

# Township trims W. Bloomfield

BY BRAD EMONS

It wasn't hard to pinpoint which series of plays contributed to West Bloomfield's home opening 12-7 loss against Waterford Township Friday. With 28 seconds left in the first half and the Lakers leading 7-6, West Bloomfield was on the Waterford Township one-yard line and had two plays to punch the ball in.

They didn't score. Quarterback Jay Sullivan fumbled the snap on third down and lost one yard. Laker coach Dominic Livedito gambled and decided to go for six points on fourth down. Waterford met the fourth down challenge by stopping Laker halfback Jeff Cox cold on the one-yard line as time ran out.

"We didn't execute in that series," said Livedito. "If we had scored we could have won it. But that's an if." Waterford tallied the game-winner with five seconds remaining in the third quarter on a halfback option pass from Tom Shelburn to tight end Rick Reynolds. The play went for three yards. The Skippers failed on the two-point conversion.

WATERFORD started the victory drive on their own 23-yard line. Coach Matt Perrino also played some poker himself when he decided to go for a first down on his own 43-yard line. Quarterback Tim Collins ran a one-yard sneak to keep the drive alive.

The Skippers, continually making big third down plays, connected on another halfback option pass for 41 yards. This time Shelburn hit end Chuck Johnson who ran all the way down to the Laker five-yard line. Reynolds then made it 12-7, hauling in the late third quarter pass.

"West Bloomfield is a tough team. We have a lot of respect for them," beamed Perrino. "Our defense played particularly well in the second half," he said. "We came in as a measuring stick for the rest of our season."

"I'm really pleased with our effort," Perrino said.

Township opened the scoring in the first quarter with a 74-yard drive in the first quarter. Carrying much of the Waterford load in the first quarter was sophomore fullback Marty Scott. With 7:52 remaining in the first quarter, Collins spotted Johnson wide open over the middle as the two combined for a 49-yard scoring play. Waterford failed on the two-point conversion as Scott was stacked up for a one-yard loss.

Not to be denied, West Bloomfield came right back on the next series to score. STARTING ON their own 33-yard line, the Lakers methodically ran through the Skippers' defense. West Bloomfield was aided by a 15-yard pass interference call against Shelburn. Junior running back Gary Schroeder

rumbled two yards on a big fourth and one situation at the Waterford 22-yard stripe.

Sullivan then hit flanker Chris Mayone, recently converted frp, quarterback, on a nifty sideline pass for a 20-yard scoring play with 3:39 left in the first quarter.

Senior place kicker Joe Griffin booted the ball high through the uprights to give the Lakers a momentary 7-6 advantage.

Waterford sustained a long drive eating up approximately six minutes of the second quarter but failed to capitalize when a stout Laker defense stopped Shallman on a fourth and one play at the West Bloomfield 23-yard line.

West Bloomfield drove down to the Skippers' 25-yard line midway through the third quarter but Sullivan was intercepted on a deflection which Waterford defensive back John Cox picked off.

Sullivan, doubling as a defensive safety, set up the Lakers' final chance for a score by intercepting a pass at the West Bloomfield 14-yard line. He returned the errant toss 33 yards, only to see the Lakers give the ball right back on another interception.

"I DEFINITELY think our inexperience hurt us," said Livedito. "Our mental mistakes also hurt and their power just beat us inside, he said.

Waterford relied heavily on Scott's running. He gained 91 yards on 20 carries. Buttazoni also ran for the two points after touchdown.

Western finished the game with a slight lead in the offensive statistics. Walled Lake had 197 total yards to Lahser's 174. Western gained most of its yards rushing (170). Lahser compiled 109 yards passing and 63 yards rushing. Lahser's passes completed nine of 21 passes with no interceptions. Western completed four of six passes, also with no interceptions.

Western did throw the ball under pressure as Mark Zanecki sacked the Western quarterback twice.

Cox led West Bloomfield with 65 yards in 14 carries.

Sullivan completed nine of 16 passes for 77 yards while three Waterford passers combined for four completions gaining 103 yards.

Waterford outgained the Lakers 148-142 yards rushing.

Defensively, end Rick Mickle and tackle Alex Ajloni were credited with the most stops for the Lakers.

"We tried to slow them up in the middle but they were a little stronger and quicker and controlled our line-man," said Livedito.

"I'm disappointed but we'll be back next week," he said. The Lakers travel to Farmington Friday for their second straight non-league test.

## Hawk golfers edge Howell

Dave Hawthorne shot a three-over-par 39 last Wednesday to pace Farmington Harrison's 168-169 victory over Howell High School in a non-league golf match at Faulkwood Shores Golf Course in Howell. The meet opened the season for coach Bill Spencer's Harrison team.

Bruce Trout shot a four-over 40 for Harrison, and teammate Fred Kallgren carded a 41. Mike Yorick and Mike Sherman shot 48 and respectively for Harrison. Harrison plays next on Monday (Sept. 11) against Northville High.

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## Lahser whips Western

During pre-season practices Bloomfield Hills Lahser head coach Ted Guthard announced that the "rag tag" was gone from the Knight's "rag tag gun offense."

Instead he re-named the short punt formation "Lahser's Laser."

Lahser's "Laser" was on beam last Friday night as it provided a 20-8 victory over non-league opponent Walled Lake Western in the season opener for both teams which was played at Andover High School. Lahser's field is undergoing repairs and not yet ready for play.

After a scoreless first half, Lahser's Knights erupted for three touch-

downs in the third quarter. John Jergo opened the scoring with a five-yard run as the clock showed 7:55 remaining in the quarter. His run capped an 11-play, 40-yard drive following the second-half kickoff.

With 4:38 remaining in the third quarter, Walled Lake Western's Mike Bryant fumbled the football. Lahser's Keith Keegan alertly picked up the loose pigskin and scampered 20 yards for a touchdown.

Fred Moeller, whose extra point kick following the first touchdown was blocked, kicked his second attempt through

the uprights giving Lahser a 13-0 advantage. QUARTERBACK JOHN Barto finished the Lahser scoring with a six yard touchdown run. There were 41 seconds left in the third quarter when he scored. Barto's run far pay dirt followed a 44-yard drive which included four passes. Moeller again added the point after touchdown kick.

Barto finished the game with a total of six completions of 17 passing attempts for 28 yards net gain.

Western's lone score came with 3:20 remaining in the game. Angelo Buttazoni scored on a three-yard touchdown

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