

Big Red rallies in 4th for win

Plymouth kicks Edison around 13-6

By CHUCK RIDENOUR
Globe Sports Editor

NORWALK — After years of being kicked around, the Plymouth Big Red enjoyed their share of kicking opponents around in 1983.

It would only be fitting for the Big Red to get that last good kick against Milan Edison, the tough class AA team in the Class A dominated Firelands Conference.

In the north-south division second annual battle for the Firelands Conference championship, Plymouth manhandled the Chargers Friday evening during snowy and windy conditions at Whitney Field before a crowd of 1,000.

The Firelands Conference champs finished the year at 10-1, with the only loss being to Edison back in the fifth week, 39-6. The Chargers ended their year at 9-2 and had their four-year stronghold on FC titles broken by the large underdogs from Plymouth.

The loss for Edison was a gracious payback for that slaughter administered many weeks ago when the Big Red had to play without the services of bruising fullback Richard Cunningham. Cunningham missed the first meeting due to an injury, but he made up for lost time by sloshing through the mud for 90 yards on 24 carries. It was Cunningham's great second and third efforts which sustained the scoring drives of 81 and 45 yards.

"Richard (Cunningham) was outstanding and so were Bill McVey (right guard) and Chad McGinnis (center)," said coach Richard Roll, who keyed a turn around of 8 games. Last year Plymouth was 2-8.

"Cunningham was amazing," said losing coach Jim Whittington. "He came up with some great individual efforts even after we had him in our grasp. I've said all week that his presence made Plymouth a better running team. Tonight we found out why."

The Chargers jumped out in front in the first quarter when a Plymouth fumble was recovered at the Big Red 30-yard line and then an 11-yard run by Jeff Springer gave Edison its only points of the evening.

In the second half the Big Red got many big plays towards the end zone from their own 19. The drive appeared to be in death's hold with a fourth and sixth situation, but Edison was slapped with a 15-yard penalty for roughing the kicker and the drive was alive.

During the third period the Big Red started an 81-yard journey to the end zone from their own 19. The drive appeared to be in death's hold with a fourth and sixth situation, but Edison was slapped with a 15-yard penalty for roughing the kicker and the drive was alive.

Coach Roll showed that he could probably go out to Las Vegas and be successful, by taking chances on the long drive with two critical fourth down calls. On those two calls it was Cunningham who fired out of the backfield and shredded the Edison defensive line for a pair of pickups for first downs.

After a shaky first half of passing, Hampton completed his only pass of the final 24 minutes, a 27-yard scoring pass to end Tom Baker, who was racing down the left sideline on the third and one situation. Mike McKenzie's kick was blocked with 8:52 left to play and the score stayed 6-6.

An inspired Plymouth defense was swarming and forced Edison to punt the ball away on the next series. The Big Red got the break needed with a short punt to the Edison 45-yard line.

Cunningham and McKenzie pounded their way towards paydirt and during the drive McKenzie squirted loose for a 15-yard gain to the one-yard line. The 25-yard run was the longest of the game. Two plays later McKenzie burrowed his way through the left side at the 2:07 for a 12-6 Plymouth lead. McKenzie then booted the PAT kick but Edison came storming back.

The Chargers drove from their 43-yard line but ran out of downs when Baker drilled fullback Kurt Ostheimer in the flats on a pass that was five yards short of the first down at the Plymouth eight-yard line with 15 seconds left to play.

"Earlier this week we showed the team a movie about the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey team. We felt that it kind of fit what we've been through as a team, being the underdogs for such a long time," said Roll.

"It's a funny thing about this group of seniors. They never showed one bit of emotion in practice all week and that kind of worried me, but they had all the emotion necessary to do the job tonight. The kids wanted this win very badly."

Stats went in Plymouth's favor as the Big Red held a 142-135 edge in total yards. Plymouth rushed for 103 yards each with McKenzie adding 42. Springer and Ostheimer had 42 yards each for the losers who ran for a total of 96 stripes. Hampton was three of seven for 39 yards and Edison was three of eight for 69 yards.

