

Something's up at SL

By TOM BAER

In case anyone hasn't noticed, Southfield-Lathrup is playing some great football these days.

Lathrup, which lost its opener to Birmingham Seaholm, bounced back with victories over Ferndale, Bloomfield Hills Lahser and Birmingham Groves.

"We played so badly first night, and now we've made up for it," said Lathrup coach Darrell Harper after his team blanked Groves, 26-0, last Friday in a Metro Suburban Association game.

Against Groves, Harper's squad was impressive both on the ground (200 yards rushing) and in the air (144 yards and three touchdown passes). Lathrup's defense gave Groves 144 yards rushing and none through the air.

Quarterback Gerry Wichman tossed two TD passes in the first quarter. The first went to Rick Smith and covered 50 yards. The second landed with end Paul Kutcher and covered 62 yards. Wichman kicked one extra point.

The Wichman-Kutcher combination

clicked again in the second quarter, this time for a 10-yard TD. Wichman missed the extra point. Keith Otterbein, who gained 158 yards in 11 carries, raced 73 yards for the final score.

"We really didn't move the ball that well," Harper said. "But we had the big plays. That was the story of the game — the big plays."

Big plays

	SL	BG
First downs rushing	11	5
First downs passing	3	0
First downs penalty	1	0
Yards rushing	200	124
Yards passing	144	0
Passes completed	5-10	0-5
Punts - average	1-43	3-45
Fumbles - No. recovered	1-1	0-0
Southfield-Lathrup	13	6
Birmingham Groves	0	0

Scoring
Lathrup—Rick Smith 60 pass from Gerry Wichman (kick failed).
Lathrup—Paul Kutcher 62 pass from Wichman (Wichman kick).
Lathrup—Kutcher 10 pass from Wichman (kick failed).
Lathrup—Keith Otterbein 73 run (Brian Black Kick).

Lathrup's defense was led by Smith, who intercepted two passes, and by Mike Kemper, who made six solo tackles and assisted on five others.

Groves missed a good chance to score in the third quarter when it drove to the Lathrup 20-yard line. But Lathrup's defense held and the threat was wasted.

Groves' leading ground gainer was senior halfback Jim Rygiel, who rushed for 116 yards in 17 carries. Groves coach Bill Rankin said that the problem with stopping Lathrup's passing attack was not because his team was not ready for the pass.

"We knew Wichman was a good passer," Rankin said. "We participated against the pass all week. We just made mental errors."

Lathrup, now 3-1 overall and 2-0 in the MSA, moves to Rochester Adams next Friday (Oct. 11). The game begins at 8 p.m. at Rochester High School, 180 South Liverdus.

After Adams, Lathrup has home games with Ulica Eisenhower and Royal Oak Dohdoro in the MSA, and non-league games at Royal Oak Kimball and Southfield High.



Lathrup's Paul Kutcher (with ball) caught a pair of TD passes against Groves

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SPORTS

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Homeless Berkley ruins Southfield, 38-14

By TOM BAER

Berkley High doesn't have a stadium, and its football team won't be playing any home games this season. But tailback Jay Lentz has a way of making Berkley fans feel at home wherever the Bears play.

Lentz, an explosive 195-pound runner, did some unbelievable things as Berkley bested Southfield High, 38-14, in a Southeastern Michigan Association game.

Lentz scored four touchdowns on runs of 49, 53, 68 and 70 yards, while rolling up 310 yards in 14 carries. Berkley amassed 451 yards in total yardage.

Berkley opened the scoring on its third play from scrimmage with Lentz's 49-yard ripoff. The conversion run failed.

On the following kickoff, Southfield's Rick Weiland returned the ball 70 yards for what looked like a thrilling touchdown. But the play was called back because of a clipping penalty, and things went downhill from there for Southfield High.

"We died a little bit after that," said Southfield coach John Finlayson. "We got down and that killed us."

