

Oak Park Ends Raider String, 22-12

So the bubble has burst. After a school record of 13 straight victories...after a 9-0 season which brought the team everything from a league championship to the state title...North Farmington now finds itself "down among the rest of the fellows."

A stunning 22-12 upset at the hands of Oak Park halted the

Raiders who started the season with two straight wins after their great campaign of a year ago.

The defeat knocks the Raiders, who had been rated among the state's Top Ten, out of the Michigan elite class for the first time in two years.

THE SETBACK too, doesn't help the Raiders in their bid to

repeat as Northwest Suburban League champs. Of course, there's still time to comeback.

Coach Ron Holland surveyed the scene after his Raiders had been felled.

"Well, we had them on the run early. We just couldn't apply the knockout punch. Then, we just fell apart...four lost fumbles, three in-

tercepted passes....need I say more?"

Holland really didn't have to.

He could have added that the North Farmington pass defense also fell apart, yielding 235 in the air while Oak Park, which never had beaten the Raiders in 10 years,

was able to manage only 48 yards rushing.

The game started in typical North Farmington fashion. THE RAIDERS applied the rush on Oak Park during a kicking situation and without 90 seconds to go, the Oak Park center passed the ball wildly and Tom Frederick recovered in the end zone to

put North Farmington in front, 6-0.

Then Oak Park capitalized on a Raider fumble to get even. Taking over on the North Farmington 26, it took nine plays for Ed Bradford to pass to Dave Kaplan 13 yards for the TD.

In the second period came the

play-of-the-season so far in Michigan prep play.

Oak Park was pushed back to third down on its one-yard line. Bradford gambled with another pass. He hit Kaplan and Dave was off to the races...99 yards for the longest TD pass play in state prep history.

Another Bradford Kaplan pass for 18 yards produced the third-Parker touchdown and it made little difference that Craig scampers in from the six to cap a 61 yard North Farmington drive in the fourth period.

The Raiders netted 88 yards rushing and 100 in the air.

Unbeaten RU Awaits Big Test Against Ford

The BIG one — That's the way Coach Bob Atkins of Redford Union sizes up Friday night's Suburban Eight League collision between his Panthers and Dearborn Edsel Ford.

"Sure, every game is im-

portant," said Atkins, "But this one brings together the two teams which appear to be the front-runners in our league."

Redford Union is 2-0 in the league and 3-0 overall, while Edsel Ford has won one and

lost one in the league and is fresh from a 42-8 romp over Belleville.

Redford Union should have the edge to cope with Ford, or, for that matter, any team.

THE PANTHERS again

kept a foe well in check in turning back Trenton, 19-6. In three games:

1 — Redford Union has allowed only two touchdowns.

2 — Redford Union has not permitted a team to run for

more than 100 yards in a game.

Again it was linebacker Ron Respondek and ends Tom Tullock and Dean Naudi who led the Redford Union defense while RU back Tom Burke turned in perhaps the finest running day in the history of the school.

Burke not only scored two of the RU touchdowns, but he totaled 22 yards in 29 carries, set an RU record when he ran 89 yards from scrimmage for a TD and topped his season total to 525 yards in 53 carries — a fraction under 10 yards per crack.

"He's simply tremendous," said Atkins, who always has looked for a stellar running back at Redford Union.

Grid Ratings

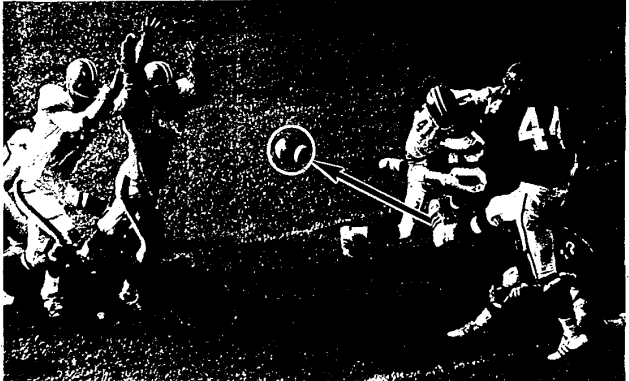
Southfield Lathrup No. 1 with Redford Union and Bishop Borgess in hot pursuit.

That's the way the first edition of the 1971 Observer Newspaper high school football ratings stand.

Lathrup, winner of its first three starts, now has zipped through 11 straight games since last losing its 1970 opener to Southfield.

Redford Union and Borgess also stand 3-0. Both not only have powerful offensive teams, they also are mighty on defense. Borgess hasn't allowed a point, Redford Union just two touchdowns in three games.

The ratings:



CHARGING IN to block the placement for extra point that kept Thurston High from winning are Ben Holwig (56) and Mike Dugan (67) of Franklin. Mark Miller is trying for the PAT but didn't get it off. The final score was 9-9. (Photo by Tom Donoghue).

