

Sweet Revenge

Whippets trip up Galion; face Willard next week for NOL championship

By MARK PATTULLO
Globe Sports Editor

After Shelby's 21-12 victory over Galion Friday night at Skiles Field, Shelby defensive coordinator Ron Stepsis summed up the Whippets' feelings.

"We're glad to be here fighting for the championship," Stepsis said. "But when you get to be in two championship games, that's just super!"

Tied for second place behind the Willard Crimson Flashes, Shelby and Galion went into the game knowing whoever came out on top would have a shot at the Northern Ohio League championship.

Shelby's 5-1-0 record will be pitted against Willard's 5-0-1 record next week in Shelby. The winner takes home all the marbles Galion's record falls to 4-2 in NOL competition, putting them out of the running for the title.

It was again the Shelby defense which carried the Whippets to their eighth straight home victory.

A key example of the fine play by the Whippet defense came midway through the fourth quarter with Shelby hanging onto a 21-6 lead, but with Galion knocking on the door.

Galion had driven from their own 29-yard line on the pinpoint passing of quarterback Jack Shuck and the quick hands of receiver Steve Kleinknecht. The Tigers achieved a first down at the one yard line and scoring seemed a certainty. But on the second play, the Shelby line jarred the ball loose and Dirk DeVito fell on the fumble, thwarting the drive. Galion did eventually score in the quarter, but it came five minutes later, far too late to do any damage.

The Shelby offense machine got rolling in the first quarter after the Whippets stopped the Tigers on four straight plays after the opening kickoff.

Sophomore running back Brad Nothacker and senior John Lewis chewed up yardage for Shelby as the Whippets embarked on their first scoring drive. A facemask penalty against Galion put the ball at the Tiger 15. On a third down play Lewis got a first down to the five then scored two plays later from the one. Tom Moore's boot parted the uprights, giving Shelby a 7-0 lead. That lead held up until Galion's third series of plays.



DIRK DEVITO
Key Fumble Recovery

JOHN JOHNSON
Caught TD pass

They started marching at the Shelby 18-yard line, thanks to a fine run by Shuck and a couple of accurate passes to Dave Agee and Kleinknecht. The 14-play, 82-yard drive was capped by a three-yard pass to Agee for the touchdown.

After the extra point was wide, Shelby was called for a penalty, but Galion's second-chance conversion attempt also failed and the Whippets were glad to take a 7-6 lead into the locker room.

Shelby opened the second half with a scoring drive of their own. It came after Larry Gwartz recovered a Galion fumble at the Tiger 36-yard line.

Nothacker took a Pat Rose pitch and scampered 18 yards to the Tiger 18. A 15-yard personal foul against Shelby, their first

penalty of the game, put the Whippets back on Galion's 30.

Two plays later, Rose was looking around for somebody to pass to when he spotted an opening up the middle. The 6-1, 178-pound senior tore up field, cut toward the left sideline and headed for the corner of the end zone for a 28-yard touchdown run. Moore again tacked on the extra point and Shelby held a 14-6 lead.

Some more tough defense by the Whippets with the aid of a clipping penalty put Galion with their backs up against their own goal line. A short punt gave Shelby the ball at Galion's 30-yard line and Shelby started their final scoring drive of the evening.

Lewis gained 12 yards on two rushes but a penalty put the ball back on the Galion 22.

Rose handed off to Nothacker who stood his ground and lofted a perfect strike to John Johnson, a 5-11, 155-pound end, wide open in the end zone. Moore found the goalposts again and Shelby was done for the night.

Ironically, the touchdown's pass was the only pass attempted by Shelby all night.

Galion's final score came with 1:20 left in the game on an 18-yard pass from Shuck to Agee. The conversion attempt failed.

The Whippets divided the rushing duties again this week as Nothacker, playing in his second varsity game, rushed for 76 yards in 17 carries to lead both teams. Lewis had 68 yards on 17 carries and Doug DeVito had 16 yards on one carry. Rose carried once for 28 yards and Perry Hayes had two carries for one yard. The 189 yards rushing made up most of Shelby's 211 yards but who complains when you win.

Galion relied on a sophomore running back of their own — John Erlsten, at 5-10, 155-pounds, led Galion with 54 yards on 17 carries.

Shuck, the leading passer in the NOL, had his usual fine night, connecting on 12 of 19 passes for 132 yards while the rushers gained 120 yards on 38 carries for a total of 252 yards rushing.

Kleinknecht, a 6-0, 180-pound senior co-captain, had six receptions for 98 yards.

