

Huron uses big play to shutout Norwalk, 20-0

BY DAN ANGELO
Staff Writer

HURON — Big plays and big mistakes. Huron took advantage of both and won its first game of the season, blanking Norwalk, 20-0, in non-conference action Friday. "It wasn't pretty but it was a win," said Tiger coach Tony Munafo.

Big plays set up all three scores for the Tigers, while the mistakes were fatal to the Truckers, who failed to score even though they had four chances inside the Huron 30. "We have got to be one of the better teams at moving the ball inside the 30," said Norwalk's first-year head coach Scott Thompson. "I don't know if it's a lack of concentration, but as soon as we are inside the 30, we find ways of making mistakes and it kills our drives."

Norwalk opened the game with its first golden scoring opportunity.

The Truckers' Lamar Matthews took the opening kickoff

and raced 69 yards before being pulled down at the Huron 21. Norwalk got down to the 18 on a pair of running plays, but the Tigers caught quarterback Ralph Chandler for a nine-yard loss on the next play.

The fourth down screen pass came up short and Huron took over on downs.

The Tigers moved the ball well on its first possession, getting to the Norwalk 41 before moving backwards 31 yards on a clipping penalty and a quarterback sack.

The quarter ended with no score, but the Tigers were on the move.

Huron struck quickly in the second stanza. Quarterback Pat Lagando hooked up with Jeff Sponsler for a 45-yard scoring strike to cap a six-play, 83 yard drive with 10:54 left in the half. Rhett Wennes added the extra point to give the Tigers a 7-0 lead.

Huron tried its best to let the Truckers in the endzone on Norwalk's next possession. The

Tigers committed two major penalties to give the Truckers the ball on the Huron one-foot line.

But Norwalk began to self-destruct. The Truckers were guilty of a motion penalty, holding and a delay of game which moved the offense back to the Huron 24 where the Tigers took over on downs.

"The entire first half, the kids played as good as can be expected when playing a team the caliber of Huron," Thompson said. "The score should have been tied, but we came away with nothing."

At the half, Huron held a 7-0 advantage.

"Norwalk was inside our 20 because of our dumb mistakes," said Munafo. "But we shut down their running game pretty effectively. Our defense just got after them."

The Tigers fumbled the ball at their own 19 on the third play of the second half to give Norwalk its third great scoring opportunity. The Truckers stalled nine

plays later and Huron took over at the 14.

The Tigers marched back down the field and scored in 12 plays. The key to the drive was a 33-yard scamper by John Nichols down to the Trucker two. Lagando sneaked over from the one two plays later.

Huron put the game away early in the final stanza, going 43 yards in three plays. The score came when Len Broughton went in with 7:40 remaining, but the touchdown was set up by a 41-yard reception by Scott Mamere that put the Tigers on the Norwalk 3.

Wennes' extra point ended the scoring.

The Truckers had one last chance to reach the endzone, moving the ball from their own 31 to the Huron 26 before the drive ended and the Tigers took over on downs.

"I guess we should start with Norwalk and play Bellevue last," Munafo joked after the game as his team improved to 1-1.

STATISTICS

	SC	Mon
First Downs (total)	3	8
by rushing	2	4
by passing	1	4
by penalty	0	0
Rushes (total)		
net yards rushing	42	155
passes attempted	21	9
passes completed	6	6
had intercepted	2	0
net yards passing	38	120
Total plays		
Total Net Yards Gained	80	275
Fumbles (number)	3	1
ball lost	1	0
Penalties (number)		
yards penalized	40	70

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
South Central	0	0	0	0	0
Monroeville	15	13	7	14	49

Scoring:
 Monroeville - J.D. Pothorski, 6 pass from Kevin Smith. (Jerry Mahl, run).
 Monroeville - Pothorski, 10 pass from Smith. (Mike Lindenberger, kick).
 Monroeville - Jason Collins, 75 interception return. (run failed).
 Monroeville - Mahl, 4 run. (Lindenberger, kick).
 Monroeville - Mahl, 2 run. (Lindenberger, kick).
 Monroeville - Steve Farley, 7 run. (Lindenberger, kick).
 Monroeville - Travis Barman, 4 run. (Lindenberger, kick).

