

Wildcats Down Smithville

NEW LONDON — Speedy New London halfback Virgil Harris had the most to do in making Homecoming a successful Friday night. When it was all over he had carried the ball 23 times and amassed 149 yards as the Cats thumped Smithville, 20-12, in

an independent football clash. New London, stamped as one of the contenders in the 1977 Firelands Conference race, never trailed in the game. Quarterback Mike Nestor got his fathers club on top in the first quarter when he found veteran end Jim

Farnsworth for a 10 yard gainer and a touchdown. Nestor went right back upstairs for the extra points, this time seeking out and hitting Ed Mack. The Cats lead was cut to 8-6 in the second period when halfback Craig Shenevery

scampered five yards but the extra points bid failed. This tended to spur the Wildcats offense as it came right back with a score as Harris slashed in from one yard away to make it 14-6.

Nestor then put it away in the final quarter when he dove over from the one to make it 20-6 and make Smithville's final play, a 42 yard TD strike, almost meaningless. The Wildcats amassed over 300 yards on the ground as compared to less than 200 combined air and ground real estate for the losers.



STEVE HOFACKER RELIEVED OF BALL But Eagle Quarterback Stays On Play



TWO SENECA EAST PLAYERS SEARCH Can't Come Up With Elusive Pigskin

NORTHERN OHIO LEAGUE

Norwalk 20, Huron 7
Tiffin Calvert 7, Willard 6
Bellevue 14, Port Clinton 12
Mt. Vernon 24, Galion 7
Shelby 27, Perkins 0
Mansfield Madison 14, Tiffin 0
Upper Sandusky 20, Elida 8

FIRELANDS CONFERENCE

Plymouth 21, South Central 12
Edison 19, Columbia Station 6
Northwestern 34, Mapleton 0
Western Reserve 30, South Amherst 0
Monroeville 21, Seneca East 6
New London 20, Smithville 12

Plymouth, Huskies Gain Victories

Plymouth exploded for 21 fourth quarter points Friday night and went on to defeat South Central 21-12

The Big Red was down 12-0 when Tom Miller registered Plymouth's first score on a one yard plunge. The point after kick failed and South Central led was cut in half. Mike Messer then took things into his own hands for Plymouth scoring two touchdowns; the first from 66 yards out and the second on a five yard scamper.

The Trojans had opened the scoring in the first quarter with Randy Conaway rumbled 17 yards with a recovered fumble.

The score remained 6-0

Trojans until the third stanza when Lewis Scott recovered a fumble in the end zone to up South Central's margin to 12-0. It stood that way until the fourth quarter awakening of the Big Red sent the Trojans down to defeat.

The Plymouth ground game crunched for 251 yards while South Central could only manage 93 rushing.

Scott Nolletti and Rick Ickes both manufactured two touchdowns apiece in leading Northwestern to a 34-0 rout of Mapleton Friday night.

Ickes initiated the point parade for the Huskies with a

44 yard scoring run in the first quarter. Ickes then kicked the extra point.

Ickes also scored the second Northwestern touchdown early in the second quarter on a 10 yard jaunt into the endzone. His kick failed.

Noletti upped the margin to 19-0 when he gathered in a 30 yard scoring strike from Phil Jacobs. The conversion failed for the second straight time thus ending the first half scoring.

Brett Keener joined in the point parade in the third stanza when he scored from four yards out. Nolletti ended the Huskies scoring with a one yard run after which he ran over for the conversion.

Northwestern's offense was fueled by 193 yards rushing and 82 passing while the Huskie defense held Mapleton to only 103 total yards.

Western Reserve scored in each quarter while routing South Amherst 30-0 Friday night.

Steve McGuckin paced the Roughriders with three touchdowns for the night. McGuckin opened the scoring in the first quarter when he tallied on a five yard run.

Mike Freeman added a one yard run in the second quarter to up the margin to 12-0

Quarterback Jerry Moore then hit McGuckin with a 25 yard scoring strike to advance the Roughriders' lead to 18-0 at the intermission.

Moore connected again in the third quarter with an 18-yard touchdown aerial to Tim Tarcher.

McGuckin concluded the scoring with a 65 yard dash in the fourth quarter.

Western Reserve pounded out 244 yards rushing and added 53 via the air. South Amherst, meanwhile, could only gain 120 on the ground and 32 in the air.

