

Columbian spoils Willard's NOL, playoff hopes,

TIFFIN — "Our worst-played game of the season came during the most important one," said Willard first-year mentor Terry King as his Crimson Flashes suffered a 28-6 setback at the hands of Tiffin Columbian Friday.

"All we had to do was win the game and we would have been co-champions of the league, but it slipped away," he added.

Tiffin's first score came at the 4:09 mark of the opening period as Mark Stephens climaxed a 61-yard drive on the 11th play with a nine yard touchdown run. Adams Engle hit his first of four extra points from placement to make it 7-0.

Just seconds into the second quarter (47) Stephens scored his second six-pointer on a one-yard run. He and teammate Todd Hyde picked up 138 yards each on the ground as the Tornadoes rushed for 297 yards in 50 attempts.

"Their running game was the big factor as their line dominated the tempo of the game. We were expecting them to pass a lot more than they did," said King in reference to

Tiffin's two-of-four passing effort for 44 yards.

Tiffin scored twice in the final period with Hyde going in from the three with 6:11 on the clock and Stephens scoring his third of the night from the 19-yard line with 1:42 remaining.

With time running out Willard managed to score on a 73-yard run by Ryan Durr. It came with 1:06 left in the game.

Willard ended the night with 177 yards on the ground in 38 attempts and completed just one of four passes for nine yards.

Senior Dan Bauman closed out his career with 80 yards in 17 tries to close out the year with 1083 yards rushing.

King concluded by saying, "We can't forget the season we had, I am just sorry for the seniors that they couldn't finish on a winning note. It is tough to go out with a losing game."

Willard finished the season with a 7-3 record and 5-2 in the Northern Ohio League. The last time the Flashes had seven wins in a season was Don Graham's final year (1979) when they closed out at 7-2-1 losing to Mansfield Malabar in the opener, 40-9, and their second contest to Fostoria, 19-2.

That year, they went 6-0-1 in the league with a 3-3 tie with Tiffin spoiling the perfect league record.

Rushing plays	38	50
net yards rushing	177	91
passes attempted	4	4
passes completed	1	2
net yards passing	9	44
Total Net Yards Gained	186	135
Fumbles (number)	3	1
ball lost	3	0
Penalties (number)	7	6
yards penalized	31	70

SCORE BY QUARTERS	
Willard	0 0 0 6 6
Tiffin Columbian	7 7 0 14 28
Scoring: Tiffin Columbian — Mark Stephens, 9 run. (Adams Engle,kick).	
Tiffin Columbian — Stephens, 1 run. (Engle,kick).	
Tiffin Columbian — Todd Hyde, 3 run. (Engle,kick).	
Tiffin Columbian — Stephens, 19 run. (Engle,kick).	
Willard — Ryan Durr, 73 run. (pass failed).	

Galion 29 Norwalk 22

GALION — Norwalk stormed back from a 22-0 deficit to tie Galion late in the fourth quarter, but couldn't hold on and dropped a 29-22 decision to the Tigers Friday.

Galion finished the season with a mark of 8-1-1 overall and 5-1-1 in the Northern Ohio League, second to Shelby, who was 9-1 and 6-1.

Norwalk, who didn't win a game after outstanding running back James Lover broke his ankle early in the season, finished 2-8 and 1-6.

Galion seemed ready to coast to an easy victory after scoring two touchdowns in the first period, then adding a third in the second period. Two extra point kicks and one run for a two-point conversion put the Tigers ahead, 22-0.

But the Truckers scored twice in the final five minutes of the second period on a one-yard run by Robert Harvey and a two-yard run by Roy Staley. Steve Risner's PAT kicks pulled the Truckers within 22-14 at the half.

After a scoreless third period, Norwalk tied the game with just two minutes left when Roy Staley scored on a two-yard run, and Ken Moore added the two-point conversion on a run.

Norwalk had the ball and tried a fourth down conversion late in the game, but failed to convert, and Galion took off on a drive which finished with just five seconds left in the game. Mark Kingseed scored on a 10-yard pass from Carl Johnson, who then kicked the extra point, to give Galion the victory and second place in the league.

STATISTICS	
First Downs (total)	Norw 17 Gali 13
by rushing	17 6
by passing	5 5
by penalty	2 2
Rushing plays	204 150
net yards rushing	28 23
passes attempted	

passes completed	16	12
net yards passing	2	2
Total Net Yards Gained	140	127
Fumbles (number)	3	3
ball lost	1	1
Penalties (number)	7	4
yards penalized	52	40

SCORE BY QUARTERS	
Norwalk	0 14 0 8 22
Galion	15 7 0 7 29
Scoring: Galion — Mark Kingseed, 13 pass from Carl Johnson. (Johnson, kick).	
Galion — Rob Monnett, 5 run. (Johnson, kick).	
Galion — Jim Dallas, 38 run. (Johnson, kick).	
Norwalk — Robert Harvey, 1 run. (Steve Risner, kick).	
Norwalk — Roy Staley, 1 run. (Risner, kick).	
Norwalk — Staley, 2 run. (Ken Moore, run).	
Galion — Kingseed, 10 pass from Johnson. (Johnson, kick).	