SOUTHFIELD SCORED a touchdown on the next series after the comeback. Quarterback Mike Jusino ran three yards for the TD, which was set up by a 47-yard run by halfback Tony Leider. Don Fisher's kick was wide.

But after that, Lentz and his teammates put the game out of reach. Berkley QB Alan Davis was a skilled operator against Southfield. On play after play, Davis would fake a hand-off, and then pitch out to Lentz, who would scoot down the sideline.

That play resulted in a 53-yard score in the second quarter. It's doubtful that any Southfield defender knew who had the ball until too late.

But the pitchout play resulted in Southfield's second touchdown in the fourth quarter. Davis pitched but the Berkley back didn't catch. Karl Leider snatched the ball and ran 70 yards for the touchdown. Karl Leider scored

the extra points on a pass from Don Fisher.

Berkley's defense was also excellent. The leaders were linebacker Rick Frank with nine tackles and a recovered fumble to his credit, and end Curtis Pope with seven tackles.

"I THINK WE could move the ball against them (Berkley) in a close game," Finlayson said. "But got behind and that made it real tough. You give up 40 points a game and you can't expect to win."

"You have to block and tackle — that's the name of the game. We didn't do either."

Things are going to get rougher for Southfield. The Blue Jays, now 1-3 overall and 1-1 in the SMA face powerful Hazel Park next Friday. The game will begin at 8 p.m. on Southfield's field.

Undeclared Hazel Park blanked Ferndale, 25-0, last Friday. Last year, Hazel Park, then rated No. 1 in the area, defeated Southfield, 14-0.

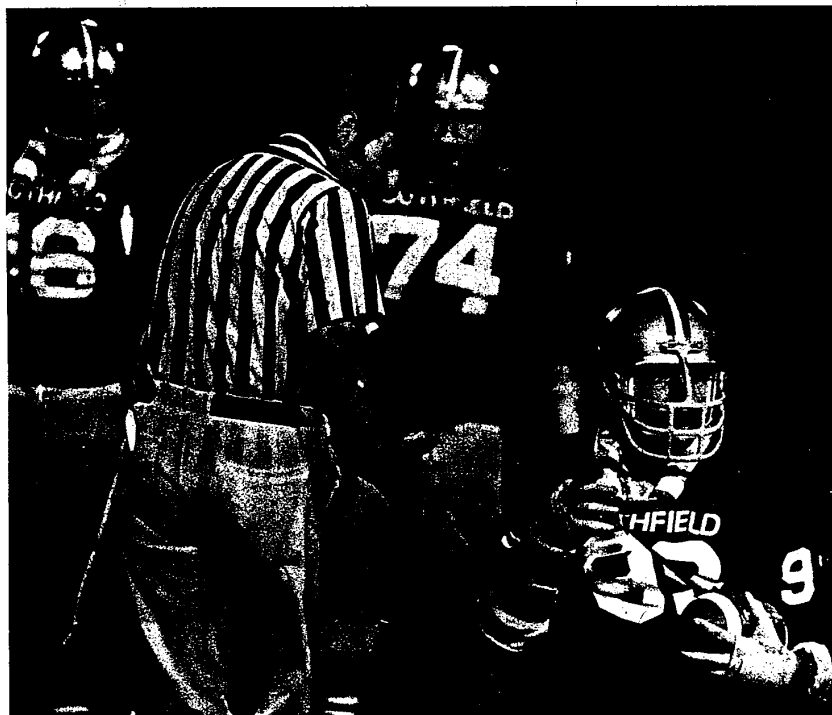
Killer Jay

	BL	BG
First downs rushing	11	3
First downs passing	2	2
First downs penalty	3	2
Yards rushing	417	118
Yards passing	34	18
Passes completed	3-4-0	1-1-1
Punts - average	2-8	7-39.1
Fumbles - No. recovered	3-0	2-0
Penalties - yards lost	6-75	6-80

Berkley High	6	16	0-38
Southfield	0	0	8-14

Scoring

Berkley—Jay Lentz 49 run (run failed).
Southfield—Mike Jusino 3 run (kick failed).
Berkley—Lentz 53 run (Mark Duckett pass from Alan Davis).
Berkley—Lentz 68 run (Kelley Murphy recovered fumble in endzone).
Berkley—Alan Davis 5 run (Murphy run).
Berkley—Lentz 70 run (Duckett pass from Davis).
Southfield—Karl Leider 70 fumble recovery (Karl Leider pass from Don Fisher).



