

Whippets Edge Stubborn Columbian, 14-7; Remain Undeclared In Tight NOL Race



WINGBACK Kevin Calver (above) gets behind blocker Brian Evans (66) for a good gain during Friday's NOL contest, John

Armstrong (below) picks up additional yardage enroute to another outstanding game. (Photos by Linda Stotts)

by DENNIS DURKEE

A heavy downpour ended luckily moments before gametime Friday evening, as Shelby High School had enough problems holding down a stubborn Tiffin Columbian squad, 14-7, in the Whippet's annual Homecoming contest.

The victory, Shelby's third straight, lifted the Whippets into first place in the Northern Ohio League with undefeated Galion while raising Shelby's overall mark to a fast-improving 4-2. Hapless Tiffin fell to 1-2 in the NOL and 1-5 overall.

The Skiles Field turf was wet and slippery after a steady afternoon shower but Tiffin came to play, hoping an upset of heavily-favored Shelby could put the Rams back on track.

The visitors got off to a slow start, however, after losing two yards on their first series of play.

Tiffin punted to their own 43, where Shelby took over on their first possession.

Three plays later, though, on a fourth-and-three count, the Whippets lost the ball on a fumble on a pitch from junior quarterback Pat Rose to tailback John Armstrong.

Tiffin regained possession and marched 63 yards on eleven

plays for the game's first score.

Tailback Jim Smith scampered 29 yards on an option pitch to spark the drive and later caught a 26-yard pass from Tornado quarterback Eric Goshe, moving the ball to the Shelby eleven.

Goshe scored from the one-yard line and Scott Colbert added the extra point on a kick as Tiffin led, 7-0 with 3:03 remaining in the first quarter.

Shelby again, though, was unable to generate an offensive drive, being hampered by two unlost fumbles on their next series.

After an exchange of the ball, however, Shelby began a drive on their own 14 which included a number of runs by Armstrong and a 21-yard scamper by senior wingback Kevin Calver.

The drive stalled, though, on the Shelby 42 yard line and Mike Arnold punted for the Whippets.

Colbert caught the punt but slipped on the wet turf and lost the ball as Shelby's Dave Craze recovered it on the Tiffin 15 yard line.

It took just one play for Shelby to score, as Armstrong took a pitch around the left side for the tally.

A pass for the two-point conversion failed and Tiffin held a 7-6 halftime lead.

An error-free third quarter went fast as Shelby spent much of the period on a long drive that started on their own 31-yard line.

Armstrong, who was being watched closely by the Tiffin defense throughout much of the first half, found some running room to spark the drive.

On a three-and-six count at the Tiffin 16, Armstrong battered up the middle for a first down on the ten and the Whippets were knocking on the door once again.

Armstrong struggled for five yards on the first down and added two more on the second, giving Shelby a third-and-three situation.

The slippery grass again played a role in the contest as Rose slid on the next play for a two-yard loss.

After a timeout, the Whippets

lined up for a crucial fourth-and-five situation on Tiffin's five-yard line, but Armstrong was stopped and Tiffin had held Shelby from a score.

The Whippet defense rose to the occasion, though, and Tiffin was forced to punt after three downs.

Shelby got good field position on the Tiffin 37 yard line and promptly scored four plays later to make up for the previous effort.

Rose hit Mike Arnold on a 22-yard pass to move the ball to the Tiffin ten before Calver gained eight yards on a reverse.

Armstrong scored his second touchdown of the night on the following play on a one-yard rush.

Rose hit end Jerry Roth for the extra points and Shelby led, 14-7, with 11:57 remaining in the game.

A toughened Whippet defense held Tiffin in check the rest of the contest as neither team was able to move the ball with much success.

A Gosche pass intended for Frank Riley was intercepted at the Tiffin 20 by Craze with under two minutes remaining.

Shelby drove to the five-yard line but was unable to score as time expired.

On the evening, Armstrong rushed for 155 yards on 37 carries to lead Shelby while John Lewis earned 31 yards on 12 carries.

Rose, playing the entire contest, was three-for-five passing for 38 yards.

Arnold's four punts traveled 167 yards for a 41.7 yard average.