Galion had 14 first downs, six penalties for 73 yards, two lost fumbles and three punts for a 31.5 yard average.

Shelby had 11 first downs, no fumbles lost, five penalties for 60 yards and Nothacker punted three times for a 35.6 yard average.

Joel Hall led the Whippets on defense with 10 tackles. Todd Plocher, Tim Swanger and Larry Gwartz each had nine tackles for Shelby.

"The offense did a super job tonight," noted Roger Ebersole, Shelby's offensive coordinator. "Galion didn't give us too much but we did what we had to. I think Pat (Rose) broke it open with his scramble. They left a tremendous opening for him and he found it."

Ebersole noted Shelby made few mistakes in the game and was provided with good offensive blocking in "the pits."

"They overloaded on us up front to prevent the sweeps. I think that led to the touchdown Nothacker threw."

With Galion down and Willard next, Stepsis again emphasized the importance of this game.

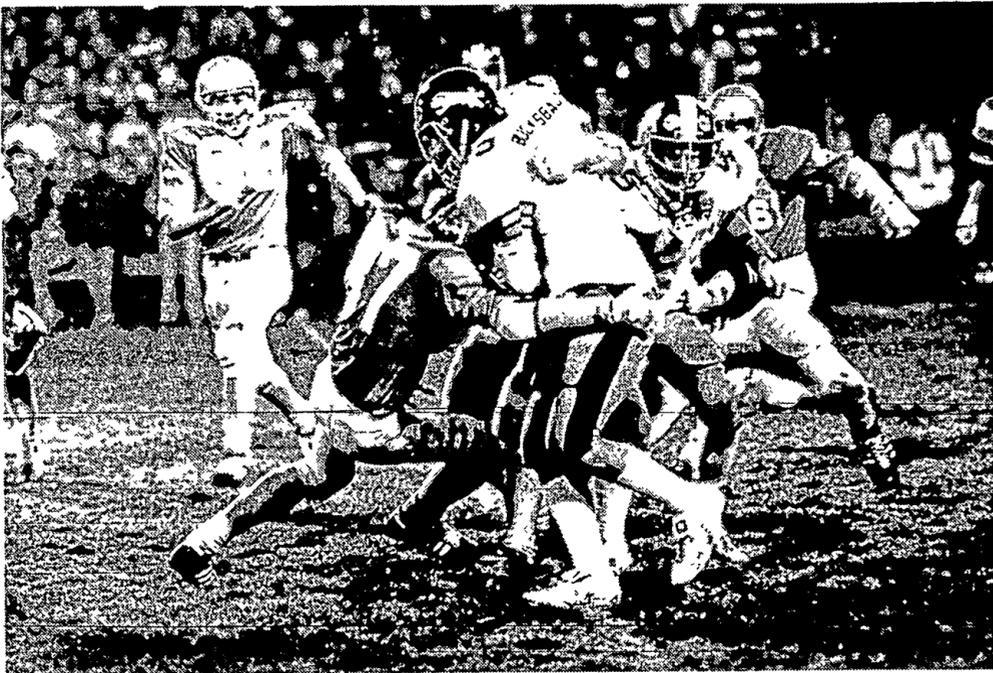
"It was a rather inspiring effort," Stepsis said. "We've got one more big one to go. I hope we can hang together as well as we have. It's got to give the guys a lift, though, beating a top-notch team like Galion."

And don't forget Shelby had a score to settle with Galion after dropping the NOL title to the Tigers last year. There was a little revenge on the line.

The Whippets will have to concentrate on stopping Mark Miller and the Willard Flashes next week. Willard scored a 21-15 victory over the tough Upper Sandusky Rams, with Miller scoring all three touchdowns, all extra points and rushing for 174 yards.

If Shelby can whip the Flashes next Friday, the Northern Ohio League title will belong to the Whippets. Shelby lost the title in 1977 with an 8-2 record.

GALION	0	6	0	6-12
SHELBY	7	0	14	0-21
SHS — John Lewis 1-yard run (Tom Moore kick)				
GHS — Jack Shuck 3-yard pass to Dave Agee (run failed)				
SHS — Pat Rose 28-yard run (Moore kick)				
SHS — Brad Nothacker 22-yard pass to John Johnson (Moore kick)				
GHS — Shuck 18-yard pass to Steve Kleinknecht (pass failed)				



GANG TACKLED — Galion's John Bucksbaum is caught and stopped by Shelby's Joel Hall (87) and Tim Swanger (61). Randy Stiteler (83), looks on. The Whippets knocked Galion out of

second place and now set their sights on Willard next week for the Northern Ohio League title. (Globe photo by Linda Stotts)

BC blasts Pleasant

MARION — After suffering two stunning losses in the previous weeks which eliminated Buckeye Central from the North Central Conference race, the Bucks proved they were still an awesome team as they shelled Marion Pleasant Friday night, 44-7.