Referee tells it like it is to Steve Loewy (16), Buck (74) and Alex Kukuruga (99)

Sports coming up

Cross Country
Monday (Oct. 7) Southfield High at Ferndale High, 801 Pioneer, 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday (Oct. 8) Southfield-Lathrup, Farmington High, Farmington Harrison and North Farmington at Redford Union Invitational, Cass Benton Park, Northville Twp., 4 p.m.

Golf
Monday (Oct. 7) Southfield-Lathrup in Oakland County Meet, course to be determined, 3:15 p.m.
Tuesday (Oct. 8) Farmington High at Southfield High, Evergreen Golf Course, 2600 Evergreen Road, 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday (Oct. 8) Southfield-Lathrup at Bloomfield Hills Lahser, Hickory Hills Golf Course, Wixom, 4 p.m.

Girls' Swimming
Monday (Oct. 7) Southfield-Lathrup at Southfield High, Ten Mile and Lahser roads, 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday (Oct. 9) Southfield-Lathrup at Birmingham Groves, Thirteen Mile and Evergreen roads, 7:30 p.m.

Girls' Tennis
Monday (Oct. 7) Southfield-Lathrup at Southfield High, Ten Mile and Lahser roads, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday (Oct. 8) Farmington High at Livonia Stevenson, 3350 Six Mile Road, 4 p.m.

Tuesday (Oct. 8) Farmington Harrison at Waterford Mott, 1115 Scott Lake Road, 4 p.m.

Tuesday (Oct. 8) North Farmington at Oak Park High, 13701 Oak Park Blvd., 4 p.m.

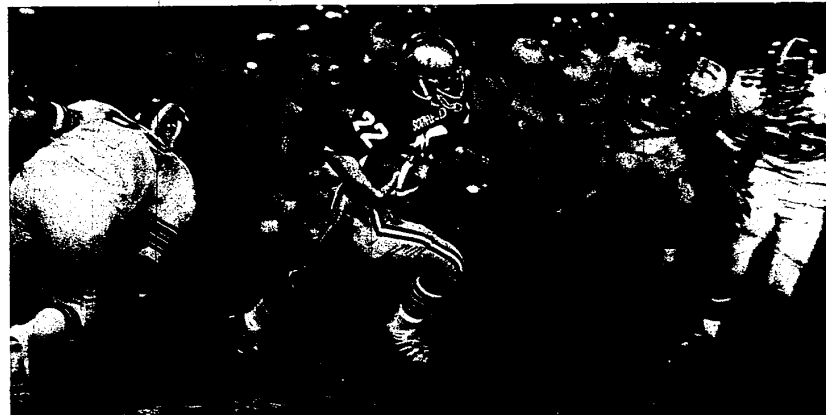
Wednesday (Oct. 9) Livonia Stevenson at Farmington Harrison, 2995 Twelve Mile Road, 4 p.m.

Wednesday (Oct. 9) Southfield-Lathrup at Birmingham Groves, Thirteen Mile and Evergreen roads, 4 p.m.

Girls' Basketball
Monday (Oct. 7) Southfield High at Southfield Christian, Twelve Mile and Lahser roads, 4 p.m.

Wednesday (Oct. 9) Immaculate High at Farmington Our Lady of Mercy, Eleven Mile and Middlebelt roads, 4:30 p.m.

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Tuesday (Oct. 8) Southfield Christian at Cranbrook, 500 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, 4 p.m.



Tony Leider on the move against Berkley's rugged defense (Photo by Gary Friedman)