The Big Red also held the edge in first downs, 10-7.

PLYMOUTH 0 0 0 13-13
EDISON 6 0 0 0-6

E—Springer 11-yard run (kick failed)
P—Hampton 27-yard pass to Baker (kick failed)
P—McKenzie 1-yard run (McKenzie kick)



Out there somewhere
Who's kicking the ball? It's hard to say with all the mud, the poor lighting and snow, but it was Mike McKenzie who drilled this PAT kick for a 13-6 lead. Holding for McKenzie is backup quarterback Troy Keene. Plymouth defeated Edison for the Firelands Conference title. (Globe photo by Chuck Ridenour)

NFI

NBA

United Press International

H.S. Scores

Ohio High School Football
Playoff Results

By United Press International
Division II

Region 5

At Berne

Brecksville 24, Westlake 3

Region 6

At Troy

Celina 38, Kettering 19

Region 7

At Shubertville

Youngs Ursuline 13, Shubertville 0

Region 8

At Middletown

Lemon-Monroe 17, Cin Greenhills 0

Division III

Region 9

At Kent, Rossvelt

By United Press International
Wales Conference

NHI

By United Press International
Wales Conference

	East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Miami	7	3	0	700	219	164	
Baltimore	6	4	0	650	183	211	
Buffalo	6	4	0	650	180	203	
New England	5	5	0	500	220	196	
NY Jets	4	6	0	400	208	202	

Central

Pittsburgh	8	2	0	800	253	168	
Cleveland	5	5	0	500	202	241	
Cincinnati	4	6	0	400	225	195	
Houston	0	10	0	000	166	301	

West

LA Raiders	3	7	0	700	270	224	
Denver	6	4	0	600	172	174	
Seattle	6	4	0	600	246	225	
Kansas City	4	6	0	400	203	186	
San Diego	3	7	0	300	224	278	

National Conference

	East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Dallas	9	1	0	900	318	215	
Washington	8	2	0	800	339	218	
Philadelphia	4	6	0	400	158	194	
St. Louis	3	6	1	350	205	314	
NY Giants	2	7	1	250	175	229	

Central

Minnesota	6	4	0	600	227	242	
Green Bay	5	5	0	500	275	288	
Detroit	3	7	0	300	217	197	
Chicago	3	7	0	300	184	219	
Tampa Bay	1	9	0	100	158	239	

West

San Francisco	6	4	0	600	278	204	
New Orleans	6	4	0	600	220	213	
LA Rams	6	4	0	600	222	214	
Atlanta	4	6	0	400	206	206	

Sunday's Games

(All Times EST)

- Buffalo at NY Jets, 1 p.m.
- Cincinnati at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
- Detroit at Houston, 1 p.m.
- Green Bay at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
- Miami at New England, 1 p.m.
- Philadelphia at Chicago, 1 p.m.
- Seattle at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
- Tampa Bay at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
- Pittsburgh at Baltimore, 2 p.m.
- Dallas at San Diego, 4 p.m.
- Denver at L.A. Raiders, 4 p.m.
- New Orleans at San Francisco, 4 p.m.
- Washington at NY Giants, 4 p.m.

By United Press International

Wales Conference

Patrick Division

	W	L	T	Pts.
NY Rangers	11	4	2	24
NY Islanders	11	6	0	22
Phila	10	6	1	21
Washington	7	9	0	14
Pittsb	4	11	2	10
NJ	2	14	0	4

Adams Division

	W	L	T	Pts.
Boston	10	4	1	21
Quebec	9	7	2	20
Buffalo	8	6	3	19
Hartford	7	7	1	15
Montreal	7	8	0	14

Campbell Division

	W	L	T	Pts.
Chi	8	8	0	16
Toronto	7	8	1	16
St. Louis	7	8	1	15
Detroit	6	6	8	14
Minn	6	8	1	13

