



Tim Lambert of Marple Newtown is sent flying by Springfield tackler Bob Blair.

Staff Photo by BERT HODGE

Air filled with footballs

Peterson, M-N escape Cougars' air assault

By BOB FRANKLIN
Daily Times Staff Writer

MARPLE — Marple Newtown High quarterback Jock Peterson, who had a sparkling season opener last week when he gained 94 yards in 14 carries to lead his team over West Chester East (8-6), was a marked man here Saturday in the Tigers' Central League inaugural against Springfield.

The Cougars did a great job of containing him most of the time.

But one time they didn't and Peterson — on a 67 yard touchdown run — proved to be the difference in a 20-14 Marple Newtown victory.

Peterson's escape came with 1:52 left in the half and MN ahead, 14-8.

The Tigers were facing third-and-12 when Peterson started to his left, reversed his field and went all the way to stake the Tigers to a 20-8 halftime lead.

The Tigers started the contest as if they were going to deal their former Thanksgiving Day rival a shellacking to remember.

They scored on two of their first three possessions to go up 14-0 and Springfield, trying to establish a running game, was being harnessed effectively by MN's fired-up defense.

The complexion changed, however, when Springfield quarterback John Pauling limbered up his throwing arm and gave Coach Bob Kenig's pass defense an afternoon it won't soon forget.

He threw 45 passes, and even though he completed only 16, he hit when it counted to spark two TD drives.

In Springfield's last two possessions of the game, Pauling's passing sparked a 70 yard drive that was stopped at the 10 and an 18-yard drive that was cut short when time ran out with Springfield on MN's 22.

Two other Cougar threats were

stopped on end zone pass interceptions by Kurt Worley and Ed Mirra.

Worley pilfered a Pauling toss in the second quarter after a 58-yard drive had moved the ball to the MN 7.

Had the Cougars scored the game would have been tied with the conversion try to come.

Mirra's third quarter interception was just as vital.

Springfield, trailing 20-14, got a chance to take the lead when Greg Stevenson intercepted a MN pass at the MN 12 and a half-the-distance penalty moved it to the 6.

Pauling threw one incomplete, then Mirra made a diving steal in the end zone.

"A few more games like this one and the one last week and I'm not going to last the rest of the season," quipped a much-relieved Kenig.

"We can play better pass defense than we did today. We were not hitting their receivers at the line. We just let them slide by and get out there to catch passes," he complained.

"One kid who really came through for us on pass defense was Chris Horton.

"He is a reserve linebacker I put in for the last part of the game and he made some clutch plays...some great plays."

Kenig paused a second, then added, "I said Chris is a reserve? Well, he might not be next week. He showed me a lot today," said Kenig.

Another impressive part of MN's victory was the first period job done by the offensive line.

Tim Lambert, on a TD run of 26 yards, and George Schmidt, on a scoring sprint of 15 yards, had gateways that looked like the mouth of the Mississippi River.

Both pathways were carved off right tackle where Tom Calvert plays alongside end Craig Wolf and guard Eric Rice.

"Execution on those two plays had to be near perfect. That means that the whole offensive line did its job," said Kenig, who proudly announced that the others guys up front are center Scott Lehman, left guard Perce Alston, and left tackle Jeff Walder.

MN's first TD was set up by Walder, who recovered a Springfield fumble at the Springfield 37 on the first offensive play of the game.

The second score was on a 46-yard drive that took five plays, including a 16-yard run by Lambert.

Lambert was MN's leading gainer with 114 yards in 18 carries. Peterson had 75 in eight tries as the Tigers had 278 yards total offense, which was all rushing yardage.

Mirra added 42 yards in eight carries, Schmidt 30 in three and Worley 18 in six.

Springfield gained 225 yards, including 199 passing.

Steve Carfagno caught six for 84 yards, Mike Marone three for 47, George Schmidt (Yes, Springfield has a George Schmidt, too), three for 22, Frank Groome two for 23, Eric Hakun one for nine and Greg Stevenson one for four.

Schmidt (5 yards) and Groome (19 yards) made TD catches.

Springfield's touchdown drives were for 69 yards on 12 plays and 53 yards on six plays.

SPRINGFIELD 0 8 6 0 — 14

MARPLE NEWTOWN 14 6 0 0 — 20

MN — Lambert 26 run (kick failed)

MN — Schmidt 15 run (Peterson run)

S — Schmidt 5 pass from Pauling (Carfagno pass from Pauling)

MN — Peterson 67 run (run failed)

S — Groome 19 pass from Pauling (pass failed)

★ Eagles finally win an opener.
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SPORTS

Monday, September 19, 1977

'He makes team go'

O'Hara flips Friars with VanHorn missing

By GREG GREENDAY
Daily Times Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD — A few years ago, when Bob Ewing was an assistant coach at St. James High, a youngster named Pat VanHorn was making a good bit of noise in the CYO Football League.

VanHorn's thunder could be clearly heard at 21st & Potter Sts. in Chester, but the former Our Lady of Charity quarterback declined to attend St. James despite Ewing's efforts to make him a Bulldog.

