

# Port Clinton nabs second shutout in thwarting Bellevue

BELLEVUE—Paul Hemminger called it the longest game in the history of football, but the Port Clinton coach was still happy with the end result.

The Redskins registered their second shutout victory in as many endeavors Friday, 14-0 over host Bellevue in an independent duel marred by a rash of penalties. Officials stepped off 232 yards on 19 infractions in the game, including 138 yards on 12 penalties against the winners.

The win marked the first for Port Clinton at Bellevue since 1970 when the Ottawa County team posted an 8-6 loss. In the four meetings after that, Bellevue held a 3-0-1 margin.

"Our kids played hard and aggressive across the front and heads up in the secondary," Hemminger stated.

"Bellevue defended our spread passing game quite well as we came ut throwing in the first half, but we adjusted and went more to running the ball in the second half," Hemminger continued.

Port Clinton scored all of its points in the third quarter with senior tailback Steve Carnicom producing both tallies. Carnicom bolted off-tackle and then slid outside for five yards for the first marker at the 3:06 mark of the third quarter. Brian Celek's kick hiked the count to 7-0.

With three seconds remaining in the same period, Carnicom gave Port Clinton six more points as he gathered in a Bellevue punt and dashed 45 yards to paydirt. Celek again booted the PAT.

"Steve went right up the middle with the ball and had some key blocks on the way," Hemminger said.

Port Clinton's defense limited the hosts to eight yards rushing, and 62 yards in total offense.

"Brian Celek had another outstanding game at linebacker and he was all over the field again. He also ran the ball well at fullback," Hemminger praised.

"Our defensive tackles stacked things up, too," Hemminger added in recognizing the play of Rick Habegger, Bill Kohbarger and Mark Hermes.

The first score was set up by a 43-yard pass play from quarterback

STATISTICS			
	B	P	
First Downs	4	12	
Net Yards Gained Rushing	8	113	
Yards Gained Passing	64	102	
Total Net Yards Gained	72	215	
Passes Attempted/Completed	7/18	8/19	
Passes Intercepted by	1	2	
Fumbles/Lost	3/1	2/0	
Yards Penalized	94	138	

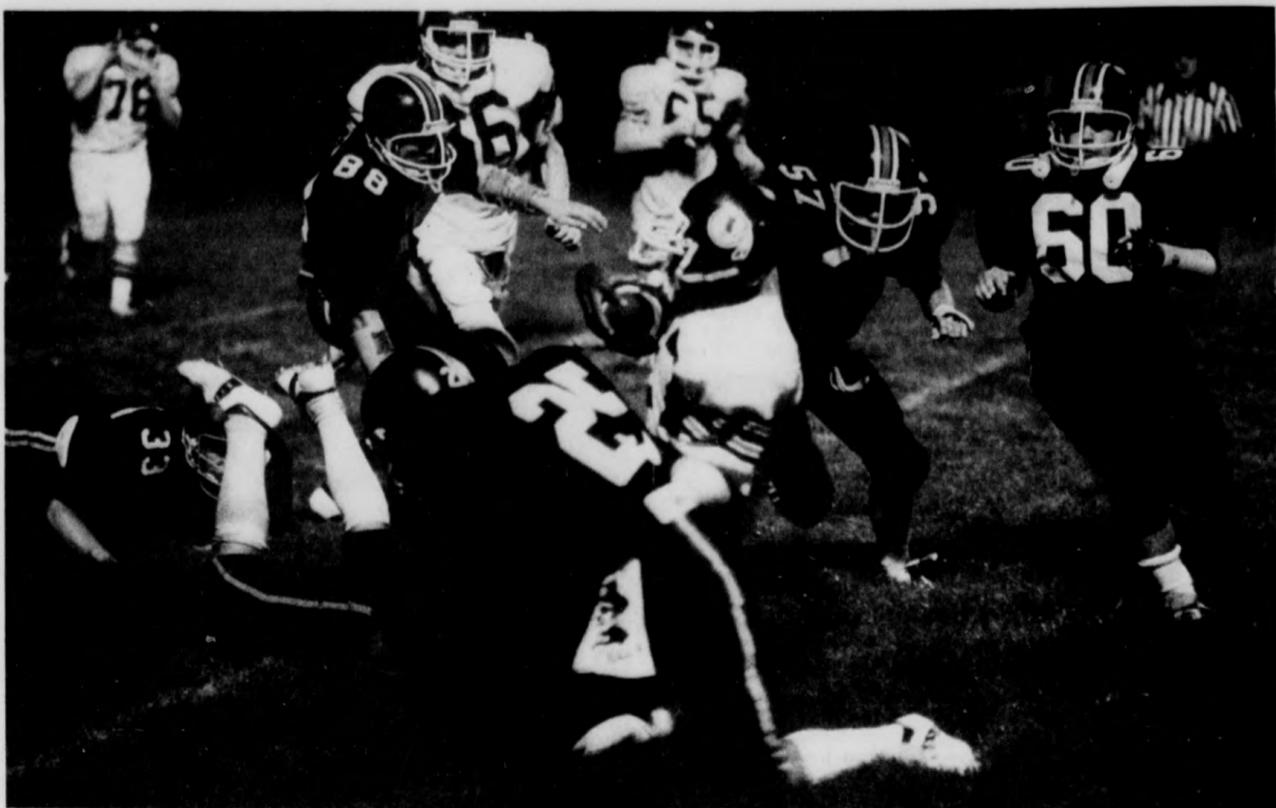
SCORES BY QUARTERS					
Port Clinton	0	0	14	0	14
Bellevue	0	0	0	0	0
Scoring: Port Clinton — Steve Carnicom, 5 run. (Brian Celek, kick).					
Port Clinton — Carnicom, 45 punt return. (Celek, kick).					