Smythe Division

	W	L	T	Pts.
Edmonton	14	2	1	29
Calgary	6	7	3	15
Vancouver	7	9	1	15
Los Ang	4	8	5	13

Friday's Results

- NY Islanders 6, Pittsb 5
- Buffalo 3, Toronto 1
- Vancouver 2, Winnipeg 2

Atlantic Division		W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston		5	1	.875	—
Philadelphia		5	2	.714	1½
NJ		5	2	.714	1½
Washington		4	4	.500	3
		3	5	.375	4

Central Division		W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis		5	3	.625	—
St. Paul		4	4	.500	1
Chicago		3	4	.429	1½
Indianapolis		2	4	.333	2
Cleveland		2	5	.286	2½
		2	6	.250	3

Western Division		W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles		5	3	.625	—
San Francisco		3	3	.500	1
San Jose		3	3	.500	1
San Antonio		3	5	.375	2
Houston		2	5	.286	2½
San Diego		2	6	.250	3

Pacific Division		W	L	Pct.	GB
Portland		4	2	.750	—
San Jose		5	2	.714	½
Seattle		6	3	.667	½
Edmonton		4	3	.571	1½
Dallas		3	5	.375	3
Phoenix		2	5	.286	3½

Friday's Results	
NY 116, San Dog 95	
NJ 107, Phila 103	
Boston 126, Detroit 118	
Phila 108, Kan City 100	
Washington 125, Chi 124	
OT	
Los Angeles 112, San Antonio 105	
San Jose 119, Phoenix 105	
Seattle 104, Ala 93	

Saturday's Games	
(All Times EST)	
Kan City at Detroit	7:35 p.m.
NJ at Indiana	7:35 p.m.
Denver at San Antonio	8:30 p.m.
Boston at Chi	8:35 p.m.
Dallas at Houston	8:40 p.m.
Portland at Utah	9:30 p.m.
Cleve at Golden State	11:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games	
San Dog at Phila	
Seattle at Nlw	
San Jose at Phoenix	

Mary 13	Region 10
	At Lorain
	Elyria Cath 13, Fostoria 6
	Region 11
	At Gahanna
	St Clairsville 12, Col St Charles 10

