

# 'Gifts' Contribute To Perkins Victory

By ED FOX  
Staff Writer

PORT CLINTON — Perkins took advantage of two first period fumbles by Port Clinton and turned both into touchdowns enroute to a 26-15 win in independent action Friday.

The Pirates recovered both fumbles inside the Port Clinton 25-yard line and converted both into scores for an early 13-0 lead. Perkins moves to 4-5 for the season while the Redskins close out the year at 5-4-1.

By winning, Perkins halted a losing streak to PC that dated back to the 1974 season, when the Pirates won by a 13-12 score.

The Pirates received their first gift from PC on the opening kickoff when Bryan Meek fumbled the ball after a 20-yard return and junior Dave Clark pounced on the loose pigskin for Perkins at the PC 23.

It took just seven plays for the Pirates to reach paydirt with sophomore quarterback Sheldon Benkey going the final yard on a fourth-and-goal situation with 8:06 left in the first period.

The Pirates went for a fake kick on the PAT attempt, but Dave Pruitt was stopped short of the goal after taking the pass from Benkey and Perkins led, 6-0.

Soon afterwards, Port Clinton came up with its second mistake in the first period as quarterback Bryan Meek pitched the ball too high for split back Ken Morrisette to handle and the ball rolled under the waiting arms of John Printy with the Pirates taking over at the PC 19.

Printy carried the ball four straight times and the Pirates also were benefactors of a PC offside, moving the ball to the one-yard line.

Junior 215-pound fullback Lee McDonald got the call and easily scored from that point with Printy booting the conversion for a 13-0 lead with 4:31 left in the first stanza.

PC moved steadily downfield following the kickoff, but the 63-yard drive stalled as Meek was stopped cold by an open field tackle as Clark came up from defensive secondary to stop the fourth-and-five sweep attempt at the line of scrimmage.

The Pirates, taking over at their own 14, used nearly five minutes of the clock with a 12-play drive for their third score of the game.

McDonald climaxed the drive with a three-yard run at the 7:19 mark and Printy again converted for a 20-0 lead.

Just 14 seconds later, Port Clinton got on the board as senior Chris

Carpenter took the kickoff at his own 16 and raced downfield 84 yards untouched. Phil Gutkoski kicked the conversion with the Pirates' lead cut to 20-7.

The Redskins got a break on the ensuing kickoff as Pruitt fumbled and PC recovered at the Perkins 25.

PC was suddenly knocking on the door six plays later after moving to the Perkins 10.

Printy slammed the door shut on the next play as he stepped in front of a Meek pass at the Perkins two and returned the ball 14 yards to thwart a possible PC scoring drive.

The third fumble of the night by PC did not result in a touchdown, but the Pirates didn't come away empty-handed as Printy booted a 22-

	P	PC
First Downs (total)	16	10
by rushing	11	4
by passing	2	6
by penalty	3	0
Rushes (number)	62	24
net yards gained	199	73
Forward Passing		
attempted	5	16
completed	2	8
had intercepted	0	1
net yards gained	51	128
Total Plays (rushes & passes)	67	40
Total Net Yards Gained	250	201
Fumbles (number)	1	3
ball lost	1	3
Penalties (number)	5	12
yards penalized	46	97

SCORES BY QUARTERS					
Perkins	13	7	3	3	26
Port Clinton	0	7	0	8	15
Scorings:					
Perkins—Sheldon Benkey, 1 run. (pass failed).					
Perkins—Lee McDonald, 1 run. (John Printy, kick).					
Perkins—McDonald, 3 run. (Printy, kick).					
Port Clinton—Chris Carpenter, 84 yard kickoff return. (Phil Gutkoski, kick).					
Perkins—Printy, 22 yard field goal.					
Perkins—Printy, 23 yard field goal.					
Port Clinton—Brian Celek, 24 yard pass from Bryan Meek. (Celek, pass from Meek).					

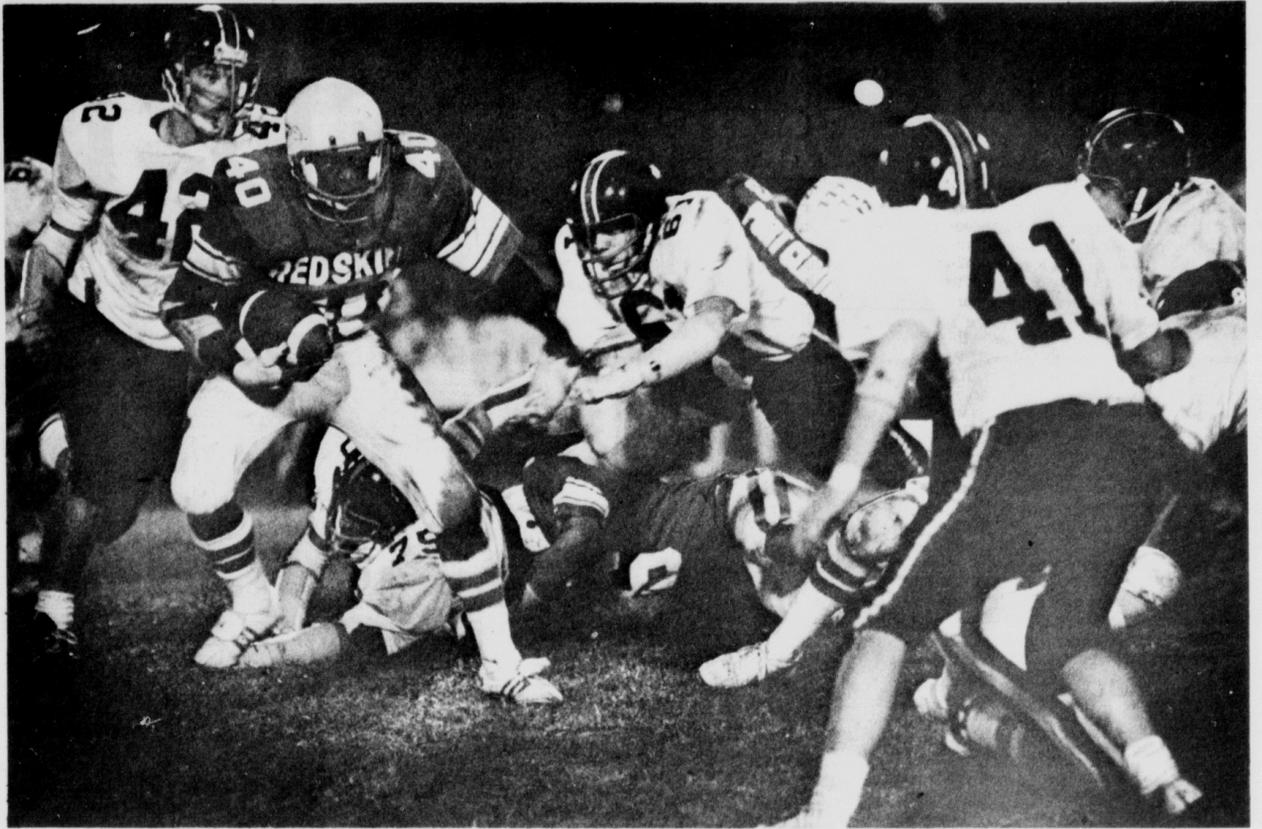
yard field goal as time ran out in the third period for a 23-7 Perkins lead.