Patriots Block Eagle PAT To Salvage Tie

Franklin and Thurston finished their Northwest Suburban League opener Saturday as they started — in a tie. The only difference being that each team passed nine points in the duel.

A duel which saw 50 passes attempted and six intercepted, five fumbles, and 100 yards marched off in penalties.

Franklin linemen Ben Holwig and Mike Dugan overcame a tie for the Patriots when they blocked an extra point attempt with five minutes remaining.

Franklin struck first when a Thurston pass from center sailed over the head of punter Jeff Smrka and landed out of the end zone giving Franklin a safety and a 2-0 lead.

On the Thurston free-kick,

Franklin took control on the Eagle 42. John Casey passed to Mark Newman for a first down on the Thurston 30. Casey connected with Dennis Schik on a screen pass that was good for 30 yards and a Patriot Touchdown. David Morrison converted and Franklin led at the half 9-0.

THE THIRD quarter began with Dave Harding recovering a Franklin fumble for "The Digs on the Eagles" 42.

Eagle QB Bob Graustein galloped to the Patriot 44 for a first down. He then took to the air and hit halfback Bill Steele for 38 yards and a first down on the seven.

Franklin held and Mark Miller's 30 yard field goal split the uprisings to keep Franklin's lead to 9-3.

Late in the third quarter

Thurston started another drive. Franklin tackle, Bill Archer, threw Graustein for an 18 yard loss to the Eagle 36. Graustein came back with a 30 yard pass to John Stein and Thurston had a first down on the Franklin 34.

A passing interference call moved the ball to the 20.

The first play of the fourth quarter saw Thurston facing a fourth and nine situation on Franklin's 19. Graustein pitched to halfback Mark Miller who in turn flipped back to Graustein for 13 yards and a first down. In two carries Miller took the ball to the one.

Graustein went over to tie the score at 9-9 but Miller's attempt for extra point split the blocked and the score remained 9-9.

Newman returned a Thurston punt 75 yards but the TD was called back due to a clipping infraction.

Both teams attempted desperation passes in an attempt to break the deadlock but time ran out and the scoreboard read 9-9 at the final gun.

FRANKLIN COLLECTED 76 yards on the ground with John Phipps gaining 56. Thurston was held to only one yard rushing in 17 attempts.

The Thurston passing attack picked up 129 yards in 12 out of 36 attempts with four interceptions. Franklin was three for 14 for a total of 54 yards.

Franklin lost the ball three times on five fumbles.

Harrison Sneaks By Loop Rival, 12-7

Farmington Harrison broke into the win column in a come-from-behind victory over Churchill, 12-7. Chris Pagnucco's two yard sneak midway in the fourth quarter gave Harrison the victory in the "Western Six League opener for both schools.

Dave Manos accounted for 131 of Farmington's 188 yards on the ground, including a 14 yard gallop in the first quarter.

Churchill struck first when it marched 48 yards the first time it had the ball. Phil Damaska sprinted 15 yards around left end, and Ernie Comini converted the extra point to make it Churchill, 7-0.

HARRISON BOUNCED back from its own 21 yard quarter on a drive from its own 28, when QB Pagnucco hit Art Siegle for a 38 yard pass to Churchill's 36.

A personal foul against Churchill put the ball on the 21 and Manos concluded the drive with a 14 yard run around right end. Jim Foster blocked the PAT and Churchill's 7-6 lead held up, to the

five minute mark of the fourth quarter.

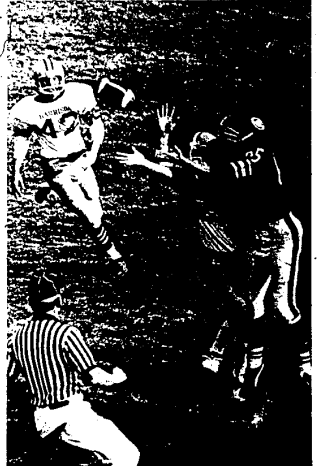
Penalties took a toll in the third quarter when a 13 yard TD run by Manos and a Churchill interception were nullified. A 35 yard field goal attempt by Manos fell short and the score remained 7-6 at the end of the third quarter.

HARRISON'S OFFENSE started to click in the fourth quarter on a drive from the 43. Manos picked up four first downs and Pagnucco went over from the two to give Harrison a 12-7 lead.

Churchill fought back with its passing attack and moved the ball to the Harrison 14 with two minutes remaining.

On a third and four play, Barnes found Damaska open in the end zone on a counter-pass play but the ball slipped through his hands. A fourth down desperation pass was deflected and Tom Erkert, of Harrison, intercepted to choke off Churchill's last chance.

Churchill picked up 13 first downs to Harrison's 12 but was outdistanced by 30 in total yardage, 166-138.



SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE but Churchill's Jim Watson (65) managed to hold on to this pass even though closely guarded by Harrison's Craig Kallgren (42) and Dan McConaghy (22). (Photo by Tom Donoghue).

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