

Spearmon sets record as Glenn rebounds, 34-0

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemonso@oc.home.com.net

FOOTBALL

While astronaut John Glenn continued to circle the earth on the Discovery, things were just fine at ground control for Reggie Spearmon and the Westland Rockets.

The 5-foot-9, 185-pound Spearmon, who rushed for 188 yards in 24 carries and two touchdowns, helped Glenn earn its 10th post-season playoff appearance since 1985 with a convincing 34-0 win Friday over rival Wayne Memorial.

Glenn, helped by Utica's victory over Romeo, will most likely be the third seed in Class AA-Region III. The playoff matchups will be announced Sunday.

Glenn enters the playoffs at 8-1, while Wayne, losers of its final four games, finishes 4-5.

Spearmon's performance was noteworthy because he broke

law, a 6-foot, 208-pound senior, said the team takes pride in Spearmon's accomplishments.

"If we can help him break the record, that's a reflection on everybody," Boguslaw said. "And that makes everybody feel good because we're a team."

"Reggie's got all heart and he just works and works. He breaks tackles and makes things happen when things aren't there."

Boguslaw gets the offense going by snapping the ball, but he also has ample help on the offensive line from players like Rob Mason, Jim Waller, Clifford Bell, Keith Luke and Jake Tharp, along with fullback Dave Lewandowski and tight end Bobby Hagelthorn.

The Rockets' defense was also up to the task as well, pitching its second shutout of the season. Wayne was limited to 56 yards total offense, just 15 net yards in the opening half as Glenn led 8-0.

"He's durable, he's tough and plays a lot of plays," Glenn coach Chuck Gordon said of his star tailback. "He's the kind of player who wants to determine the outcome."

"He just has that quick burst. Nothing he does surprises me," Glenn center Jeremy Bogus-

law said. "Every guy on that defense, and the whole team for that matter, is getting a little bit better each week," Gordon said. "We expect every guy to get better each day."

Wayne kept the Rockets from completely going into orbit for a half, trailing 8-0.

But it could have been worse. Several untimely penalties hurt the Rockets during the opening two quarters.

Glenn's Nick Paddock booted a 27-yard field goal with 43 seconds left in the first period for a 3-0 lead.

Nose guard Robert Fant then collared Wayne quarterback Terry Turner in the end zone for a safety with 1:19 remaining in the half.

That came after Glenn faked a 32-yard field goal attempt with 2:27 to go. John Pettit took the snap and hurled a pass to J.T. Pillsbury, who appeared to be in the end zone, only to be ruled down at the 1.

Glenn quarterback Nick Hudson, who was on target most of the night (eight of 12 for 94 yards), directed Glenn into field goal position after the two-point safety by completing three

straight passes.

Junior wide receiver Eric Jones, who had five catches for 59 yards and added 58 yards in just two carries, made a circus catch by outleaping a Wayne defender at the 5, setting up Paddock's second field goal of the night, a 22-yarder.

But despite gaining 222 total yards in the opening half, the Rockets had only an eight-point lead.

"I thought we hung tough defensively, but you can't keep going three plays and out, three and out," Wayne coach Floyd Carter said. "We thought if we could get something going offensively the second half, we'd be OK."

But it was all Glenn, and then some during the final two quarters.

Although the Rockets lost standout Tharp to a knee injury on the second-half kickoff, they began to take control by scoring on its first two possessions.

Spearmon had a 1-yard TD run and Hudson lobbed a beautiful 14-yard scoring toss to Jones, who made an impressive over-the-shoulder grab in the corner of the end zone for a 21-0 lead.

"Nick (Hudson) is an underestimated guy who is a tremendous leader and understands his role better than anybody on this team," Gordon said. "I have as much respect for him than any guy I've coached."

The Rockets' tacked another score on the board late in the third when Hagelthorn tipped a Turner pass and Pettit snagged it in mid-air, rearing 34 yards for the score.

Spearmon capped the evening by breaking through several Wayne defenders for a 14-yard TD with 9:19 remaining.

The gracious Carter tipped his hat off to the Rockets afterwards.

"It was a tough loss, but I wish them the best," he said. "You have to hand it to them."

"We played tough for awhile, but couldn't keep it up."

"Their defensive front took care of us. We had problems blocking their inside linemen and defensive lines."

Glenn also kept the City trophy for another year. Wayne last won in 1995 (26-21), but trails the rival Rockets in the series, 21-7.

STEVENSON 21, CHURCHILL 14: Livonia Stevenson defeated Livonia Churchill by the same score Friday the Spartans beat the Chargers by last year.

The Spartans (5-4) capitalized on field position provided by a snapped Charger punt to score one touchdown, then took advantage of interceptions to tack on two more and take a 21-0 halftime lead.

But John Bennett hit Brandon Gutierrez with a 16-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter and engineered a 92-yard scoring drive that ended with Rob Wilson's 1-yard run midway through the final period to cut the deficit to 21-14.