Jeff Johnston to first-year performer, senior split end Rick Cuttaia. Carnicom scored on the next play.

"We had five clipping penalties and one cost us a touchdown, but Bellevue also had an awful lot of penalties," Hemminger noted. Jim Ralph dashed 37 yards early in the final period for an apparent tally only to have the fine run nullified.

Port Clinton takes on always tough Oregon Clay next Friday. "We don't dodge anyone," Hemminger offered.

Bellevue, winless in two games, had one threat and drove to the Port Clinton 18 in the first period before the Redskins' defense tightened up.



Perkins defenders swarm like bees around Oberlin tailback James Merchant, center. The Pirates involved in making the stop include Scott Lang (33), Mark Butler (88),

Jeff Nixon (25), Todd Matthias (57) and Thom Bing (60). Merchant scored the only touchdown of the game, an 85-yard run in the second period.

# Merchant avoids seizure of Pirates

By ED FOX  
Staff Writer

The dictionary defines a merchant as one who buys and sells commodities for a profit.

Oberlin's James Merchant had plenty for sale Friday.

The multi-talented junior tailback led the visiting Indians to a 6-2 triumph over the Perkins as both teams evened their '80 records at 1-1.

"I don't know what more you could ask the young man to do," said Oberlin head Coach Jim Donovan.

Merchant, a two-way performer, scored the only touchdown of the game on an 85-yard run in the second quarter and finished the game with 86 yards in 19 tries.

But, that's not all.

He had an interception late in the game from his safety position, punted five times for a 33.6 average, handled the placekicking duties and

played some at quarterback when the Indians ran short at the position in the second half.

"It's definitely his best all-around game ever. He played well last week (10-0 loss to Elyria West), but really performed his best tonight."

Perkins' Jim Stauffer also praised the play of Merchant.

"We knew he would be around the ball 90 percent of the time. He made an excellent cut back against the defense on that touchdown run and that was the game."

There were many similarities between Friday's game and the 20-0 Perkins triumph over Keystone last week.

In both games, the Pirates moved the ball up and down the field with authority only to be turned away from the goal.

"We look great between the 20s, but seem to go stale once we get close to the goal. I don't know what

the answer is. It almost looks like two different teams out there.

"I told the team that Oberlin would be no pushover. They only have 29 kids, three coaches and a water bottle, but come to play."

Oberlin scored on its third possession of the game.

