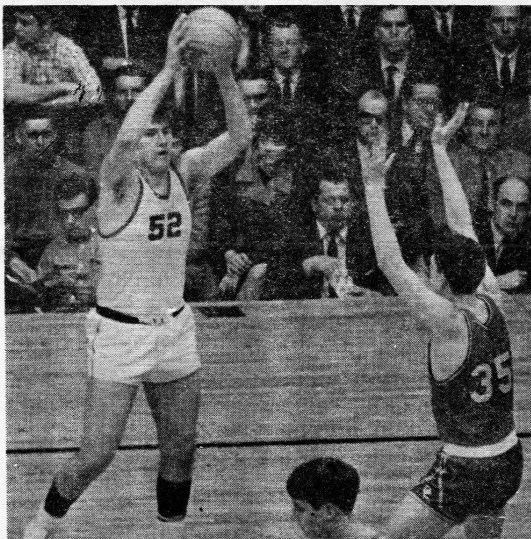


**Winter coaches predict:**

# Good seasons ahead



## Hockey coach optimistic

"We have nine lettermen returning and that's a pretty good reason to be optimistic," commented Head Coach Gordy Genz about the hockey team.

The Rams make their first outing Nov. 27 at 8:00 P.M. against Harding in the traditional Thanksgiving Day contest at Aldrich Arena.

The first exhibition game with a Conference team will be against Coon Rapids, 6:00 P.M. at Columbia. "Both of these games should be good ones," said Genz.

Nine games on this year's twenty game schedule will be played at the Roseville Arena.

Something changed in this year's scheduling is that instead of playing each team in the Conference twice, the schedule is arranged in a single round robin.

The High School League also lengthened the season. This means more exhibition games and since some Conference teams are played twice, only the second game will count.

A few highlights in the exhibition schedule this year, according to Genz, will be the

Harding game, the Dec. 27 clash with Rochester John Marshall, and annual Ramsey-Warroad classic on Dec. 30 and a contest with Bemidji Feb. 6.

"The conference race this year should be fairly good too. When you're playing with teams from one of the toughest two leagues in the State, you're bound to get

a good race, and it's hard to pick a favorite," said Genz.

The nine returning pucksters are Tim Anderson, Mark Czaia, Dale Wessel, and Steve Curley on defense; Ward Morgan, goalie; and Mike and Pat Phippen, Dale Ahrens, and Dave Kath on the front line.

## B-ball - tall, talented but untested team

Ramsey's basketball team opens its 1969-70 season Saturday at home against Rochester Mayo who was one of only four teams to defeat the Rams last year.

The Spartans used a tough full court zone press to win a year ago, 63-61 in overtime. With an apparent weakness at guard, the Rams may have more troubles than last season, when Tom Steiner and Rick Webb were probably the top pair of guards in the state.

The Blue and White opens the Suburban Conference season a week from tomorrow night, against arch-rival Mounds View, at Mounds View. Ramsey won last year 77-55, on the way to conference, district and region titles.

Losing eight lettermen and four starters, inexperience will undoubtedly affect this club's

early progress. However, the situation really isn't all that grim for Head Coach Bob Erdman's crew.

The veteran coach has a wealth of tall and talented, though untested, personal. Captain Bill Cafferty, a regular last year, senior lettermen Steve Sigstad, Jim Meehan, John Hass, and Bob Strommen, and juniors Dan Carlson, Dave Bonestroo and Howie Merriam provide a strong nucleus. All are at least six feet tall.

Erdman believes this front line could be "as good or better than last year."

Sizing up the season ahead, Erdman believes the tough early schedule may put his charges out of the conference race, where South St. Paul ranks as favorite. But he hopes for continued improvement toward a possible district title.

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## Coming Sports Events

- Fri., Nov. 21- Wres. vs. White Bear, here, 7:30
- Sat., Nov. 22- B-ball vs. Roch, Mayo, here, 7:30  
Swim, Conference Relays, Hamline
- Tues., Nov. 25- B-ball vs. M.V., there 7:30  
Wres. vs. M.V., here 7:30  
Swim vs. White Bear, St. Thomas
- Thurs., Nov. 27 Hock vs. Harding,  
Roseville Arena, 8:00
- Sat., Nov. 29 Hock vs. Coon Rapids,  
Columbia, 6:00