

Lahser blitz stops Southfield-Lathrup, 27-7

By DENNIS O'CONNOR

Who said anything about looking ahead one week?
Not Bloomfield Hills Lahser. The Knights' head football coach Ted Guthard said his squad has learned to play its games one at a time.

But the week has finally come. Lahser can now think about its Metro Suburban Association showdown at Royal Oak Dondero after methodically taking care of Southfield-Lathrup 27-7 Friday night.
The game will, no doubt, decide the eventual MSA champion. But more importantly, it could qualify either team for the state playoffs if the winning team stays unbeaten.

"Now there's no more talk," Guthard said. "Now the action starts."

"They (Dondero) are not afraid of us. They think they will blow us off the field, but I'll tell you what. We are going to show up."
Although the 20-point victory over the Chargers was a lackluster effort from both sides, Guthard was pleased with his team's victory.

"It was a hard-hitting game," the Knight coach said. "Our kids just play in spite of some of the adversity."
Lahser has been a much publicized school because many Pontiac students transferred to Lahser because of a millage failure eliminated the athletic programs in the Pontiac school district.
The Knights haven't gotten the publicity it wants (namely a Top 10 state ranking) despite a 5-0 record.

LAHSER TOOK advantage of

Lathrup's mistakes throughout the contest, scoring the only touchdown on the first half after a Charger fumble. The Knights scored on the opening possession of the second half and added another score with three minutes gone in the fourth quarter to put the game out of reach.

"It's the same old story," said Charger coach Bob Marten, whose squad drops to 1-2 in the league and 1-4 overall. "We gave them three touchdowns. Penalties and turnovers... I don't know."
The Chargers scored their lone touchdown with 5:36 left in the game on a Mel Tucker one-yard run. Tucker was the game's leading rusher with 113 yards in 21 carries.

Lahser returned the favor, however, with a 65-yard scoring pass from quar-

terback Fred Moeller to split end Kevin Munson with 1:33 left in the contest.
The late TD pass, which came when the Knights were ahead 20-7, actually bounced off the pads of Charger defensive back Richard Demmo and into the arms of Munson.

It wasn't the acrobatic style of the play, however, that frustrated Marten, but rather that the play was even called at all.
"Maybe he's (Guthard's) going for the state ranking," Marten said. "He's done that before to us — three years ago when they were ahead 44-7."
"The Juniors will know next year they (Lahser) won't have the Pontiac All-Stars next year."

THE CHARGERS actually dominated the statistics, rushing for 207 yard-

in 51 plays and hitting six of 19 passes for 90 yards. Lahser had only 33 rushing plays for 172 yards, while hitting four of nine passes for 85 yards.
Lathrup totaled 15 first downs to only seven for the Knights.

Despite the Chargers' ball control, it was the Knights who scored on the second play of the second quarter when their game's leading rusher, Greg Jefferson, banged over from the two-yard line.
Jefferson, who gained 90 yards in 17 carries, capped a four-play, 20-yard drive which was set up by Kevin Kriebel's fumble recovery of a Tucker rush.

Moeller kicked the first of three extra points to make it 7-0.
The Chargers followed with their strongest drive of the half, driving 14

plays from their own 20 to the Lahser 17. But the drive stalled and the Knights held the seven-point advantage at intermission.

After a short kickoff, Lahser drove 57 yards in 10 plays to open the second half. Alex Clark went over from four yards out, but Lathrup's Tucker blocked Moeller's kick to keep it 10-0.
Mike Niss' 31-yard pass interception to the Lathrup 16, set up Clark's second touchdown — a nine-run run which made it 20-0.

The Chargers travel to Birmingham Groves Friday for another MSA contest starting at 8 p.m. The Lahser — Dondero game starts at 7:30 p.m.

Livonia Churchill rips Plymouth Canton, 20-0

By BRAD EMONS

Livonia Churchill struck Plymouth Canton like a cobra Friday night.
Unable to score until the fourth quarter, Churchill suddenly came alive and scored three touchdowns in the last 8:54 of game to take a hard-fought 20-0 victory over the Chiefs.

Churchill increased its overall record to 4-1 overall and 3-0 in the Western Six League. The Chargers now set up a showdown game at home Friday night when they meet unbeaten Farmington Harrison.