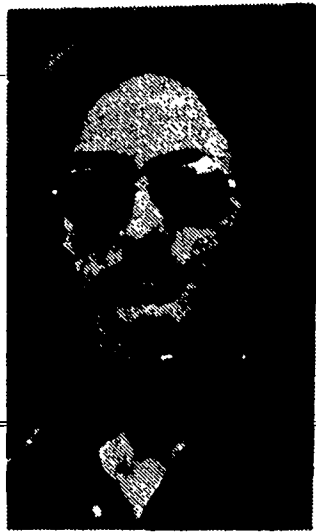
Offensively, Shelby gained 205 yards on the ground and 38 through the air for a 243-yard effort.

Tiffin, meanwhile, gained 87 yards on 29 carries and added 39 yards on three-of-six completed passes.

The Whippet defense was led by sophomore middle guard Tim Swanger with seven tackles, many of them in key situations. Tackle Jeff Ratliff had six tackles for Shelby.



MIKE ARNOLD
Four punts for 167 yards



DAVE CRAZE
Fumble recovery, interception

The Whippets are home for the second straight week Friday as they entertain Norwalk in a key NOL contest.

SHELBY 0 6 0 7-14
Tiffin 7 0 0 0-7
Tiffin-Gosche, 1 run (kick)
Shelby-Armstrong, 15 run (pass failed)
Shelby-Armstrong, 1 run (Roth pass from Rose)
A-2,457

Standings

NORTHERN OHIO LEAGUE			
SHELBY	3-0	4-2-0	
Galion	3-0	6-0-0	
Norwalk	2-1	4-2-0	
Bucyrus	1-2	4-2-0	
Bellevue	1-2	3-3-0	
Willard	1-2	2-3-1	
Upper San.	1-2	2-3-1	
Tiffin Col.	0-3	1-4-0	

NEXT WEEK'S GAMES
Norwalk at SHELBY (Parents' Night)
Bellevue at Willard
Bucyrus at Tiffin Col.
Galion at Upper Sandusky

NOL Round-Up

Kick Return Aids Galion

Galion remained undefeated while Bellevue and Norwalk both notched victories in the Northern Ohio League's third weekend of conference action.

The Tigers share the NOL lead with Shelby, both at 3-0 league marks, while Norwalk is a game back and a four-team logjam is tied at 1-2.

Only Tiffin Columbian, which lost to Shelby last night, has yet to win a conference contest.

Galion, meanwhile, earned 133 yards in the contest, 92 on the ground and 41 of them passing.

Willard picked up 13 first downs in the game while limiting Galion to seven.

Willard lost the ball once on a fumble while the Tigers were handicapped by two interceptions.

GALION 7 0 0 0-7
WILLARD 0 0 0 0-0

BELLEVUE-BUCYRUS
The Bucyrus Redmen suffered their second straight setback Friday, losing 23-13 to another team of Redmen, Bellevue.

Bellevue had the upper hand throughout most of the contest, though they were outstrutted by Bucyrus 276 yards to 200 yards.

Bellevue's Tom Green opened the scoring with 7:29 remaining in the first quarter when he hit John Green with a ten-yard pass.

Midway through the second frame, though, Bucyrus' Joe Teynor found Steve Ransom on a 74-yard pass play.

Bellevue rebounded with a six-yard scoring strike from T.

Green to Rich Fox with a minute remaining in the half to take a 12-6 lead into the locker rooms.

Bellevue increased their lead with 7:19 left in the third quarter on a two-yard run by Tom Taggart.

Bucyrus' Teynor found Ransom from the eight-yard line for this third scoring pass of the night, but the Redmen were unable to catch up.

Bellevue put the game out of reach late in the fourth quarter on a 27-yard field goal by Rodger Joseph.

Duke Haynes earned 91 yards on 23 carries for Bellevue, though he didn't score any points for the Redmen.

Some 119 of Bellevue's 200 yards came on the ground while 81 were through the air.

Bucyrus gained 163 yards rushing and 113 through the air. BELLEVUE 6 6 8 13-23
BUCYRUS 0 6 7 0-13

NORWALK-U. SANDUSKY
Norwalk marched out to a 35-0 lead and were never headed Friday as they bested Upper Sandusky.

Norwalk used an awesome

attack, gaining 417 total yards, and were able to hold the Rams to 102 yards in the game.

