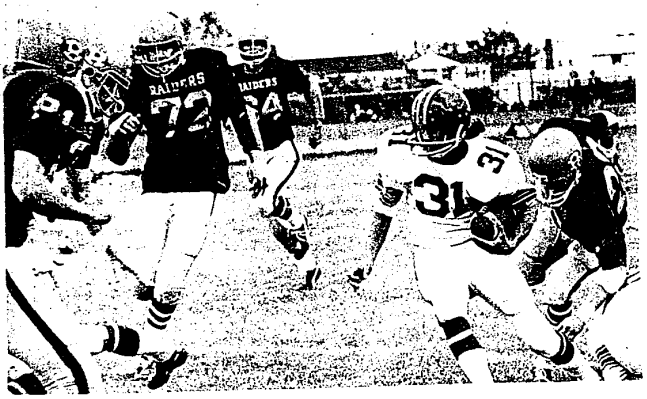
Franklin Errors Push NF Raiders To 5th Triumph



CLOSING IN -- Five North Farmington tacklers move in to halt Franklin halfback Tony Dattilio (31) after catching a pass from Joe Jinnett. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

It was a simple case of one team capitalizing on another's mistakes.

Northwest Suburban defending champion North Farmington toppled Livonia Franklin out of the six school football race, 22-14, and the Raiders stand tall at 5-0 overall and 3-0 in league action.

But somewhere over there in Garden City, there stands a new team in the league with a record identical to North's. Someone must fall Oct. 28 with East invading North.

North jumped on Franklin midway through the first quarter.

TONY DATTILIO got off a bad punt, and North took over on the Franklin 35. John Dwyer connected with Jim Fredericks for a first down, and Dwyer sliced in off tackle for a six yard score.

Dwyer's conversion was good, and the Raiders were on their way to make it nine wins in 12 meetings with Franklin. But the football was to take many a wierd bounce before the afternoon was over.

North's Brad Pease fumbled a punt, and Franklin took control on the Raider 20. After a short loss, Joe Jinnett hit Dattilio on a screen pass. The Patriot halfback got by four Raider defenders to pay dirt, his conversion was good, and it was tied at 7-all.

With two minutes remaining in the half, Franklin was penalized for roughing Dwyer on a punt, and the Raiders took advantage of the call.

Dwyer and Fredericks combined for a first down, and Dwyer tossed a 26 yarder to Bill Doerr. The kick attempt was blocked, but North was ahead at the half, 13-7.

FREDERICKS FUMBLED to start off the second half and Franklin gained control on the North 12 yard line.

Jinnett broke the barrier and dashed seven yards around end. Dattilio converted, and Franklin had edged ahead, 14-13.

North fumbled again and Franklin took over on the Raider 16.

Jinnett moved the club down to the four where it was first and goal.

The snap from center was fumbled, however, and before Franklin knew what had happened, it had the ball back on the 25 on second down.

"This was the turning point of the game," said North Coach Ron Holland. "Franklin had us, but we turned them back."

North stopped Franklin on the seven and that was the extent of the Patriot offensive punch.

DWYER PICKED off a stray Franklin pass midway through the fourth stanza, Pease swept left end for an 11 yard score, and North was back in the driver's seat, 19-14.

A desperation pass for Franklin fell short, North's Mike Daley intercepted, and North had control on the Franklin 10.

Dwyer booted a 21 yard field goal and the Raiders had all in control.

North travels to John Glenn Friday night while Franklin hosts Oak Park Friday afternoon.

ELUDING ALL -- Franklin's Tony Dattilio got by the five Raider defenders and spurted 26 yards for the Patriots second score. North Farmington won, 22-14. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

observerland Prep Schedule

FOOTBALL

FRIDAY

Allen Park at Bentley (Homecoming), 7:30 p.m.
Churchill at Waterford Mott, 8 p.m.
Clarenceville at Andover, 8 p.m.
Harrison at Northville, 8 p.m.
Thurston vs GC East (Homecoming) at GC West, 8 p.m.
N. Farmington at John Glenn, 8 p.m.
Plymouth at Redford Union, 8 p.m.
Seaholm at Southfield (Homecoming), 8 p.m.
Lathrup at Bloomfield Lahser, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

WL Central at Farmington, 2 p.m.
Oak Park at Franklin, 2 p.m.
Waterford at Stevenson (Homecoming), 2 p.m.
Southgate at GC West, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

Bishop Gallagher at Borgess, 2:30 p.m.

Trojans Blitzed, 35-8

By GORDON TUCKER
Special Writer

It's a surprise these days when Clarenceville scores a touchdown.