MISL

By United Press International
Eastern Division

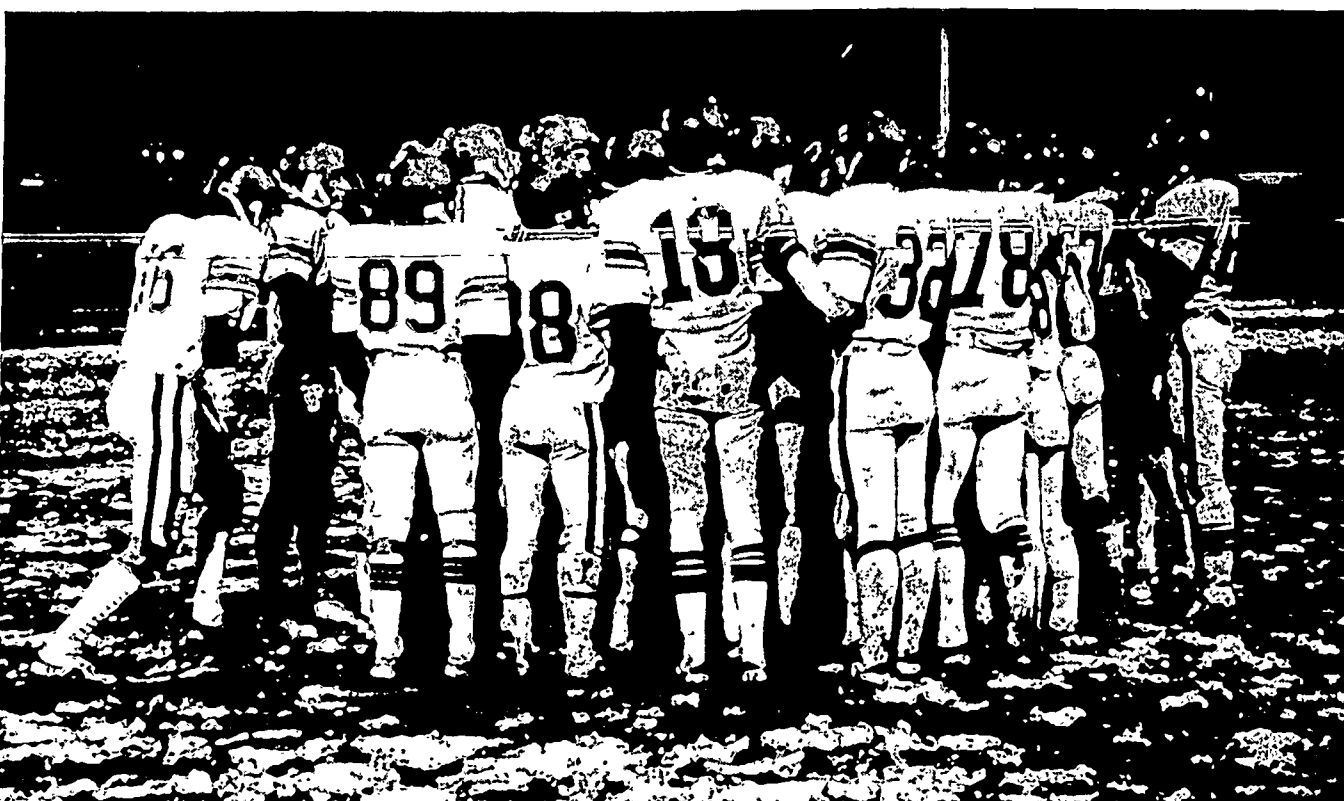
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	2	0	1.000	—
Cleveland	1	0	.000	1½
Memphis	1	1	.500	1
Buffalo	0	1	.000	1½
Pittsburgh	0	1	.000	1½
New York	0	2	.000	2

Western Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	3	0	1.000	—
Kansas City	1	0	.000	1
Los Angeles	1	0	.000	1
Phoenix	0	1	.000	2
Wichita	0	1	.000	2
Tacoma	0	2	.000	2½

Friday's Games

No Games Scheduled	
Saturday's Games	
(All Times EST)	
Wichita at Buffalo	8:05 p.m.
New York at Pittsburgh	8:05 p.m.
Baltimore at Memphis	8:35 p.m.
Tacoma at Phoenix	9:35 p.m.
Sunday's Games	
Cleveland at New York	5:05 p.m.



Clean as a whistle
Gathered together before the start of the second half are the Plymouth Big Red football players. During halftime both the Big Red and Edison teams changed uniforms due to the very sloppy conditions of the field. (Globe photo by Chuck Ridenour)

Elyria Catholic 'picks off' Fostoria 13-6

LORAIN, Ohio (UPI) — Tim Coy picked off a Guy DeMars pass at the 5-yard line and rambled 95 yards for the clinching touchdown in the fourth quarter Friday night as Elyria Catholic defeated Fostoria 13-6 in a Division III semifinal playoff game.

The game was played in a swirling snowstorm with winds gusting up to 35 mph.

Fostoria was driving for what might have been the winning TD when the Panthers' Bob Leshnak rushed through to tackle DeMars as he was throwing, causing a bad pass that Coy grabbed with 7:47 left in the game.

Elyria Catholic went ahead moments before on Al McKinney's 14-yard run and Jim Molnar's kick in the closing seconds of the third quarter.

Fostoria, which ended its season at 10-1, tallied on a 1-yard run by Chris Hoover in the first quarter.

Elyria Catholic, now 11-0, is expected to meet Leavittsburg LaBrea next Friday in the state semifinals, the third straight year the Panthers have reached that level. They've been in the semifinals five out of the last eight years, winning the state title in 1978 and 1977.