The Bucks (6-3, 5-3) remained in third place while Pleasant fell to 0-6-3 overall, and 0-5-3 in the NCC.

Buckeye Central didn't waste any time in getting on the board when they broke the ice early on a 20-yard run by Steve Heydinger with 10:11 left in the first quarter.

A couple of minutes later quarterback Scott White connected on a 71-yard bomb to Duane Stacklin.

With time running out in the first quarter, Pleasant signal caller Dennis Landon found Jay Johnson for a 34-yard touchdown aerial.

Buckeye Central took a little bit more time in finding the end zone in the second quarter and again Steve Heydinger did the damage on a four-yard run.

With three minutes left in the first half, Heydinger again made himself known to Pleasant by blocking a punt and scooping up the ball racing 25 yards for another touchdown.

Action in the third quarter saw the Bucks pick up 12 more points to increase the bulge to 38-7 going into the fourth quarter.

Dan Wurm caught a 34-yard pass for the first points of the third quarter and Heydinger

finished out the quarter with his final points of the night on a 73-yard run.

With 8:04 left in the final quarter, Buckeye's Chet Johnson scored on a 38-yard burst.

Pleasant had nine first downs to the Bucks' six as the Spartans were almost completely shut down on their ground attack.

In 31 rushing attempts, the Bucks gained 265 yards while holding Pleasant to 14 yards on the ground in 37 attempts.

Buckeye was four of eleven in the passing department with one interception for 143 yards while the Spartans were eight of

22 for 121 yards with three interceptions.

Heydinger paced the Buck offense with four touchdowns and 150 yards in a mere nine carries and a blocked punt.

Ed Lucius led the Bucks on defense with seven solo tackles, two assists and one quarterback sack.

"In all it was a big-play night for us and we took advantage of what Pleasant gave us," said Buckeye Coach Bill Pierce.

The Bucks will close out their 1979 season next Saturday when they host River Valley at Wynford High School at 8 p.m.

B.C.	12	14	12	6-44
M.P.	7	0	0	0-7

NOL roundup

Willard nips Upper, 21-15

It all comes down to one final game in the NOL. While Shelby was knocking Galion out of second place Friday with a 21-12 victory, Willard came from behind to stop Upper Sandusky, 21-15. Shelby remains one-half game behind Willard with a showdown scheduled for Friday at Skiles Field. Shelby can win the NOL title by beating the Crimson Flashes. In the other games Friday night, Bucyrus won the battle of the unbeaten with a 14-7 decision over Norwalk Tiffin Columbian retained some respect with a 19-14 win over Bellevue.

Willard 21, Upper 15
Mark Miller ran for three touchdowns and kicked all three extra points to give the Flashes the come from behind win.

Miller scored first on a 53 yard run in the second quarter but Upper got six points back in the same period on a six yard pass from Tony Turley to Steve Lehman. Miller scored his second touchdown on a five-yard run.

Craig Marshall brought the Rams to within two with a one-yard run and Tony Turley put the Rams ahead with a 30-yard fourth quarter field goal, but Miller scored on a 30-yard run to set up next week's title game.

Willard had 188 rushing yards (174 belonged to Miller) and 45 passing yards. Upper collected 138 rushing yards and 124 passing yards.

UPPER	0	6	0	9-15
WILLARD	0	7	7	7-21

Crestview stops Big Red, 26-12

OLIVESBURG — A freshman named Curtis Reed raced for 161 yards in 22 carries to lead the Crestview Cougars to a 24-12 football victory over Plymouth Big Red Friday night.

Plymouth scored first on a three-yard run by Jamerson in the first quarter and scored their final touchdown on a four-yard scamper by Jamerson in the fourth quarter.

Crestview scored in every quarter, paced by two short touchdown runs by Reed.

Plymouth earned nine first downs to Crestview's 13. Plymouth racked up 211 yards on the ground and 28 more through the air. Crestview totaled 261 on the ground and 17 through the air.

Plymouth's record drops to 1-7 while Crestview's record moves to 4-5.

