

All In The Game



A Big Loss For Ross High

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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.



Don Purvis

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.