20-yard field goal in the first quarter. Westlake quarterback Wade Massad evened the score with a 25-yard field goal 20 seconds before the half.

Brecksville running back Paul Berardinelli dashed 15 yards late in the third quarter to give the Bees a 10-3 lead. Chris Winowich recovered a fumble on the Westlake 7 to set up Brecksville's second touchdown, a one-yard run by Tim Quinlan. Defensive end Dan Thomas pounced on a fumble in the end zone for the final touchdown.

St. Clairsville 12
St. Charles 0

GAHANNA, Ohio (UPI) — Unbeaten St. Clairsville held Columbus St. Charles to 103 total yards and forced the Cardinals into five turnovers in scoring a 12-0 victory in Division III Region 11 state high school football playoffs Friday night at Gahanna Lincoln.

The Red Devils made second- and fourth-quarter touchdowns stand up in improving to 10-0-1. St. Clairsville scored on fullback C.J. Gross' six-yard run and quarterback Joe Vincent's 41-yard scamper on a busted play.

The Cardinals of first-year Coach Tom Vargo concluded their best season in 10 years with an 8-3 record.

Ursuline 13
Steubenville 0

STEUBENVILLE, Ohio (UPI) — Youngstown Ursuline tailback Robert Null had touchdown runs of 67 and 5 yards Friday night to lead his team to a 13-0 triumph over Steubenville in a Division II high school semi-final playoff game at Harding Stadium.

It was the third straight year Steubenville, 10-0 during the regular season, lost to a Youngstown team in the opening round of the playoffs. Ursuline improved its record to 10-1.

Lemon-Monroe 17
Greenhills 0

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio (UPI) — Quarterback Kevin Grass scored a touchdown and set up a second Friday night as Lemon-Monroe's Hornets shut out the previously unbeaten Cincinnati Greenhills Patriots 17-0 in a Division II high school semi-final playoff game.

Monroe's stingy defense caused six Greenhills turnovers and allowed the Patriots to complete only one of 12 passes, intercepting three. Greenhills managed only 161 yards total offense.

The Hornets, now 10-1, scored their touchdowns on a one-yard run by Grass and Ron Morton. Mark Brattlie added a 23-yard field goal.

Arnold returned the ensuing kickoff 86 yards and the Lions never threatened again.

Bishop Ready 22
West Jefferson 13

GRÖVEPORT, Ohio (UPI) — Columbus Bishop Ready defeated West Jefferson, defending Division IV state champions, 22-13 at Groveport Stadium Friday night in a Division IV semi-final high school playoff game.

Bishop Ready used a powerful ground attack in the second half to break a 7-7 halftime tie. Tailback Jewel Jackson rushed for 201 yards in 25 carries to key the ball-control attack.

Loudonville 49
Margaretta 8

MANSFIELD, Ohio (UPI) — Quarterback Scott Vickers ran for two long touchdowns and threw for another TD as Loudonville overpowered Castalia Margaretta 49-8 in Division IV Region 14 Ohio high school football playoffs Friday night.

Vickers, a 6-foot-1, 185-pound senior, opened the scoring with a 45-yard touchdown scamper less than three minutes into the game. He later scored on a 62-yard run as the Redbirds jumped out to a 23-0 lead early in the second quarter.

Celina 38
Kettering Alter 19

TROY, Ohio (UPI) — Tailback Rick Ross scored three touchdowns Friday night to power Celina to a 38-19 victory over Kettering Alter in a Division II high school football semi-final playoff game.

LaBrea 19
Akron St. V-M 13

KENT, Ohio (UPI) — Senior halfback Tony Stephens rambled for two touchdowns, including a 72-yard burst late in the third quarter, to lead Leavittsburg LaBrea to a 19-13 victory Friday night over Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary in a Division III state high school semi-final playoff game.

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