Shelby 27 Bellevue 16

SHELBY — Shelby has been a dominant force in the Northern Ohio League.

And, the Whippets again sit on top after downing Bellevue by a 27-16 score Friday night.

It was the ninth win in 10 games for Shelby and left them with a 6-1 league record, one-half game ahead of Galion which closed at 5-1-1 after clipping Norwalk, 29-22.

Just one game off the pace was Willard at 5-2 while Tiffin Columbian was 4-2-1 and Bellevue was 4-3 in the closely-contested loop.

Shelby, which has won outright or shared 18 league championships, returned to the throne for the first time since the 1980 campaign under Bill Varble, who is in his 12th season as head coach.

The first half was all Shelby as it took a 21-0 lead to the locker-room at halftime.

Junior Terry Baldridge scored twice during the first 24 minutes of the game, once on a 24-yard pass from Mike Stanford to open the scoring at the 6:05 mark of the first period. Then, he broke loose on a 62-yard gallop to paydirt with 2:15 left before halftime.

Sandwiched between was a score by Jeff Rickens on a 17-yard pass from Stanford, who was 6-of-8 passing for 108.

The Whippets, who had not beaten Bellevue since 1981, increased their lead to 27-0 with just one minute gone in the third period. Baldridge, who gained 153 yards in 14 carries, again broke through the Bellevue defense, this time on a 51-yard run for a score.

Bellevue, dropping to 7-3 overall, did not get on the board until the 2:52 mark of the third quarter when Sean Pflaumer scored on a six-yard run and Ed Green passed to Scott Beckley for the two-point conversion.

And, the Redmen added another score in the final quarter when Pflaumer went in from one yard away and the Green-Beckley combo again worked for the PAT.

STATISTICS	
First Downs (total)	B 14 S 14
by rushing	4 11
by passing	7 3
by penalty	3 0
Rushing plays	32 43
net yards rushing	57 280
passes attempted	32 8
passes completed	16 6
net yards passing	0 0
Total Net Yards Gained	136 108
Fumbles (number)	193 388
ball lost	3 0
Penalties (number)	2 0
yards penalized	3 7

SCORE BY QUARTERS	
Bellevue	0 0 8 8 16
Shelby	7 14 6 0 27
Scoring: Shelby — Terry Baldridge, 24 pass from Mike Stanford. (Tim Amstutz,kick).	
Shelby — Jeff Rickens, 47 pass from Stanford. (Amstutz,kick).	
Shelby — Baldridge, 62 run. (Amstutz,kick).	
Shelby — Baldridge, 51 run. (pass failed).	
Bellevue — Sean Pflaumer, 6 run. (Scott Beckley pass from Ed Green).	
Bellevue — Pflaumer, 1 run. (Beckley pass from Green).	

Late-season surge helps New London hit .500

NEW LONDON — New London continued to peak at season's end, notching a 14-10 win over Black River Friday to finish 5-5 overall including victories in three of its last four outings.

Black River, winner of the Firelands Conference South Division crown, jumped on top by a 10-0 score in the first period.

The Pirates, winner of the South with a 5-5 overall mark and 4-3 in the Firelands, went up by a 7-0 count when Steve Trzcinski went in from 12 yards out at the 5:14 mark of the first period. Dave Savick, who converted following the TD, booted a 30-yard field goal four minutes later as the visitors went ahead, 10-0.

New London did not get untracked until the third period when Ken Ross broke free for a 34-yard run to paydirt with 7:16 left on the clock. Brett Cooke passed to Ross for the two-point conversion and the Wildcats pulled to within two (10-8).

With just seconds gone in the final period, Jeff Romine put New London ahead to stay with a two-yard plunge to the end zone. There were just 49 seconds gone in the period when he scored and it held up as the Wildcats prevailed, 14-10.

The 5-5 finish by New London was its best record since 1980 when it went 7-2-1 overall and 5-2

in the conference.

While the season has ended for the Wildcats, Black River will move on to the Firelands Conference championship game Friday at Ashland, pitting the North Division champion (Western Reserve) against the South.

In other action, Mapleton prevailed over Plymouth, 26-12, while Ashland Crestview clubbed South Central, 20-6.

Today, Western Reserve goes for an undefeated season while hosting Norwalk St. Paul at 1:30 p.m. And, Edison entertains Monroeville tonight.