Perkins had just failed to convert on a fourth and two situation and the Indians assumed possession at their own 15.

A few seconds later, Oberlin was on the board.

Merchant, who had been held to zero yards in five carries during the first period, took the pitch. He swept to the right and simply outran the Pirates' defense in galloping 85 yards to paydirt with 10:06 left in the second quarter. The pass for the PAT failed and Oberlin led, 6-0.

Just before taking the pitch from quarterback Brad Norton, Merchant had been busy fixing the strap

on fullback George Locklear's helmet. He finished the repair job just before the snapping of the ball.

Perkins had numerous scoring opportunities but was unable to reach the goalline and scored its only points with the help of Merchant, who ran to the Pirate end zone for a safety with 1:30 left in the game.

"We debated for a few moments on whether to punt from deep in our own territory or take the safety. At the suggestion of my assistant Rocky Hammond, we felt it was wiser to concede the two points," noted Donovan.

At the time, Oberlin was facing a fourth and five situation at its own 19. Instead of punting from inside its 10-yard line, the Indians got a free kick from the 20.

"In getting the free kick, we avoided any chance of Perkins blocking the punt deep in our territory."

On six occasions, the Pirates were inside the Oberlin 25 only to get turned away.

The Oberlin defense jumped on five Pirate turnovers, three interceptions and a pair of fumble recoveries.

In all, the Pirates fumbled five times.

Both coaches lauded the play of their defensive units.

"Our defense was strong for the second straight week. Jim Hohler and Jeff Nixon both had fine games. Hohler had some excellent hits in the Oberlin backfield and Nixon had a pair of interceptions," said Stauffer.

On the other side, Donovan was quick to point out senior Marty Logan as the key to stopping the Pirates.

"He played well in the middle and we're quite pleased with the fact we shut down a strong Perkins offensive unit. They have a pair of hard-running fullbacks and three excellent tailbacks. We were afraid of the depth factor in the late going, but the kids hung in there."

Senior tailback Rick White led the Perkins ground game with 82 yards in 18 tries while fullback Mark Butler had 66 in 11 attempts.

The Pirates return to action Friday, visiting Bellevue in the final non-conference game of the season.

		P	O
First Downs (total)		13	5
by rushing		9	3
by passing		2	1
by penalty		2	1
Rushes (number)		45	33
net yards gained		192	128
Forward Passing			
attempted		16	5
completed		5	2
had intercepted		3	2
net yards gained		40	23
Total Plays (rushes & passes)		61	38
Total Net Yards Gained		232	151
Fumbles (number)		5	4
ball lost		2	1
Penalties (number)		4	8
yards penalized		40	70

SCORES BY QUARTERS					
Oberlin	0	6	0	0	6
Perkins	0	0	0	2	2
Scoring: Oberlin — James Merchant, 85 run. (pass failed).					
Perkins — Safety.					

# Area Firelands teams go four-for-four

New London used a balanced attack Friday to outscore Crestline, 28-20.

The Wildcats, in raising their record to 2-0, got a pair of touchdowns apiece from Chad Cooke and Todd Wyckoff.

For Crestline, now 1-1, it was only the third loss in its last 21 games. Last year, the Bulldogs were 7-2-1 following a perfect 10-0 finish in '78.

The Bulldogs were first on the scoreboard as Joe Horning tallied

from six yards away and a pass from Brett Simmermacher to Horning accounted for the two-point conversion.

Cooke's TD, along with a two-point conversion pass from Kevin Koch to Dave Ruggles, tied the score at 8-8.

Again, Crestline went on top as Simmermacher hit Dick Miller on a 51-yard aerial, but the run for extra points failed as the visitors held a 14-8 lead at the quarter break.

In the second period, New London got the lone score as Todd Wyckoff plunged to paydirt from the one-yard-line and the run for the PAT failed as the teams were tied at 14-14 at halftime.

New London gained the lead for the first time in the third quarter on Wyckoff's second score of the game, a four-yarder and he also kicked the extra point for a 21-14 advantage.

Simmermacher scored from nine yards out, but the Bulldogs trailed by one (21-20) as the pass for the PAT missed.

