Class "A" meet.

"The top five runners on the team are all in the range of 10 to 11 minutes. Our two top runners, Senior Tim Nesbitt and Freshman

Ken Lucas, have already broken our school record.

PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL  
1971 CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE  
Sept. 21—at Ashland junior varsity  
Sept. 22—at Crestline  
Sept. 28—at Crestview  
Sept. 30—at Ontario  
Oct. 5—Colonel Crawford  
Oct. 12—at Mapleton  
Oct. 19—Seneca East  
Oct. 26—at Johnny Appleseed Conference, Crestview  
Oct. 21—Willard  
Oct. 26—Loudonville

ROSTER  
SENIORS — Tim Nesbitt (xxx), Jim Sutter (xx), Charlie Steele.  
JUNIORS — Mike Adams, Mike Redden, Larry Bowman.  
SOPHOMORES — Brad Buzard, Jim Kimberlin.  
FRESHMEN — Ken Lucas, Earl Strine, Ed Waddles, Mel Kimberlin, Steve Adams.  
(x—denotes number of years lettered).



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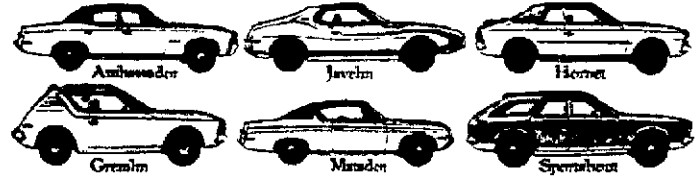
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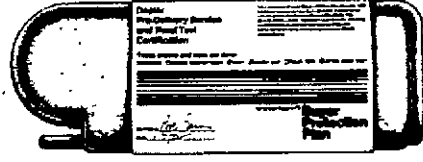
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