Instead, VanHorn elected to go to Malvern Prep.

Sunday afternoon at Springfield High School, Bobby Ewing and Pat VanHorn met again. Only this time Ewing was not trying to recruit him he was trying to beat him — and the Cardinal O'Hara head coach had his hands full in the process.

O'Hara eventually wore down the Inter-Ac champions, 24-14, but Mr. VanHorn made his presence felt.

"I remember trying to get VanHorn to come to St. James," Ewing recalled. "I was really disappointed when we didn't get him, but I'll tell you the truth, I'm sure glad now that he didn't wind up at St. James."

VanHorn gave the powerful Lions all they could handle and more before leaving the contest late in the third quarter with a badly bruised sternum.

When the Friar's junior signal-caller was forced to leave the contest, Malvern was enjoying a 14-10 lead. But the Lions sensed that without VanHorn, Malvern was not the same club and they quickly took advantage of the situation by putting two unanswered touchdowns on the scoreboard to secure their second straight win of the young campaign.

"Pat is a helluva ball player," Ewing said afterwards. "There's no question that Malvern missed him in the final quarter. I just hope that his injury wasn't too serious. He makes that team go."

O'Hara jumped off to a 3-0

lead midway through the first stanza when Steve Siano booted a 28-yard field goal, but Malvern stormed right back to take the lead on its next possession.

On second and 10 from his own 43-yard line, VanHorn rolled right and lofted a perfect strike to wide receiver Rich Jones (another Our Lady of Charity standout) to give Malvern a first and goal on the O'Hara one.

On the next play, VanHorn sneaked over for the score and Trooper Sullivan added the PAT to give the Friars a 7-3 lead.

Ewing's Lions then displayed the class and poise of a championship team when they set sail on a 12-play, 73-yard scoring march capped by Steve Andrien's one-yard plunge with 16 seconds left in the first half. Siano booted the extra point as O'Hara took a 10-7 lead into the locker room.

VanHorn wasted little time as he directed his troops to a quick score as the second half started.

A 47-yard aerial to Shaun Holway accounted for the second TD for the Friars, and VanHorn had once again put Malvern on top, 14-10.

But tragedy was about to strike the Preppers in the form of a solid hit.

On a first-and-10 situation from his own 39, VanHorn was about to get off a pass when he took a crunching shot from a furious O'Hara pass rush. The ball floated into the eagerly awaiting arms of linebacker Jim Myers and suddenly, the Lions were staring at a golden opportunity.

Two plays later, O'Hara QB Jim Wenke found Brian McCann behind the Malvern secondary for a 36-yard scoring play and for all intents and purposes, the contest was over.

The Lions added another score midway through the final quarter when Ed Tulski scampered in from 14 yards out to wrap up the scoring for the afternoon.

"I'm really happy about our kids' performance today," said Ewing. "We knew that

Malvern was going to be tough, but we practiced hard all week and we were ready for them.

"They really didn't do anything that we weren't expecting," he continued. "We knew that they would run from the Delaware Wing-T and we knew that they would run well. After all, they were ranked sixth in the entire state, so you knew we would be in for a good game. And that's just what they gave us."

Despite the impressive showing of Pat VanHorn, the Lions kept the Malvern defensive unit on the field for the majority of the contest as they ate up huge chunks of yardage with virtually every possession.

"I think the greatest thing about our kids is their attitude," Ewing said. "They are probably the finest group of young men I've ever had the pleasure of working with. Each and every one of them are gentlemen."

Well, they may be gentlemen, coach, but true to their nickname, they sensed a kill when VanHorn was injured and they rapidly moved in to take their prey.

The Lions may not be featured in Gentleman's Quarterly magazine any time in the near future — at least not for their football exploits but they certainly should garnish plenty of attention in the Southern Division of the Catholic League before this season draws to a close.

Off the field, Ewing's charges are undoubtedly fine upstanding young men, but once they put on the O'Hara colors, they become killers.

And you can be sure that they'll be stalking a city title to take home to their lair.

MALVERN 0 7 7 0 — 14
O'HARA 3 7 7 7 — 24
O'HARA — FG Siano 26
MALVERN — VanHorn 1 run (Sullivan kick)
O'HARA — Andrien 1 run (Siano kick)
MALVERN — Holway 47 pass from VanHorn (Sullivan kick)
O'HARA — McCann 36 pass from Wenke (Siano kick)
O'HARA — Tulski 14 run (Siano kick)

Murtha scores TD

Ridley defense stops St. Mark's

By DICK BOWMAN
Daily Times Correspondent

RIDLEY TOWNSHIP — It looked as though it was going to be a long, long afternoon for the Green Raiders of Ridley High Saturday as the Spartans of St. Mark's ripped through the Ridley defense on their first possession of the game, picking up big yardage and covering 55 yards on their first 10 plays.

Ridley finally halted the Spartans on the five yardline and was able to march out of trouble to the St. Mark's 36, where it was forced to punt.

