

John Tuskie finds big opening in West Catholic's tuneup for 1943 City Title Game with Northeast.

# Sight of Red Ink Drives Shark Crazy

By DICK WEISS

Last year, for the second time in three seasons, Coach Jack (Shark) McGuinn's Malvern Prep team was the great white monster that devoured the highly competitive Interac League.

The tiny private school in Chester County, which has an enrollment of only 270 boys, jawed its way to a second consecutive championship since it entered the league in 1950, putting the finishing touches on a 10-0 season with a blowout of St. Joseph's Prep.

Now, however, Malvern is swirling in troubled waters. The athletic program was nearly washed out last spring by a tidal wave of red ink. Even though an influx of last-minute contributions from parents and alumni cut considerably into the \$200,000 deficit, Malvern's future is still like a swimmer's in undertow.

So is the future of the Interac League, oldest in the area.

"I DON'T SEE how they can survive," said one Interac official. "In fact, I think we made a big mistake by not admitting Hill School last summer. If Malvern folds, that will leave only four

football-playing schools. We may have to all go independent. Nobody wants that."

Least of all does McGuinn, who works full-time for an advertising firm and coaches Malvern as a hobby. In the last seven years, McGuinn has taken a school that once lost 16 consecutive league in the late 1960s and constructed a miniature dynasty.

"I'm more sure about the school staying open

## INTERAC

— for at least three more years — than I have been during any time in the past seven years I've been here," McGuinn claimed.

He points to the following factors:

- The takeover of the school by lay administrators who are, in McGuinn's view, "running the school like a business."
- There are still 202 upperclassmen, plus 70 freshmen, even though the tuition has been hiked to \$2,200 a year.
- The increased revenue generated by alumni

fund-raising drives, one which netted \$50,000 at a benefit cocktail party.

"DON'T KID YOURSELF," said another source. "Other schools in this league are running under the same deficit spending. The Augustinians just made the mistake of announcing it."

The truth never hurts. "That may be true," McGuinn said, "but we've even had seven-eight transfers this year and we haven't lost a single athlete in football or basketball after the scare last spring."

Part of the reason might be that both sports have a high rate of college placement. Malvern has players at Princeton, Penn, Brown, Penn State, Georgia, Miami, Temple, Villanova and Delaware.

Malvern's best over the past five years has included Wally Shields, who could start as a sophomore fullback at Brown; Herb Beck, an All-State tackle who could play varsity as a freshman at Georgia; Mike Cappelletti, brother of Heisman Trophy winner John Cappelletti and a fullback on scholarship at Penn State; and Brian Ameche, an All-Ivy tackle last year as a senior at Yale.

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