PLYMOUTH	6	0	0	6-12
CRESTVIEW	6	6	6	6-24

Bucyrus 14, Norwalk 7
Only Norwalk remains without an NOL victory after the Redmen's victory over the Truckers. Mark Foght scored both Bucyrus touchdowns on runs of one and 30 yards. Larry Buckhannon scored Norwalk's lone touchdown on a 77-yard run. Bucyrus totaled 228 yards to Norwalk's 180. Buckhannon led all rushers with 139 yards in 11 carries. Foght had 134 yards in 29 carries.

NORWALK	0	0	0	7-7
BUCYRUS	0	7	0	7-14

Columbian 19, Bellevue 14
Tiffin Columbian scored 13 second-quarter points on their way to a victory over the Redmen. Jim Smith had touchdown runs of four and 23 yards to pace the Tornados. Bellevue scored on a 48-yard pass from Bill Nasonti to Dan Lepley in the first quarter and on a three-yard run by Jude San Gregory in the fourth quarter. Tiffin got the game-winner on a 13-yard pass from John Culver to Jack Bargaheiser.

Bellevue had 169 passing yards and 25 rushing yards. Columbian had 210 yards on the ground and 12 through the air. Jim Smith collected 144 yards on 29 carries.

TIFFIN	0	13	6	0-19
BELLEVUE	7	0	0	7-14

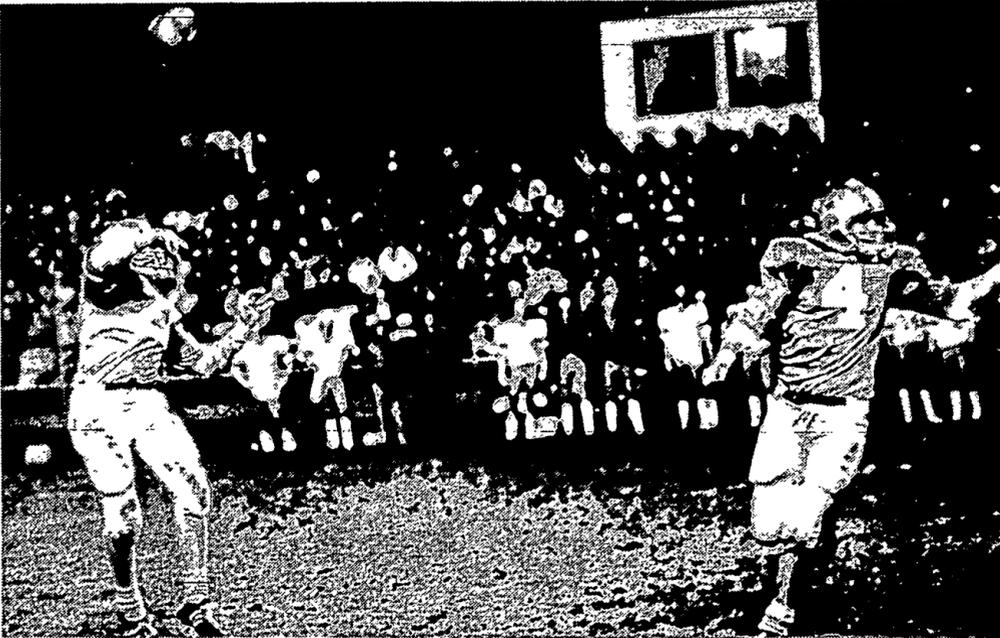
NOL standings

Willard	5-0-1	6-2-1	Bucyrus 14, Norwalk 7
SHELBY	5-1-0	7-2-0	Willard 21, Upper 15
Galion	4-2-0	6-3-0	Tiffin 19, Bellevue 14
Tiffin	3-2-1	4-4-1	
Upper	3-3-0	5-3-1	NEXT FRIDAY'S GAMES
Bellevue	2-4-0	2-7-0	Willard at Shelby
Bucyrus	1-5-0	2-7-0	Tiffin at Norwalk
Norwalk	0-6-0	1-8-0	Bucyrus at Galion
			Bellevue at Upper

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Shelby 21, Galion 12

Area scores

Clear Fork 20, Loudonville 0	Dover 27, Ashland 0
Carey 35, Wynford 6	Elyria 8, Findlay 7
Col. Crawford 22, River Valley 0	Tiffin Calvert 33, Margaretta 0
Crestline 8, Fredericktown 0	Wooster 25, Mans. Madison 23



TOUCHDOWN PASS — Shelby's Brad Nothacker launches a touchdown pass after taking the handoff from Pat Rose (4). Below: John Johnson gathers in the aerial in the endzone while

Galion's Brad Cass (20) tries in vain to cover. The pass was the only one thrown Friday by the Whippets. (Globe Photo by Linda Stotts)