STATISTICS

	StP	Ply
First Downs (total)	4	15
net yards rushing	55	254
passes attempted	12	9
passes completed	2	4
had intercepted	0	0
net yards passing	27	85
Total Net Yards Gained	82	345
Fumbles (number)	4	4
ball lost	2	1
Penalties (number)	4	7
yards penalized	40	55

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
St. Paul	0	0	0	0	0
Plymouth	6	15	7	6	34

Scoring:
 Plymouth - Chuck Deskins, 6 run. (kick failed).
 Plymouth - Bernd Schneider, 28 field goal.
 Plymouth - Mike Bailey, 1 run. (kick failed).
 Plymouth - Terry Hall, 23 run. (kick failed).
 Plymouth - Chuck Kosse, 1 run. (Schneider kick).
 Plymouth - Hall, 8 pass from Brian Combs. (kick failed).

STATISTICS

	NL	C
First Downs (total)	12	8
by rushing	11	5
by passing	1	2
by penalty	0	1
Rushes (total)		
net yards rushing	159	98
passes attempted	8	10
passes completed	3	2
had intercepted	0	2
net yards passing	30	24
Total plays		
Total Net Yards Gained	189	122
Fumbles (number)	1	2
ball lost	1	2
Penalties (number)	3	0
yards penalized	31	0

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
New London	6	6	6	0	18
Crestview	0	0	6	0	6

Scoring:
 New London - Keith Shepherd, 13 pass from David Ash. (run failed).
 New London - Ash, 1 run. (run failed).
 Crestview - Keri Hart, 61 run. (run failed).
 New London - Mike Abfall, 72 punt return. (run failed).

Sailors outscore John Adams

VERMILION — Vermilion survived a classic matchup between a team which thrives on the run and the other on the pass.

The Sailors built a 28-6 lead over Cleveland John Adams Friday in their home opener, but then had to hold off the aerial blitz by the Scarabs' Charles Allen to nail a 28-20 win.

"We had the big lead and then fell apart after we started to substitute and they had the ball with 6 seconds to go," coach Ralph Mayer said.

"We just can't simulate the speed they possess. Their quarterback just ran around and scramble until he could find someone open, just like Fran Tarkenton did," Mayer said. "We couldn't stop the big plays, especially the passes from Allen to Rod Guest. They accounted for all 3 touchdowns and accounted for 135 of their 148 yards in the air," Mayer explained.

While Adams clicked on 17 of 36 passes, Vermilion relied on its running game. The Sailors rushed for 266 yards on 47 carries and limited the Scarabs to 49

yards on the ground in 22 rushing attempts.

"We scored the first two times we had the ball," Mayer said.

Senior tailback Jeff Weaver,

STATISTICS

	JA	Ver
First Downs (total)	8	15
by rushing	2	11
by passing	6	4
by penalty	0	0
Rushes (total)	22	47
net yards rushing	49	266
passes attempted	36	10
passes completed	17	3
had intercepted	1	2
net yards passing	148	82
Total plays	58	57
Total Net Yards Gained	197	348
Fumbles (number)	3	3
ball lost	2	2
Penalties (number)	5	6
yards penalized	50	80

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
John Adams	0	6	6	8	20
Vermilion	14	7	7	0	28

Scoring:
 Vermilion — Jeff Weaver, 20 run. (Mike Surrento, kick).
 Vermilion — Chris Randle, 60 pass from Pete Shimrock. (Surrento, kick).
 John Adams — Rod Guest, 68 pass from Charles Allen. (run failed).
 Vermilion — Dan Lehky, 24 pass from Shimrock. (Surrento, kick).
 Vermilion — Bob Bores, 42 run. (Surrento, kick).
 John Adams — Guest, 3 pass from Allen. (pass failed).
 John Adams — Guest, 64 pass from Allen. (Allen run).

Danbury 2-0 2nd time in 24 years

DANBURY — Danbury's football squad is off to their best start since 1977 when it recorded two one-point wins over Lucas and Western Reserve.

In fact, this is just the second time in the past 24 season the Lakers started from the gate with two victories.