That was the beginning of a tight defensive battle that saw first one team, then the other battle towards the goal line.

For 40 minutes and two seconds, neither team was able to put points on the board. Ridley got as close as the St. Mark's two, but St. Mark's defensive end Henry Szymanski recovered a Ridley fumble.

Defense dominated the game as Pete Politarhos, Shawn Duffy and Mike Christie led Ridley in stopping Spartan thrusts. St. Mark's linebackers Floyd Thompson and Mike Choma plugged hole after hole to halt Ridley drives.

Linemen John Bradley and Szymanski also made big de-

fensive plays for the visitors, but Ridley kept coming at them and finally wore St. Mark's down in the fourth quarter.

With seven minutes and 58 seconds left on the clock, halfback Rick Murtha crushed his way through a stout St. Mark's line for a hard-fought one-yard touchdown. Mike Grossi converted the extra point and the scoring for the day was finished. Ridley won, 7-0.

Most of the game was played on the ground. Ridley quarterback Joe Keegan threw only eight passes, completing five for 56 yards. Highly-touted St. Mark's quarterback Sean McCall put the ball in the air only five times, for two completions which netted only 12 yards.

The real battle was in the trenches, where Ridley rushed for 170 yards and St. Mark's 142, the hard way. Ridley halfback Murtha led all rushers with 99 yards on 23 carries, including one for the game's lone touchdown.

Frank Cephus (47 yards on nine carries) and McCall (44 yards on eight carries) picked up most of St. Mark's bruises.

Along with Murtha, game accolades should be given to Politarhos, who assisted in many tackles and picked up six unassisted.

Lost in the crowd

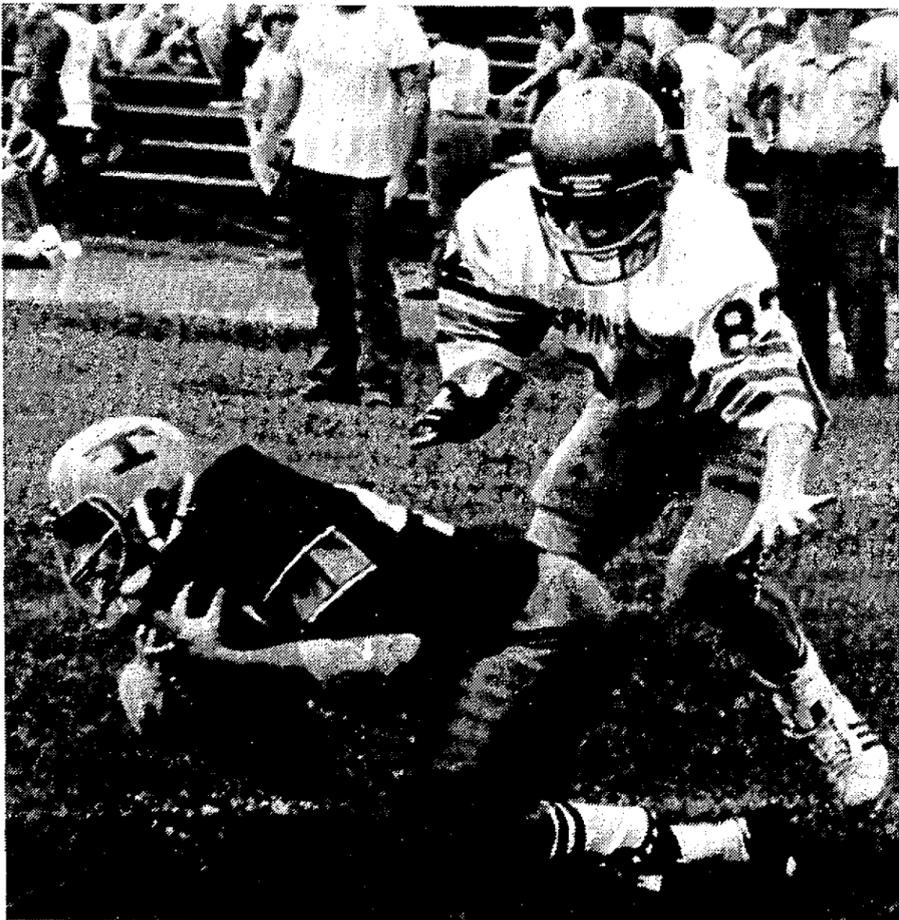


Ray Spafford, former Interboro High coach, is alone with his thoughts at Widener-Lebanon Valley game. Spafford watched his former defensive star Greg Ambrose intercept a pass and return it for a touchdown. Details of Widener's win are on page 15.

Swarthmore bows

SWARTHMORE — Jeff Leinberger of Upper Darby intercepted a pass and rumbled 23 yards for touchdown, giving Swarthmore College a brief lead, but Upsala roared back to win, 15-6, here Saturday.

Don Oshiro scored the decisive touchdown on a 43-yard run late in the third quarter.



Ed Mirra of Marple intercepts pass intended for Springfield's Mike Marone.