

Lathrup's defense held up well against Birmingham Seaholm's giants, but the Maples won, 8-6

Lathrup comes close, but Seaholm wins, 8-6

By TOM BAER

Lathrup coach Darrell Harper had a big decision to make with 1:20 left in the Lathrup-Birmingham Seaholm football game last Friday.

Seaholm was leading, 8-6, but Lathrup was threatening. It was fourth down and the Chargers were just three yards from a touchdown which probably would have won the game. A field goal would also have won the game—by one point.

Harper decided on a running play, and halfback Brian Bolin was nailed at the line. Time ran out and coach Bob Rankin's Maples had their first victory of the season.

"I thought about kicking a field goal, but that was quite an angle and I have a side saddle kicker," said Harper in Lathrup's steamy locker room after the game.

The first half was scoreless with Seaholm threatening just once. The Maples' edge was in their size—linemen like 360-pound John Livy, 250-pound Bob MacIntyre and 210-pound Mike McFadden. Lathrup never could get much of an offense going against that kind of bulk.

"They outmanned us, that's all," Harper said. "They were stunting and



there was nothing we could do about it."

SEAHOLM, WHICH ran 45 plays to Lathrup's 40, scored with 3:00 left in the third quarter. Senior quarterback Jim Kazanski ran seven yards up the middle for the TD. The play was set up by an 11-yard reverse run by Jim Peterson and a Lathrup face-mask penalty.

Lathrup was offside on the extra-point kick, and Seaholm then tried a run for points and Kazanski went over to make it 8-0.

Lathrup scored with 6:44 left in the final quarter. Seaholm fumbled on a double-reverse try and Mike Kemper recovered on the Maple seven yard line. On the next play, Keith Otterbein went up the middle for the touch-

down. The conversion attempt, a pitch-out to Bolin, failed.

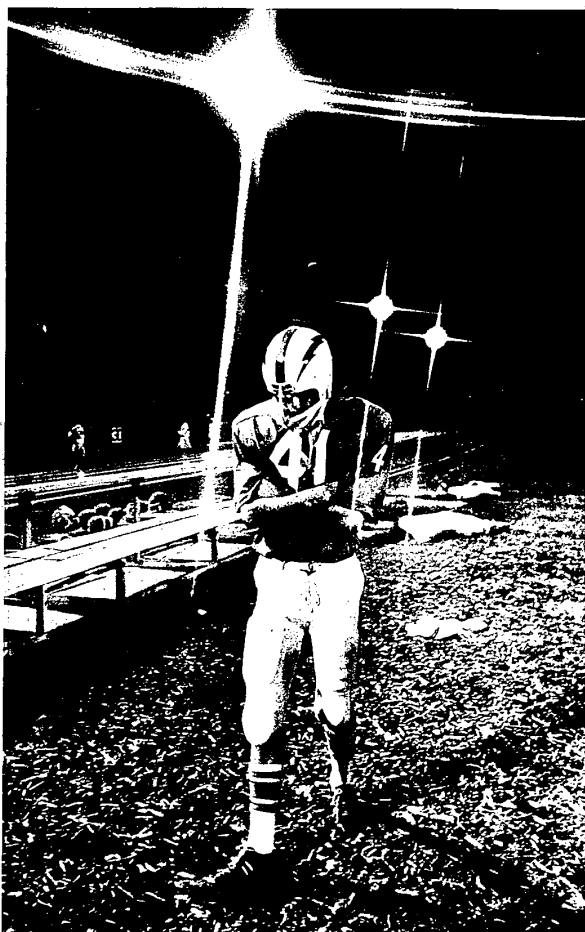
Harper may have been disappointed in his team's offense, but he had every right to be proud of the defense, which stood up well to Seaholm's size.

Kemper, a 59, 185-pound senior, was the leader with 12 tackles and two fumble recoveries. Otterbein was responsible for eight tackles and one pass interception.

"We have a good defense, no doubt about that," Harper said. "But you can't stay on defense all the time."

Seaholm rushed for 85 yards on the ground. Kazanski gained 33, and halfback Scott Thompson picked up 33.

Lathrup's Bolin rushed for 54 yards. Lathrup meets nonleague Ferndale High at home on Friday at 8 p.m. The game will be telecast by WTWS, Channel 36, beginning at 10 p.m.



Lathrup's Brian Bolin ponders his team's defeat

Blue Jays stumble in football opener

Birmingham Groves took advantage of Southfield High mistakes and edged the Blue Jays, 14-12, last Friday in the season opener for both teams.

Groves opened the scoring in the first quarter when Kurt Miller ran 30 yards for a touchdown. Steve Poole kicked the extra point.

Southfield High, which gained 218 total yards, came back with a TD in the second quarter when senior quarterback Mike Juscino tossed a 30-yard pass to Steve Trowbridge. The conversion pass failed, and Southfield

found itself a point down at halftime.

Groves added another touchdown in the third quarter. Halfback Mike Lunetta scored on a one-yard plunge, and Poole kicked the extra point.

Juscino, who completed five of 10 passes for 106 yards, accounted for another Southfield touchdown in the fourth quarter. Once again Trowbridge was the target on the 45-yard aerial.

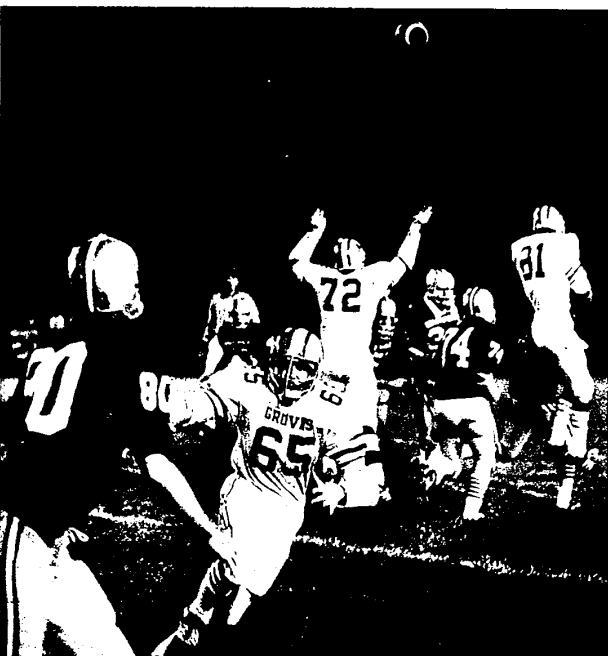
But once again, Southfield's pass conversion failed—two big mistakes which gave Groves the victory.

"I think we played better than the

score indicated," said Southfield assistant coach Greg Sitwka. "We made two big mistakes on the extra points."

Southfield missed a chance to score in the third quarter. The Blue Jays drove to the Groves' 15 yard line before a personal foul penalty ended the threat. The Falcons took over and marched to the Southfield 20.

John Finlayson's Southfield team entertains Brother Rice at 8 p.m. on Friday. Rice, a powerhouse from the Catholic League, defeated Bay City Central last Friday.



Southfield mistakes meant victory for Groves