This was made possible as they recorded a 19-0 shutout at the hands of Northwood.

Mark Harris, who was the game's leading rusher with 66 yards, opened the scoring with a three yard run with 5:59 on the clock in the opening quarter. The two-point run failed and it was 6-0.

In the third quarter Bryan Kowalczyk sputtered in from the four and once again the two-pointer failed. The Lakers now led 12-0.

The final score of the night came as Brendan Jones hauled in a 40-yard bomb from Del Culver. The Randy Suchy placement made it 19-0 with 8:59 left in the contest.

Jones finished the night with

five grabs for 142 yards and one touchdown.

Danbury recorded 326 yards of offense on a fairly balanced attack netting out 154 on the ground and 172 in the air.

The Laker defense held Northwood to just 30 yards on the ground in 26 attempts and allowed them just 3-of-14 in the air for another 39 yards.

STATISTICS

	NW	Dan
First Downs (total)	6	11
Rushes (total)	26	35
net yards rushing	30	154
passes attempted	14	21
passes completed	3	9
had intercepted	2	0
net yards passing	39	172
Total plays	40	76
Total Net Yards Gained	69	326
Fumbles (number)	1	4
ball lost	1	1
Penalties (number)	4	17
yards penalized	35	140

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Northwood	0	0	0	0	0
Danbury	6	0	6	7	19

Scoring:
 Danbury - Mark Harris, 3 run. (run failed).
 Danbury - Bryan Kowalczyk, 4 run. (pass failed).
 Danbury - Brendan Jones, 40 pass from Del Culver. (Randy Suchy kick).

who had 136 yards on 23 carries, raced 20 yards for the initial touchdown early in the opening period. Mike Surrento kicked the first of 4 PATs.

Vermilion came right back in the next possession and quarterback Pete Shimrock fired a 60-yard scoring strike to slotback Chris Randle for the second touchdown. "Pete put the ball right on the money and Chris had a step on the defender and went in for the score," Mayer noted.

John Adams also scored on a long pass. Allen and Guest hooked up for a 68-yard scoring pass early in the second period to close the gap to 14-6. However, Vermilion hiked the margin to 21-6 by intermission.

Shimrock, who was 3 of 10 for 82 yards and a pair of touchdowns, clicked for his second strike of the game, this time to Dan Lehky for 24 yards. Surrento's kick made it 21-6.

In the third period, backup fullback Bob Bores exploded up the middle and rambled 42 yards to paydirt. "It was a quick hitter and Bob has good speed and ran right by the defenders," Mayer said. Surrento capped Vermilion's scoring with his 4th placekick.

John Adams recovered a Vermilion pass later in the quarter, and turned it into a touchdown. It was Allen to Guest for the final 3 yards.

The Scarabs hit paydirt again in the final period as Allen fired a 64-yard touchdown toss to Guest and the visitors added the two-point conversion to make it 28-20 with 4 minutes left in the game.

"We drove the ball to their 20 only to fumble with 9 seconds left and Allen scrambled around and around and ran 30 yards to midfield before we finally brought him down. That was the last play of the game," Mayer explained.

"Bores gave us a big lift with 53 yards on 5 carries and Pete had just 3 completions, but they were mighty big ones. Two went for touchdowns," Mayer said.

"We are very happy to get this one in the win column. I said all week they are a dangerous football team because of their speed, and they certainly put that on display tonight," Mayer concluded.

FIRELANDS ROUNDUP

Monroeville pounds South Central

MONROEVILLE — Monroeville opened up its Firelands Conference schedule by pounding South Central, 49-0. The Eagles scored at will and improved to 2-0 on the season.

"We felt that we would win coming in," said Monroeville coach Steve Ringholz. "South Central has had some tough luck," quarterback Kevin Smith and J.D. Pothorski hooked up for a pair of scoring strikes.

The first score came on a six-yard pass with Jerry Mahl adding the two-point conversion. Then, with 2:15 left in the quarter, Pothorski hauled in a 10-yard toss with Mike Lindenberger adding the extra point.

Monroeville made it 21-0 with 6:24 in the half when Jason Collins picked off a pass and returned it 75 yards for the score. The Eagles ended the first half with a four yard jaunt by Mahl and a Lindenberger kick to make it 28-0.