McCann took a 15 yard pass from Doug Gorsuch and Mike Turney kicked the extra point. The winners, who had a 184-155 advantage in rushing yardage and a 172-40 spread in the air, took the lead with 8:22 left in the third period when McCann took a 38 yard strike from Gorsuch and Turney added his second kick.

Jerry Graves added a 13 yard scoring run with 7:29 left in the third stanza and Turney was successful on the bonus kick again. Turney's 35 yard field goal with 1:46 left in the game was just icing on the cake.

of three and four yards while Bucyrus scores were by Matt Baldy on a three yard run, Joe Teynor on a one yard run and Steve Ransom on a 53 yard pass from Teynor.

Teynor also threw a pass to Joe Barcz for extra points following one of the scores.

Shelby dominated the game, chalking up 292 yards total offense, to just 99 for Perkins. Shelby completed one of five passes while Perkins went to the air 20 times and completed just five as new coach Jim Stauffer dropped his first game at Perkins.

Mt. Vernon Rushes Past Galion 24-7 In Opener

GALION — Galion scored first in its opening game of the 1977 football season, but it was all down hill from there for the Tigers as they dropped a 24-7 decision to visiting Mt. Vernon, Friday night.

Mike Evans gave the home fans something to cheer about when he caught a 34 yard scoring pass from Jeff Kirk with 3:40 left in the first period. Mike Goodman added the extra point kick and the Tigers led, 7-0.

However, the rest of the night belonged to Mt. Vernon, with 1:50 left in the first period the visitors got even as Dave

BUCYRUS - Bucyrus came from behind and then held on just in time to defeat Ontario, 21-19, here Friday night.

Ontario got touchdowns from Steve Arnett on a 15 yard run and Randy Parry on runs

SHELBY — John Armstrong scored on runs of 48, five and 31 yards to lead the Whippets to an easy conquest of the Pirates. Kevin Calver added the other touchdown for the Whippets, who got three extra point kicks from Mike Hartz.

PORT CLINTON — Mark Schoen took a 25 yard pass from John Rogers with 4:11 left in the third period and the touchdown and conversion by Roger Joseph boosted the Redmen to a 14-12 win over host Port Clinton.

Veteran running back Jeff Scott wasted no time in getting the 1977 season off to a fast start as he dashed 80 yards for

Rehire Virdon

HOUSTON (UPI) — The Houston Astros Thursday rehired Manager Bill Virdon and his four coaches for the 1978 season. "It gives me great pleasure

the first score of the year for the Redskins with 3:18 left in the opening period.

Bellevue took a slim 7-6 lead at halftime as Rogers tossed a 13 yard scoring strike to Bruce Fox and Joseph kicked the extra point.

Craig Lippus took a 25 yard pass from Chris Carpenter for Port Clinton's other score.

to announce that the contracts of Bill Virdon and his coaches have been extended," said Astros President and General Manager Tal Smith at a brief news conference.

Browns Lose To Detroit

PONTIAC, Mich. (UPI) — The Detroit Lions and Cleveland Browns are both more than ready for the start of the National Football League season next week.

"Thanks goodness, this is the last year for six preseason games," sighed Coach Tommy Hudspeth after his

Edison Rolls Past Columbia

Keith LeVine's 53-yard touchdown scamper in the second quarter propelled Edison to a 19-6 victory over Columbia Station Friday night.

LeVine's dash came after Ric Bauer scored Edison's first touchdown earlier in the quarter on a 20 yard blast.

Columbia's Bruce Dietrich narrowed the margin to 13-6 in the final stanza when he bolted over from the one yard line.

But, Edison came back to secure the win on Corky Field's three yard scoring plunge.

Columbia could generate only 79 total yards offensively while Edison netted 195, all on the ground.

Black River Nips Keystone

Black River rebounded from a 6-0 halftime deficit to edge Keystone Friday night, 7-6.

Keystone jumped in front in the second quarter when Wes Holcomd hauled in a 24-yard scoring pass from Dale Gregory.

But, Black River tied the count when Don Wilson plunged over from the one.

Mark Williams extra point was good and gave Black River the victory.

Keystone garnered 126 yards in the air while mustering only 27 yards rushing.

Lions had escaped relatively unscathed from a 24-20 victory over the Browns.

Detroit's fifth straight exhibition win over Cleveland left both clubs at 3-3 in games that won't count in the NFL standings. Both teams open on the road next Sunday, the Lions at Chicago and the Browns in Cincinnati.