Norwalk's Jim Arlin and Larry Liebold both scored a pair of touchdowns for the Truakers as Arlin gained 149 yards on 19 carries and Liebold earned 170 yards on 16 carries.

Arlin scored first on a four-yard run while moments later in the second quarter Liebold scored from the 22 on a scamper. Liebold broke loose in the third frame for a 58-yard scoring run while Wes Douglas scored from the two-yard line early in the fourth period.

Arlin finished the Trucker scoring spree midway through the final frame on a 60-yard scamper.

Upper finally got on the board when Craig Marshall scored on an eight-yard run.

Upper Sandusky had troubles all evening, losing the ball once on a fumble and once on an interception and being moved 45 yards on penalties.

NORWALK 0 14 7 14-35
UPPER 0 0 0 7-7

Cougars Win, 13-8

CRESTVIEW — Lexington finally scored their first points of the season Friday night, but a determined Crestview defense was too much as the Cougars took a 13-8 Johnny Appleseed Conference win.

Crestview moved their record to 4-2 overall while Lexington dropped to 0-5 on the year as it was the first JAC game for both teams.

Crestview scored first with 48 seconds remaining in the first

quarter when Scott Pruner grabbed a Lexington pass and ran 30 yards for the score.

Joe Pfister's extra-point kick gave the Cougars a 7-0 lead.

Dan Cronister added Crestview's second score with 6:57 remaining in the second period on a nine-yard run, though the extra-point kick failed.

Lexington's first score of the entire season came with 21 seconds left in the half as Sam White tallied from the four-yard line. Rick Harper ran the conversion points in.

Crestview rushed for 148 yards in the contest and gained 30 yards through the air for a 178-yard offensive output.

Lexington, meanwhile, was held to 83 yards on the ground and only 12 through the air.

Pruner led all rushers with 79 yards on 19 carries while Cronister earned 68 yards on 18 carries.

"Our defense really did the job of us," said Bill Seder, head coach at Crestview. "They held them down most of the second half."

The Cougars look for their second JAC win next week when they entertain Ontario.

CRESTVIEW 7 6 0 0-13
LEXINGTON 0 8 0 0-8

Golfers Advance To Districts

MANSFIELD — The Shelby Senior High golf team tackled one of its big hurdles on their way to a possible state championship as they came in second in the AAA sectionals held at Westbrook Country Club Friday morning.

The second place finish was good enough to advance to the AAA districts to be held at Sylvania Highland Meadows Country Club next weekend.

Finishing ahead of the Whippet golfers was non-league foe Lexington whom Shelby had beaten once and lost to once during the season.

First place finisher Lexington had 338, SHELBY 339, Marion Harding, 341, Ashland Senior 343, Sandusky Senior 346, Mansfield Madison 349, Galion, 351, Port Clinton 353, Fremont Ross, Tiffin Columbian, 361, Vermilion, 362, and Mansfield Senior 440.

Lexington, Shelby and Marion Harding will all advance to district competition.

Number one Shelby golfer, Brent Bonney, had an 18-hole score of 81 with a 42 and 39.

The second man, Jamie Elliot, fired an identical 81 with the same scores of 42 and 39.

Third man, Ed Plocek, was off the pace with a 40 and 47 for an 87.

Mike Kahl, who was the four man, had a disappointing score of 91 with a 47 and 44.

Shelby's number five linkster Chris Korbis had a 48 and 42 for a 90 tally total.

Coach Ken Terman noted the scores were disappointing and also commented it was a bad day weatherwise.