Churchill's much-improved defense was a big factor in beating wealthy Canton (0-5). The Chargers held Canton to just 62 yards total offense.
"Our defense played a fine game," said Churchill coach Ron Kaestner. "The defense was a big key in this

game until we got our offense going." Churchill's young offense, with nine underclassmen starting, had trouble moving the ball against Canton's gallant defense.

At 11:10 of the final quarter, quarterback Bill Keller hit halfback Craig Williams with a 35-yard swing pass down to the Chiefs' 24-yard line.
Faced with a third down situation, Keller once again hit Williams with a nine-yard screen pass to gain a crucial first down.

ON THE NEXT play, Keller kept the ball himself and raced nine yards for the first Churchill TD at 8:54. The Chargers took a 6-0 lead after the extra point attempt failed on a fumbled snap. "The first pass helped a lot," said Kaestner. "That got us going. Our run-

ning attack was ineffective as the game wore on. We were slipping a lot on the field and the pass was there."
"Canton was blitzing and the swing pass was open."

Canton coach Dave Schuele, although disappointed with the loss, praised the play of his defense.
"This is as good as we've hit in four years," he said. "We gambled a few times. We left the back side open on the swing pass. We changed our defense slightly this week and went into more man-to-man coverage."
"I thought we played pretty good defense."

Churchill hit fast again for its second score, just 30 seconds later when middle guard Walt Taddy scooped up a wild pitch by Canton quarterback Steve Gray and raced 17 yards for the TD.

"Our defense never broke down," said Kaestner. "I'm pleased, according to our stats, our defense held Canton to 11 net yards in the second half."

Churchill made it 18-0 with 2:46 left in the game when defensive back Gary Vendell intercepted a Gray pass and rambled 22 yards for the score.
The Chargers converted the two-point attempt when Keller hit Ken Bloch with a roll out pass just inside the goal line.

CHURCHILL accumulated 160 yards total offense. Keller hit four of 13 passes for 60 yards. Williams carried the ball 13 times for 43 yards and Keller netted 42 yards in 10 carries.
Craig Gears led the Canton rushing attack with 45 yards in 17 carries.
Churchill had seven first downs to

Canton's two. The Chargers collected 70 yards in penalties while Canton piled up 75.

Schuele said the Canton offense was unable to move the ball again because of a lack of execution.

"I hate to harp on it, but it all boils down to blocking," Schuele said. "Penalties also hurt us again."

Canton will travel to Waterford Mott Friday in a 7:30 p.m. Western Six League encounter.

W. Bloomfield tops Clarkston

By TOM BAER

In case anyone has failed to notice, West Bloomfield High has been playing some pretty good football since losing its first game of the season to a tough Waterford Township team in the Pontiac Silverdome.
Last Friday, West Bloomfield's players brightened their school's homecoming with a 28-13 victory over Clarkston High in a Greater Oakland Athletic League contest.

The win was the Lakers' fourth in a row since that unfortunate encounter in the Silverdome. West Bloomfield is 3-0

IN THE GOAL.
"I'm totally pleased with the way this team has become a team," said Laker coach Dominic Livedito after the Clarkston game. "We have very few seniors on this team. Ed Warkner (line coach) has done an excellent job of putting together a good young line."
"We have some good backs, too. This is the best running team I've had in my six years at West Bloomfield."

CLARKSTON, WHICH had won just one game this season, wasn't much of a challenge for the Lakers. But Livedito was pleased to see a couple of his key

players, who had been injured, return to the lineup.
Senior halfback Gary Schroeder came off the injured list to score touchdowns on runs of one and nine yards. He gained 106 yards in 19 carries. An outside linebacker on defense, Schroeder logged seven first hits and recovered a fumble.

Senior quarterback Chris Mayone

was another returnee. He bruised his elbow on the opening play of the opening game of the season, and had stayed on the bench then.

West Bloomfield plays next on Friday, Oct. 12, at Rochester High. The game begins at 8 p.m. Rochester was a surprise winner over Bloomfield Hills Andover, 14-7, last Friday.

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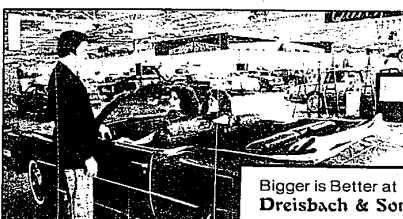
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