

# Canton rally surprises Mott 20-19

By FRED DeLANO

Plymouth Canton had heroes to spare Friday night as the Chiefs exploded for two fourth quarter touchdowns to post a 20-19 come-from-behind victory over Waterford Mott and thus retain at least an outside chance for a piece of the Western Six grid title.

In a complete turnaround after seeing Mott rally in each of the first three periods for a 19-6 lead at the three-quarter pole, Canton all but blew the invading Corsairs apart in the last 12 minutes and now stands 3-1 in the league, tied for second place.

It was a fleet junior halfback named Jim Tiller who provided the comeback spark, but the laurels weren't his alone as the Chiefs put it all together on both offense and defense to drive thoughts of the evening's chill from the minds of their followers.

CANTON HAD marched 45 yards in five plays to score the first time it had the ball for a 6-0 lead, Scott Dunagan getting the tally on a 31-yard sprint. Brian Stemberger's interception of a Mott pass had set the stage for the march, but the 6-0 lead lasted only three minutes.

Greg Smith and Jim Martinez were the big guns of a Corsair drive that saw Martinez scoring from the five, and Tim McKay's conversion put the Corsairs in front, 7-6.

Mott ground out 71 yards in 16 plays in the second period, with quarterback Matt Treas sneaking over from a yard out to make it 13-6 and that score still blanked from the scoreboard at half time even though both teams had good scoring chances before intermission but couldn't cash in.

The third period brought more of the same, Mott dominating with its third scoring drive. Again it was Treas who got the counter, this time from 18 yards out. The attempted point after was blocked and with a 19-6 lead Mott appeared on the way to its first Western Six win of the season.

Then, after Mott had punted to the Plymouth 34 on the first play of the fourth quarter, the Chiefs came alive.

DUNAGAN AND TILLER combined for a first down at the Mott 38 and three plays later the 5-9, 145-pound Tiller broke loose for 30 yards to the Corsair 14. Dunagan got five more and on an inside handoff Tiller went the final nine yards. Risti Mihailovich converting to bring Canton within a touchdown at 19-13.

Twice on the first series after the ensuing kickoff, tackle Dave Edwards threw Mott quarterback Treas behind the line, and the Corsairs punted out to their own 49.

Tiller immediately galloped for 12 on a trap, and quarterback Tom Close's pass to 6-2 Dave Pink brought a first down at the Mott 26. Tiller got six more. Close ran the keeper to the 12, Rusty Lindman slammed for seven and then Dunagan popped through the middle for his second touchdown to make it 19-19.

That left it up to placekicker Mihailovich and his kick was perfect.

MOTT WENT immediately to the air — and found the Chiefs there waiting.

On first down a Treas pass was grabbed off by Tiller at his defensive halfback post, but the Chiefs had to punt. Stemberger booted one into the clouds that Edwards downed on the Mott five yard line, and again the Corsairs resorted to the pass. This time it was Canton's Ray Mandie who made the interception and when the ball game ended Canton was inside Mott's 10 trying for still another score.

In that final period Mott — which had gained more than 250 yards in the first three quarters — was able to run only seven plays: three thrusts into the line which netted a loss of two yards, two punts, and two passes — both of which were intercepted.

Although the major heroics came in the fourth quarter, Tiller had given one sign of what his speed might mean back in the second quarter on one of the defensive gems of the night. Treas had broken loose on a keeper from the

## Falcons place 5th

Farmington High and Dearborn Fordson tied for fifth place at the Downriver Invitational cross country run last Saturday at Southgate High School. Both schools had a combined-time total of 83:19.

Grand Rapids Christian topped the 17-school field with 81:04 — the total of the times of the teams' five best runners. Temperence Bedford was second with 82:33, Howell High had 83:01, and Inkster Cherry Hill had 83:05.

Farmington's best runner was Al VanMeter, who finished 16th in 16:14. Another Falcon runner, Stu Glatfelter, took 18th in 16:16.

Farmington's team finish disap-

pointed coach Gerald Young, whose squad had won the Inter Lakes League Meet Oct. 17.

Farmington will run in the state regional tournament this Saturday (Oct. 26) at Ann Arbor Pioneer High School.

The top two teams in each of the state's nine regionals will qualify for the state tournament Nov. 2 at Grand Blaine Country Club. The 10 best runners, who are not members of the top-two teams, will also qualify for the state tournament.

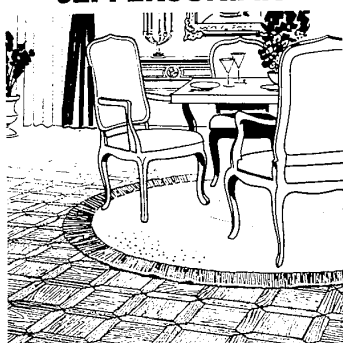
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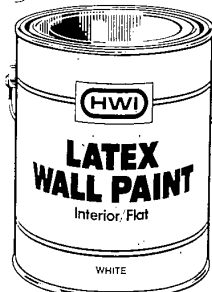
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