Improved Bentley Has Close Call

When you're working with a young team, nothing brings greater encouragement than a strong showing – plus a victory – in the first game.

All of which explains why Coach Glen Goode of Livonia Bentley was in joyous mood after his football team downed Madison Lamphere, 13-8.

"We have so many young faces and it was encouraging to see how well they performed and gained confidence," said Goode.

"I had told them from the start of practice, if we could stay away from a lot of mistakes, we could do well. And they responded."

Bentley lost the ball only once all evening on a fumble.

ANOTHER MAJOR factor, as far as Goode was concerned, when it came to a strong starting performance is the schedule Bentley faces in the expanded Suburban Eight League.

Until this year, Bentley always had two non-leaguers to tune up for the league. No more.

Bentley starts its league slate Friday and must combat arch-rival Redford Union, which trimmed Livonia Stevenson in its opener.

All the scoring in the Bentley-Lamphere game came in the second period.

Bentley went to work going 45 yards in seven plays with a John Roy to Brian Gates pass covering 30 yards setting up a 2 yard run by Tom Vidmare for the touchdown. Jeff Kloiber kicked the point and made it 7-0.

Gates then unloaded a 21 yard pass to Roy after Bentley took over on the Lamphere 30 and in six plays Bentley had scored again – this time with Vidmare cracking across from the three.

Bentley had one serious threat thereafter, but was stalled on downs in the fourth period.

Lamphere scored on a two-yard run by Joe Chamberlain and picked up two more points when Bentley took an intentional safety after being pushed back to its own one yard line with 74 seconds to play.

Statistically, Gates hit on three of seven passes – all to Roy – for 79 yards. In rushing Bentley picked up 94 yards, 54 by Vidmare.

Lamphere made 112 yards passing and 86 on the ground.

Bentley recovered two fumbles and also snared one interception, the latter by Randy LaSota.

Farmington Trips Harrison

For versatility, it's tough to top quarterback Tony Wenson of Farmington High. He passed and ran the Falcons to a 21-12 victory over Farmington Harrison in the opener for both teams.

The Wenson statistics read like this:

1–Passing: ten out of 12 completions for 156 yards and one touchdown.

2--Running: two touchdowns.

Wenson's offensive efforts overshadowed a brilliant afternoon's work turned in by Dave Manos of Harrison.

MANOS HAD a hand in the two Harrison touchdowns. He passed for one, ran 59 yards for the other and finished the afternoon with 111 yards in 14 carries.

The game left no doubts that both teams will be major factors in their forthcoming league races–Farmington in the Inter-Lakes and Harrison in the Western Six.

It was a tightly contested game all the way.

Farmington took a 7-0 lead in the first period and that's the way it stood until Harrison scored and missed the conversion in the third.

Then in the final period, Farmington cashed two touchdowns to Harrison's one.

Wenson broke the scoreless deadlock with a one yard quarterback sneak.

Manos brought Harrison to within a point of a tie in the third period on an 11 yard scoring toss to Dan McConechy.

Then in the fourth period, Wenson fired 15 yards to Jim Harte for another TD and personally scampered over from the five while Manos kept Harrison close by dashing 59 yards to payland.

Briah Chesley made all three conversions for Farmington.

Franklin Shows Power In GC West Rout, 35-0

The experts have been saying: "Watch out for Franklin!"

Coach George Lovich wasn't so sure if he wanted to agree, quietly or otherwise. He still may not be admitting too much out loud.

But he had to express happiness over the way Franklin routed Garden City West, 35-0, in the 1971 opener for both teams.

"Yes, I am pleased," said Lovich, who has had to do a great deal of revamping from a year ago when Franklin lost only twice in nine games.

What thrilled him the most was the defensive effort Franklin turned in.

THE STATISTICS tell the story: In rushing Garden City West wound up with minus four for the evening. In passing, West hit three times in 10 tries for 36 yards.

Charles Clark, the Graham twins – Rick and Mike – and Ron Wilson all drew accolades from the coach for superlative jobs on defense.

While Franklin never permitted West to make a serious threat, the Franklin offense led by all-leaguer John Piippo put on quite a show.

Franklin rushed for 296 yards and picked up 41 yards more on two pass completions in nine attempts.

Franklin scored once in the first, third and fourth quarters and twice in the second.

THE FIRST touchdown drive went for 52 yards with Piippo, Dennis Shick and Ken Yuhasz sharing in the drive which was climaxed when Piippo drove from the four.

In the second period, John Casey passed 17 yards to John Wolski for a Franklin TD and then Bruce Vogt picked off a West pass and scampered 33 yards to make it 21-0 for Franklin.

It was Piippo again in the third period as he personally carried for 41 yards in an 86 yard charge that was finished off when he ran in from the 13.

A second-string quarterback accounted for the final Franklin touchdown when he went in from the 10 in the last period.

Still another cheering factor for Lovich was the fact Franklin made few mistakes.

The team was guilty of only two penalties – one of them for taking too much time in a huddle. The other was for piling on.

Golfer Gets Hole-In-One At El Dorado

After 12 years and while playing in league competition, Mike Essenmacher, 19947 Kinloch, Redford Township, finally scored an ace on the No. 8, 120-yard hole at the El Dorado links in Walled Lake.

Mike looked in amazement as his nine iron shot hit on the edge of the green and rolled into the cup. He had a 46 for the round and was playing with Bill Harrison, Bob Daniels and Bruce Tosline.

He is an employe of the 3-M plant in Farmington.

Win Inaugural

Michigan won its first football game ever in 1879 by beating Racine College 1-0 in what must have been a classic defensive struggle.

Big Honor

Lefthanded pitcher Jim Burton is Michigan's first baseball All-American since Bill Freehan, now of the Tigers, was honored in 1961.

Prep Schedule

PREP FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

Farmington at West Bloomfield, 8 p.m.
North Farmington at Walled Lake Central, 8 p.m.
Thurston at Ferndale, 8 p.m.
Clarenceville at Northville, 8 p.m.
Redford Union at Bentley, 7:30 p.m.
Grosse Pointe South at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Waterford at Southfield, 8 p.m.
Southfield Lathrup at Clarkston, 8 p.m.
Robichaud at Garden City East, 8 p.m.
Crestwood at Garden City West, 8 p.m.
Livonia Stevenson at Bay City Central, 8 p.m.
Plymouth at Dearborn, 3:45 p.m.
Cranbrook at Birmingham Groves, 8 p.m.
Bishop Borgess vs. St. Clement at Center Line, 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Brother Rice vs. Shrine at Royal Oak Kimball, 8 p.m.
John Glenn at Harrison, 2 p.m.
Annapolis at Franklin, 2 p.m.
Hamtramck at Country Day, 11 a.m.

SUNDAY

St. Agatha vs. Lourdes at Hilbert Junior High, 2:30 .m.

Pick Howe To Receive Sports Award

Gordie Howe, recently retired Red Wing superstar, will be honored with the Distinguished Athlete Award at the second annual Motor City Sports Award Dinner, on Monday, Dec. 6 in Cobo Hall.

Howe was selected for the top award given at the Motor City Sports Award Dinner, for his many years of outstanding athletic accomplishments and for his community service.

He is currently serving his second year as campaign chairman for the Metropolitan Chapter, March of Dimes (Wayne and Macomb Counties).

8:30 p.m. SHARP
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