Mahl got his second score of the game with 1:41 left in the third quarter, going in from the two.

The Eagles ended the rout with a pair of touchdowns in the

final stanza. Steve Farley hit paydirt from six yards out with 10:00 remaining, and then seven minutes later, Travis Barman broke loose for a 40-yard touchdown run. Lindenberger made good on both extra point attempts.

"The second team played well," Ringholz said of the late scores. "But next week we play Norwalk St. Paul, so all of this doesn't matter."

The Eagles travel to Whitney Field to meet their arch-rivals next Saturday.

Monroeville ended the game with 155 yards on the ground and 120 through the air. Mahl rushed for 55 yards in 15 carries on offense and made 11 tackles for the Eagles' defense.

One area of concern for Ringholz was the number of penalties his team collected. Monroeville was sent back 70 yards on nine penalties.

South Central was limited to just 42 yards on the ground and 33 in the air, plus the Trojans were intercepted twice.

The Trojans try for their first win under new coach Don King next Friday when South Central hosts Western Reserve.

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Plymouth wins big over St. Paul

PLYMOUTH — The woes of the young Norwalk St. Paul team continued as they were blanked by Plymouth, 34-0, in Firelands Conference action Friday.

The Flyers, 0-2, have not scored in two outings, while the Big Redeven their record to 1-1. Plymouth got on the board late in the first quarter with a 6-yard touchdown run from Chuck Deskins, but the Big Red broke the game open with 15 points in the second period.

Bernd Schneider started the scoring with a 28-yard field goal to make it 9-0. With 1:11 left in

the half, Mike Bailey bulled over from the one and then 54 seconds later, Terry Hall returned a punt 23 yards for another score.

In the third quarter, Plymouth made it 28-0 as Chuck Kosse bulled over from the one and Schneider added the extra point.

The Big Red added their final score with :31 seconds left in the game as Brian Combs hit Hall with an 8-yard touchdown pass.

Plymouth piled up 345 yards total offense with 254 coming on the ground. The Flyers could only manage 55 yards on the ground and 27 through the air.

New London trips Crestview, 18-6

ASHLAND — New London evened its season record to 1-1 with a 18-6 win over Ashland Crestview in Firelands Conference action Friday.

The Wildcats took the lead in the first quarter when David Ash and Keith Shepherd hooked up for a 13 yard touchdown pass, and then made it 12-0 as Ash went over from the one with 6:05 left in the half. The Cougars got on the board early in the third with a 61-yard scoring jaunt by Keri Hart, but New London got it back six minutes later as Mike Abfall went 72-yard with a punt for the final score of the game.

The Wildcats gained 159 yards on the ground with Jasen Kruike accounting for 72 yards on 12 carries and Rod Farlow added 50 yards on 12 tries. New London also had 30 through the air.

Crestview could only manage 122 yards total offense with 98 coming on the ground and 24 in the air.

New London travels to Mapleton next Friday while Crestview hosts Plymouth.

Mapleton pops Black River, 25-8

SULLIVAN — Jeremy Krause only completed six passes for Mapleton, but three went for touchdowns as the Mounties got past Black River, 25-8, in Firelands Conference action Friday.

Krause had scoring tosses of 19, 34 and 15 to three different receivers. Mapleton opened the scoring with 7:47 left in the first half as Mike Brickner went 78 yards with a punt to score. Craig Richey added the point after to make it 7-0.

The Mounties made it 13-0 with just 12 second left in the half as Krause and Brickner hooked up for a 19-yard scoring pass.

Krause connected with Jeff Stuart for 34 yards and a touchdown with 4:58 remaining in the third quarter to give the Mounties a comfortable 19-0 lead.

Black River got on the board with a 68-yard scoring strike from Tim Clifford to Jeff Maslanka just 14 seconds later. Dan Lapinski made it into the endzone for the two-point conversion to cut the Mapleton lead to 19-8.

The Mounties added some insurance at the end of the game as Krause hit Bill Linder with a 15-yard touchdown pass.

Mapleton grounded out 162 yards with Clint Hickey gaining 87.

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