Blues Home Tonight

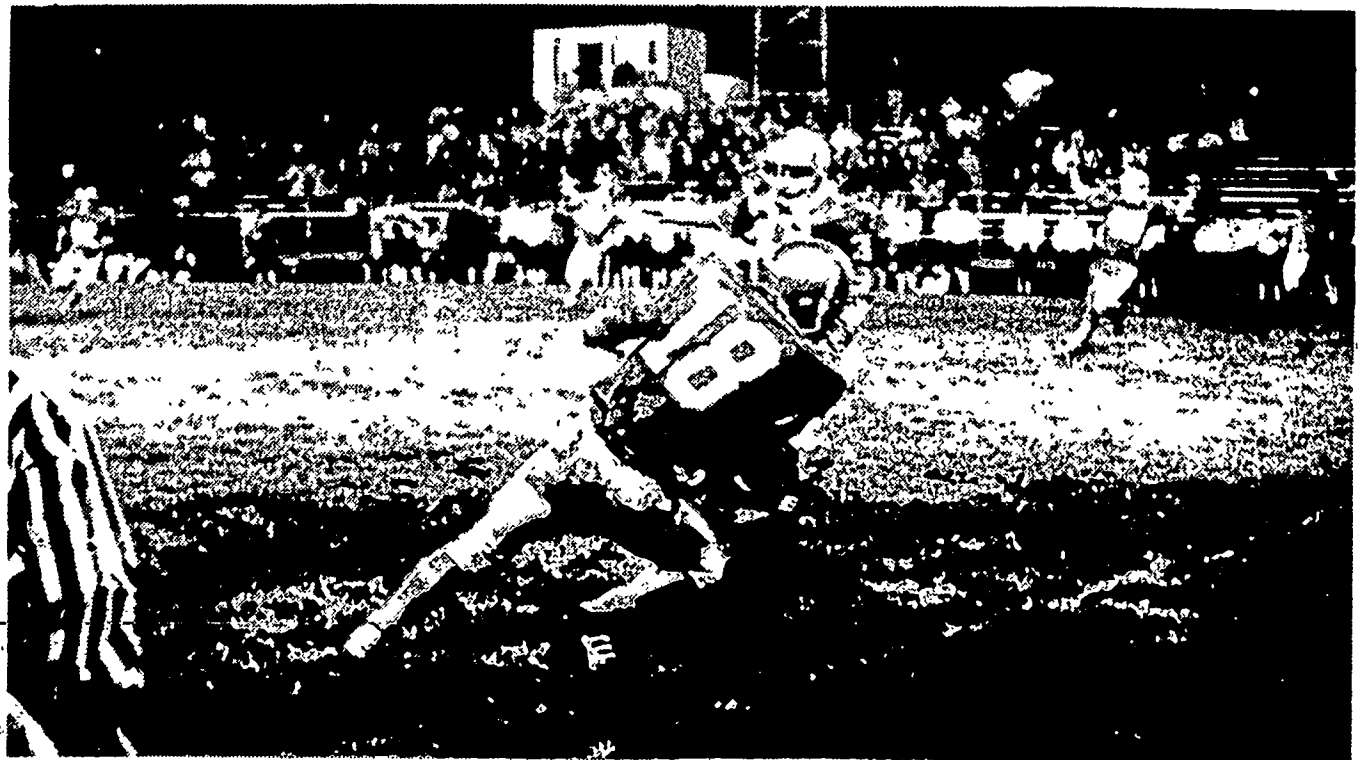
The Shelby Blues entertain Springfield tonight in a crucial Ohio Football League encounter at Skiles Field Kick-off is at 7:30 p.m.

Springfield is currently in first place in the OFL's Western Division while the Blues still trail Tuscarawas by one game in the close Eastern Division race.

Shelby enters the contest with a 4-2 record and needs a win to insure a showdown contest with Tuscarawas next week on the road, for the probable Eastern Division crown.

FOOTBALL SCORES

NOL
SHELBY 14, Tiffin Col 7
Norwalk 35, Upper 7
Galion 7, Willard 0
Bellevue 23, Bucyrus 13
OTHER AREA SCORES
Plymouth 27, Ontario 7
Crestview 13, Lexington 0
Col Crawford 13, Mohawk 7
Ashland 6, Mansfield Malabar 0
New Phila 10, Mansfield Madison 0
Fremont Ross 14, Mansfield Sr. 0
Loudonville 13, Clear Fork 9
Ridgedale 9, Wynford 8
Margaretta 17, Sandusky Perkins 6
Tiffin Calvert 20, Clyde 16
Riverdale 23, Pleasant 19
Dover 14, Wooster 7
River Valley 17, Elgin 14
Crestline 14, Highland 0
Mt. Gilead 18, Northmor 8
Cardington 28, Marion Catholic 14



WHIPPET Dave Craze (18) picks off a fourth quarter interception from Tiffin's Eric Goshe to insure the victory for Shelby, 14-7. (Photos by Linda Stotts)