Cooke's second touchdown of the game, a 72-yard pass from Koch and Wyckoff's successful PAT conversion upped the count to 28-20 and neither team could reach paydirt in the final 12 minutes.

STATISTICS			
	C	N	
First Downs	9	5	
Net Yards Gained Rushing	84	156	
Yards Gained Passing	192	144	
Total Net Yards Gained	276	300	
Passes Attempted/Completed	18/9	14/4	
Passes Intercepted by	1	0	
Fumbles/Lost	4/2	2/2	
Yards Penalized	6/60	4/30	

SCORES BY QUARTERS					
Crestline	14	0	6	0	20
New London	8	6	14	0	28
Scoring: Crestline — Joe Horning, 6 run. (Horning, pass from Brett Simmermacher).					
New London — Chad Cooke, 65 run. (Dave Ruggles, pass from Kevin Koch).					
Crestline — Dick Miller, 51 pass from Simmermacher. (run failed).					
New London — Todd Wyckoff, 1 run. (run failed).					
New London — Wyckoff, 4 run. (Wyckoff, kick).					
Crestline — Simmermacher, 9 run. (pass failed).					
New London — Cooke, 72 pass from Koch. (Wyckoff, kick).					

Senior Tim Hall scored twice while Tom Hall reached paydirt once and rushed for 134 yards in 10 carries and Fidler, who also scored once, rambled for 127 yards in 18 tries.

South Central, now 2-0, got on the board with 2:41 left in the first quarter as Tom Hall plunged in from one yard away, capping a nine-play, 41-yard drive following a Plymouth punt. Jeff Chandler kicked the conversion for a 7-0 lead.

In the second period, the Trojans struck twice with Fidler going in from the 12 to cap a seven-play, 87-yard drive and Tim Hall scored three minutes later on a 16-yard run which was set up when South Central recovered a blocked punt at the Plymouth 20.

The final score for coach Bill Lewis' squad came on the first play of the fourth period with Tim Hall rambling 50 yards. Again, Chandler converted giving him a four-for-four night in the extra point department.

South Central, which netted 329 yards (307 rushing), overcame 11 penalties and had 135 yards marched off against them.

Plymouth is now 0-2.

STATISTICS			
	S	P	
First Downs	13	11	
Net Yards Gained Rushing	307	148	
Yards Gained Passing	22	16	
Total Net Yards Gained	329	164	
Passes Attempted/Completed	2/1	7/2	
Passes Intercepted by	2	0	
Fumbles/Lost	4/2	1/0	
Yards Penalized	135	40	

SCORES BY QUARTERS					
South Central	7	14	0	7	28
Plymouth	0	0	0	0	0
Scoring: South Central — Tom Hall, 1 run. (Jeff Chandler, kick).					
South Central — Doug Fidler, 12 run. (Chandler, kick).					
South Central — Tim Hall, 16 run. (Chandler, kick).					
South Central — Tim Hall, 50 run. (Chandler, kick).					

## Shupe scores twice in 'Riders triumph

SOUTH AMHERST — Robert Shupe scored twice on runs of one and six yards as Western Reserve evened its record at 1-1 with a 16-0 blanking of South Amherst.

After a scoreless first period, Shupe scored from six yards away and Jeff Hoffman ran for the PAT as the Roughriders went on top, 8-0 at the intermission.

## South Central trio triggers 28-0 romp

PLYMOUTH — The trio of Doug Fidler, Tom and Tim Hall accounted for all the scoring as South Central blanked Plymouth, 28-0.

## Monroeville edges past Seneca East

MONROEVILLE — Monroeville scored on its first possession and went on to defeat Seneca East by a 10-6 count in a defensive struggle.

The Eagles recovered a Seneca East fumble early and Don Schafer ran 20 yards with the loose pigskin for the first score of the game at the 9:06 mark of the first quarter.

Tim Bragg, who converted the point after, increased the Monroeville lead to 10-0 in the second stanza as he split the uprights from 28 yards for the first field goal of the season.

The Eagles are 2-0 while Seneca East drops to 1-1.

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