After three straight shutouts, it looked as if the Trojans had forgotten what touchdown means. But it happened Friday. The amnesia finally disappeared.

Clarenceville pushed across a quick eight points with a late fourth quarter surge to give a partisan Trojan homecoming crowd something to cheer about. The score came too late, however, as Clarkston had already rolled up a 35 point advantage to down Clarenceville, 35-8.

About the only thing exciting in the game was the crowning of the queen during halftime.

JUNIOR QUARTERBACK Brian Luka played one of his best games, completing eight of 12 passes for 66 yards for Clarenceville. Luka was intercepted twice. Assistant coach Mike Shearer described Luka's passing as "one of the strongest points of our game."

Injured tailback Terry Laird saw action on five plays, one accounting for the only Trojan score. With just a few minutes remaining in the last quarter, Laird fired a 32-yard pass to Dale Carrel, who bounded into the end zone for six points. Kim Schllock followed with the two point conversion.

Clarenceville was presented several scoring opportunities during the game, but miscues forced a turnover each time.

MIDWAY THROUGH the second quarter, junior Doug Pozniak picked up a Clarkston fumble and darted 60 yards to the Wolves' 10 yard line. On the next play, Luka's handoff to Dan Waterstone was dropped, and Clarkston recovered to avert a Trojan score.

"We don't take advantage of opportunities," Shearer explained. "Every time we get the ball, we lose it on fumbles or interceptions."

Clarkston capitalized on Trojan mistakes throughout the game. Twice during the second quarter with Clarenceville attempting to punt, the snap from center sailed over the kicker's head with Clarkston covering the ball.

DEFENSIVELY, Bob Bame, Tony Phillips and Larry Madgewich played well. Bame led the defense with 11 solo tackles and one assist. Phillips accounted for six unaided stops and five assists.

Clarenceville's offense rolled up almost 200 total yards against the Wolves, but Shearer noted that "you don't win when your defense can't stop them from scoring."

Carrel and Shollock tallied 80 yards in pass receptions, and Waterstone smashed through the Clarkston line five times for 27 yards.

Clarenceville's upcoming schedule is a tough one. The Trojans will face undefeated Bloomfield Hills Andover on Friday and West Bloomfield on Oct. 27.

Prospects for a late season Trojan win are not good.

Ski Heil

By BILL CAMERON

A nice thing happened to me at my daughter's junior high open house last week. As I was entering a room, a charming lady stopped me and told me how much she and her husband enjoyed reading my column. Can you imagine what that did to my ego? I spent the remainder of the evening suffering from delusions of grandeur, comparing myself with the great writers of this century, Hemingway, Steinbeck, Joe Falls, Erma Bombeck, Alex Karras! My readership is now up to 44 (30 Pelician Sisters, five office staff, five family members and four assorted individuals.)

Anyway, it is that time of year again. According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, Michiganders can look forward to three major snow storms this winter! I would settle for one. I am sure if you all made a pledge to "Think Snow" and were serious about it, we would probably have a fantastic season.

But I have doubts about some of you. There are times I think you prefer the lodge, rather than tackling that sub-zero temperature, biting wind, icy runs and the crowds.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? The serious skiers are congregating at the Livonia Family Y for that fantastic pre-ski conditioning program.

My grapevine tells me that the instructor is the best in the business. His class meets twice a week--Mondays and Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. for a total of 15 classes.

The workouts include first a testing program, calisthenics, apparatus and tumbling, jogging and swimming. If you plan on skiing outside of Michigan this program becomes more important.

Speaking of skiing outside of Michigan, I've finally received verification on our hotel accommodations and our ski trip to Zermatt, Switzerland is officially accepting reservations. We leave Feb. 9 and return Feb. 18. I've skied Zermatt on three different occasions and never cease to tire of it. If I could choose my retirement spot, thah would be it. Why don't you join me? My gorgeous secretary has all the information. Just call Bonnie at the Livonia Y.

THE INTERNATIONAL Ski and Winter Sport Show will be held at Cobo Hall beginning on Thursday, Nov. 2 and running through Sunday, Nov. 5. Ticket prices have gone up, but if you stop at one of the local ski shops, you can get 50-cent discount tickets that you can present at the box office.

We've had so many inquiries about cross-country skiing that we're planning on starting a ski club in the near future.

Our popular ladies ski day will be offered this year on both Tuesdays and Thursdays. It seemed like every Tuesday was a great day last winter while Thursdays were generally poor. This year you'll have a choice. We will begin the first week of December, weather permitting. We'll keep you posted in future columns.

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