Perkins also consumed plenty of time from the clock with the nine-play drive which may have been more damaging to the Redskins than the three-pointer by Printy.

The Pirates consumed another seven minutes from the clock early in the fourth period when they drove from the Perkins 49 to the PC six.

Again, the Pirates settled for a three-pointer by Printy from 23 yards away and took a 26-7 lead with 4:16 remaining.

With substitutes on the field, PC drove 79 yards for its second score of the night as Meek completed five of eight passes, the last being a 24-yarder to sophomore Brian Celek. The same combination clicked for the PAT as PC found themselves on the short end of a 26-15 count with 1:34 left in the game.



PORT CLINTON'S KEN MORRISETTE IS SURROUNDED BY PIRATES ON OPTION RUN ... as Jim Hohler (42), Tom Hahn (61) and Eric Winkel (41) close in.

(Register Photo — BIL BOWDEN)

## Sailors Finish Fast

WELLINGTON — Vermilion, closing with three straight victories, finished its season with a 5-5 record following a 20-7 Lakeland Conference win over Wellington Friday.

The Sailors, who finished with a 4-3 conference mark, scored twice in the first period and never trailed in the game. It was the first non-losing record for Vermilion since '75 when they also were 5-5.

Tom Gerber got the Sailors rolling with a 35-yard run to paydirt and Doug Drake converted for a 7-0 lead. Alan Hall closed out the first half scoring with a 30-yard touchdown gallop as the Sailors

assumed a 13-0 advantage.

Gerber scored for the second time in the game on a six-yard run in the third period and Drake again converted for a 20-0 bulge.

Wellington finally got on the board in the final quarter when Dave Brappoli caught a 30-yard pass from Tim Althaus and Dale Poirer kicked the PAT.

The winners ran for 298 yards and missed connection on all four passing attempts. Wellington, meanwhile, had 120 yards rushing and 176 passing on 12 of 24 and finished just two yards shy of Vermilion in total offense.

## Rally Sparks Plymouth Win

ASHLAND — An eight-yard pass with only 18 seconds remaining in the game sealed a victory for Plymouth over Crestview 15-14 Friday night in a game decided by extra points.

Crestview drew first blood with a one-yard Fred Stimpert run in the first period, after driving 26 yards after capitalizing on a fumbled punt. The kick failed — which cost Crestview the game.

Plymouth made its mark on the scoreboard next when Terry Tash recovered a fumble in the endzone for a touchdown. Plymouth had driven 12 yards on two plays after recovering a fumble.

Crestview was next in trading leads when Scott Pruner capitalized on a four-yard run. The Lyle Chroninster pass from Stimpert for the conversion gave Crestview a seven-point advantage.

Plymouth made the TD that counted when Tash took an eight-yard pass from James Robertson after a 73-yard drive in 11 plays. Jim

Wallace ran in the conversion for the winning margin.

Plymouth finishes the season with a 7-3 record, 3-2 in the Johnny Appleseed Conference. Coach Mike McFarren reflected on the season.

"We started out with very high goals that I think were realistic," McFarren said. "During the season they didn't attain some of the goals they set. They could have laid down and quit but they didn't and it showed tonight."

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**agri-facts**

by Dick Zimmerman

Plants may be growing bigger in the dark. Scientists at Michigan State University have discovered a common but baffling substance, Triacetonol. When applied in very small amounts to greenhouse crops, their growth rate increases by 10-40%. It also allows them to grow in the dark. "Such increases would be beneficial to world farmers if the chemical can be made to work in the field," says Dr. Stanley K. Ries. He believes it may occur naturally in all plants, acting as a regulator of their growth. Triacetonol, which has no nitrogen, would not take the place of nitrogen fertilizers, but Dr. Ries says it "might increase the efficiency of the use of fertilizers." Based on the amounts that work in the laboratory four milligrams of the substance dissolved in water would treat an entire acre of crops. His greenhouse tests include work with rice, wheat, corn, barley, tomatoes, lettuce, and cucumbers. Tests in the field will tell more of the possibilities.

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