STATISTICS	
First Downs (total)	BR 14 NL 9
by rushing	
by passing	
by penalty	
Rushing plays	198 141
net yards rushing	13 8
passes attempted	5 2
passes completed	
had intercepted	
net yards passing	33 29
Total Net Yards Gained	231 170
Fumbles (number)	6 3
ball lost	1 3
Penalties (number)	3 1
yards penalized	25 15

SCORE BY QUARTERS	
Black River	10 0 0 0 10
New London	0 0 8 6 14
Scoring: Black River — Steve Trzcinski, 12 run. (Dave Savick,kick).	
Black River — Savick, 30 field goal.	
New London — Ken Ross, 34 run. (Brett Cooke pass to Ross).	
New London — Jeff Romine, 2 run. (run failed).	

Mapleton 26 Plymouth 12

PLYMOUTH — Like New London, Mapleton flexed its muscle during the waning weeks of the season.

The Mounties built a 26-0 lead through three quarters and held on to win their third game in four weeks.

Four different players hit paydirt for the winners with Darryl Young getting it all under way with a plunge from one yard away at the 9:49 mark of the second period. That capped off a 28-yard, six-play drive by the visitors.

Later in the same quarter, the Mounties took advantage of excellent field position to again move in for a score. Driving 40 yards in eight plays, they eventually scored on a two-yard run by Kevin Hickey.

The Mounties, 4-6 overall and 3-4 in the FC South, scored twice within a three minute span of the third quarter.

First, Greg Forbush hauled in a 13-yard pass from Young to cap off an 80-yard, 11-play drive. Then, Brian Mohrman scored on a 55-yard scamper to close out the scoring for the Mounties.

Plymouth, dropping to 3-7 overall and 2-5 in the FC South, did not get on the board until the final period.

Just seven seconds had elapsed when Steve Hall scored for the defending conference champions on a 36-yard pass from Troy Keene.

Midway through the final period, Scott Ryman bulled in from two yards out to cap off the Big Red scoring.

The teams were close statistic-wise with Plymouth having 274 yards total offense

while Mapleton was one back with 273. However, the Big Red lost a pair of fumbles and had one pass intercepted while the winners made just one mistake, that being an interception.

STATISTICS	
First Downs (total)	MA 16 PL 11
by rushing	
by passing	
by penalty	
Rushing plays	224 107
net yards rushing	9 24
passes attempted	3 12
passes completed	1 1
net yards passing	49 167
Total Net Yards Gained	273 274
Fumbles (number)	1 2
ball lost	0 2
Penalties (number)	2 10
yards penalized	30 87

Crestview 20 S-Central 6

ASHLAND — South Central got on the board first.

But, it was all Crestview from that point on as the Cougars went ahead with a score in the second period and added another for insurance in a 20-6 win.

It was the ninth straight loss for South Central which opened the season with a 22-6 win over South Amherst.

STATISTICS	
First Downs (total)	SC 9 Cres 13
by rushing	7 10
by passing	1 1
by penalty	1 2
Rushing plays	35 44
net yards rushing	133 163
passes attempted	7 9
passes completed	1 3
had intercepted	0 1
net yards passing	16 48
Total Net Yards Gained	149 211
Fumbles (number)	1 3
ball lost	1 0
Penalties (number)	7 4
yards penalized	75 40

SCORE BY QUARTERS	
South Central	6 0 0 0 6
Crestview	6 6 0 8 20
Scoring: South Central — Mark Dann, 20 interception return. (kick failed).	
Crestview — Jim Anderson, 15 pass from Mark Hersher. (run failed)./Crestview — John Tennis, 9 run. (run failed).	
Crestview — Jim Coy, 9 run. (Matt Bernard, run).	

U. Sandusky 7 Bucyrus 3

UPPER SANDUSKY — Brian Niederkoher scored on the first possession of the second half as Upper Sandusky edged past Bucyrus, 7-3.

Both teams finished 1-6 in the Northern Ohio League with Upper moving its overall record to 3-7 while the Redmen were 2-8.

Bucyrus led at halftime following Greg Cady's 21-yard field goal with 6:17 left in the second period.

Upper had a wide edge in the stats, gaining 244 yards to just 68 for Bucyrus.

STATISTICS	
First Downs (total)	B 5 US 13
net yards rushing	25 219
passes attempted	12 8
passes completed	2 1
had intercepted	4 0
net yards passing	43 25
Total Net Yards Gained	68 244
Fumbles (number)	4 6
ball lost	1 5
Penalties (number)	6 5
yards penalized	50 65

SCORE BY QUARTERS	
Bucyrus	0 3 0 0 3
Upper Sandusky	0 0 7 0 7
Scoring: Bucyrus — Greg Cady, 21 field goal.	
Upper Sandusky — Brian Niederkoher, 4 run. (Jim Bailey,kick).	

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