Dan Wilson broke through tight tackle and veered right 24 yards to give Stevenson a 7-0 lead with 20 seconds left in the first quarter. It was the first play after a short Churchill punt.

The next play after the touchdown, Joe Orduz intercepted a pass and returned it to the Churchill 35. Jason Sarge ran 2 yards to score.

Sarge intercepted a pass and returned the ball 36 yards to the Charger 37 late in the half. Eric Rue threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Ryan Tobin.

Churchill (2-7) had a 13-12 edge in first downs but six came on the long drive. Bennett completed 10 of 25 passes for 173 yards.

In my family, learning is everything.

Books don't just enlighten. They empower. Our children are growing up knowing this. A good education is one of the most important things we can give them. And we will, with the help of U.S. Savings Bonds.

Through the Payroll Savings Plan, we put aside something with every payday. And little by little, it will add up to college for our children.

U.S. Savings Bonds helped my parents put me through college. And next year, it's Michelle's turn. Sure, Savings Bonds have important to our past, but they'll be even more important to our future, that's what makes our investment so valuable.



Ask your employer or banker about saving with U.S. Savings Bonds. For all the right reasons.

Take Stock in America

U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

A public service of this newspaper



THE ABILITY TO STOP CHILD ABUSE FINALLY AT OUR FINGERTIPS.

Now there's a way to help stop child abuse. It's simply leading your support to a new kind of prevention program. A program that teaches new parents how to deal with the stresses that lead to abuse. One that interrupts the cycle of abuse before it can begin. We already achieve superior results, but we need your help where you live. Call 1-800-CHILDREN. And show how close at hand the solution to child abuse really is.

THE MORE YOU HELP THE LESS THEY HURT.

1-800-CHILDREN

National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse

Ad

Warriors from page D1

Sage (seven carries for 95 yards) scored his second touchdown of the game midway through the second quarter on a 4-yard run, then caught a 57-yard TD pass from Payton with just over two minutes remaining in the half as the Warriors took a 35-0 lead into the break.

"We wanted to come out and make a statement that we belong in the playoffs," Sage said. "The teams that did make the playoffs should feel lucky, because we are a very good team and we should be there."

Junior defensive back Lorenzo Parker got into the scoring act in the third quarter when he scooped up a fumbled punt return by Central and sprinted 25 yards to the end zone. Johnson, who finished with 1,016 yards on the season, scored his second TD of the game early in the fourth quarter when he rambled 68 yards to paydirt.

Junior Sean Leslie capped the scoring for the Warriors with a

12-yard TD run with 20 seconds left in the game. The play was set up by a 43-yard scamper down the sideline by senior Richard Barbera.

Central averted a shutout when senior Andy Movalson broke free on the right side and sprinted 58 yards down the Central sideline and into the end zone with 4:39 left in the game.

"We decided to play hard regardless of what the score was," said Harper of his team's late TD. "We didn't quit. It was a tough season, but we'll be all right. The sun will come up in the morning."

As dominating as Western's offense was, the defense was equally impressive. The Warriors sacked Central senior quarterback Cory Heitsch seven times and combined for five tackles in the Viking backfield. Senior Brian Salisbury, junior Delore Semman and junior Brad Rounmya each had solo sacks for the Warriors.

Bill Parker

C.J. Risak

Brad Emmons

Marty Budner

Steve Kuywilk

Jim Roth

Dan O'Meara

Brad Kadrich

You Can't Beat Our Line-Up!

These guys understand hometown sports. High school sports is what they do. And they do it well. Whatever the game—football, basketball, hockey—they're there every week. They give you the whole story (not just highlights), backed by vivid photography,—talk about teamwork!

So when you want more than "maybe, maybe not" coverage, don't miss your hometown newspaper's sports section!

THE **Observer & Eccentric** NEWSPAPERS

WJR 760am

Don't forget to tune in the **Friday Night High School Football Scoreboard Show**. This weekly program airs 'live' from 11:35 p.m. until midnight every Friday throughout the football season.

WJR's **Tom Mazaway** hosts this fast-paced half hour show of high school scores and highlights from around the metro area. He is joined every Friday night by our sports editors who report live on key local games of interest.

Be there every Friday at 11:35 p.m on WJR 760-AM!

Our free Catalog helps you every step of the way.

Americans from all walks of life love using our free Consumer Information Catalog.

That's because the Catalog from Pueblo, Colorado lists more than 200 free and low-cost, federal publications.

So it's a shoe-in that you'll get the latest info on topics like investing your money, getting fit, parenting, starting a business, buying a car, even getting federal benefits.

But don't drag your feet, because even if you're on a shoestring budget, you'll get a kick out of our Catalog.

For the latest free Catalog, call toll-free 1 (888) 8-PUEBLO. That's 1 (888) 878-3256.

Or go to www.pueblo.gsa.gov.

A public service of this publication and the Consumer Information Center of the U.S. General Services Administration.