The defenses of both teams looked somewhat shaky but that could have been due to the sharpness of the offenses. Detroit only gained 293 yards to Cleveland's 374 but the Lions were precise when they had to be in the closing moments of the game.

Reserve quarterback Joe Reed marched Detroit 77 yards in seven long minutes, then sent Dexter Bussey on a slice around right end for a fouryard touchdown with 1:56 left to put the Lions ahead.

Reed connected four out of five tries in the air for 54 yards in his only action of the night.

Brian Sipe, who only became a starter last season,

looked ready to take his place with the great Cleveland quarterbacks of the past.

He nearly pulled the game out for the Browns, completing five passes in a row to hurl Cleveland from its 39 to the Detroit six, where the drive stalled out. Sipe got a fifth chance due to a roughing the passer call on Ken Sanders after four incomplete passes

but was only able to get off one more play (and incomplete pass) before time ran out.

Neither Paul Warfield nor Reggie Rucker was on hand for duty but Sipe threw the ball 36 times in all, completing 18 for 225 yards. Ricky Feacher was impressive, taking five passes for 80 yards while Oscar Roan grabbed three for 58.

Rams Start With 20-8 Victory

ELIDA — Upper Sandusky, which has been picked by all the Northern Ohio League coaches as the team to

beat in 1977, lived up to its press clippings with a 20-8 win over Elida, here Friday night.

The Rams chalked up a

victory on the strength of a good first half, scoring all their points in the first two periods and then letting the defense take over.

Doug Orians scored on a six yard run with 8:48 on the clock in the first period and Calmas kicked the bonus point. Orians went on to add two more scores, as he accounted for all the touchdowns by the winners.

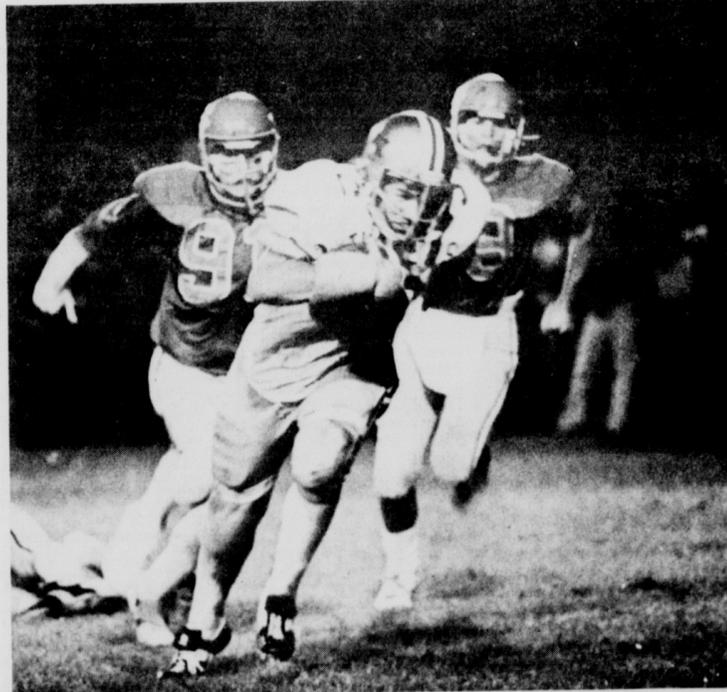
A one yard dash by the veteran running back with 11:48 left in the second period, followed by Calmas' second successful kick, gave Upper a 13-0 lead and the margin went to 20-0 with just 28 seconds left before halftime as Orians went over from the three.

Elida, which was outgained 216-28 on the ground, but had an 83-0 margin in the air, finally scored with 8:30 left in the game as Tim Purdy took a 32 yard pass from Dave Burrell and Burrell also ran for the bonus points.

Columbian Shutout

MANSFIELD — Tiffin Columbian was the only NOL team to get shut out Friday night, dropping a 14-0 decision to Mansfield Madison.

Scott Finley scored from the four in the first period and Tim Robinson scored from the one in the fourth period while Finley tossed to Jaynes for the bonus points.



HAULIN TRUCKER — Rick Carrasco finds some running room against Huron Friday night. The Tigers Jeff Hoyt and an unidentified teammate set out in pursuit of the fleet Carrasco. The Tigers efforts were short, though, as Norwalk rumbled to a 20-7 victory.

Real Estate

By REALTOR RENCH

REALTOR

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