

St. Paul drills Plymouth, 33-3

PLYMOUTH — St. Paul climbed back in the Firelands Conference title picture in impressive fashion Friday night.

The Flyers spotted Plymouth and early 32-yard Gregg Davis field goal, then reeled off 33 straight points to roll up a 33-3 victory.

"We had to win if we wanted to win the conference," said St. Paul coach John Livengood. "Basically, it came down to take. Now we're back in the driver's seat and control our own destiny."

The Flyers, now 7-2 overall and 5-1 in the Firelands, came wrap up another title share with a win over Monroeville at Whitney Field Saturday night while the Big Red (6-3, 5-1) can grab the other half by topping Crestview on Friday.

John Good and John Rossman guided a balanced St. Paul attack that piled up 355 yards total offense against Plymouth.

Good rushed for 170 yards and three touchdowns to give the Flyers the lead for good while Rossman was 13 of 20 for 163 yards and a touchdown.

Davis gave the Big Red the early lead with 4:06 left in the first quarter, but Good broke loose for a 38-yard scoring scamper just over a minute later and Brian Waldron added the extra point kick to put St. Paul in front to stay.

Good added touchdown runs of 3 and 1-yard in the second as the Flyers pulled out to a 20-3 halftime edge with Rossman hitting Scott Endsley with 5:42 left in the third quarter to increase the lead to 26-3.

Rossman finished the scoring with just over five minutes left in the final period by going over from the one with Waldron coming on to boot his third extra point of the game.

And while the Flyer offense was in the scoring mood, the defense was putting the clamps on Plymouth, limiting the hosts to 112 yards total offense with three turnovers and just seven first downs.

"Our defense played great," said Livengood. "Rick Reeder is an awesome quarterback. Our secondary got the job done with Endsley getting a big interception in the second quarter."

"And our defensive line was in Reeder's face all night. This was just a good team win."

Monroeville	35
Mapleton	21

MONROEVILLE -- A defensive battle turned into a shootout in the fourth quarter Friday as Monroeville outscored Mapleton by a 35-21

count to remain mathematically in the Firelands Conference title picture.

The Eagles improved to 4-2, and coupled with St. Paul's 33-3 romp over Plymouth, were able to climb to within one game of the co-leaders. Monroeville faces the Flyers in the season finale a week from tonight.

After a scoreless first quarter, things began to heat up ever so slowly.

However, 35 points were put on the board in the final 12 minutes of play as the teams traded touchdowns.

The Eagles built a 13-0 halftime lead as Brett Jones dashed 15 and 16 yards for touchdowns. The lead went to 21-0 in the third period as Cory Shaw ran 9 yards and Kevin Fries passed for the two-point conversion to Andy Hovatter.

Then came the lightning-fast scores.

Kevin Cline scored on a one-yard sneak for Mapleton at the 11:13 mark.

The Eagles came right back and Jones scored his third touchdown of the night at the 8:45 mark on another 16-yard jaunt.

Mapleton retaliated in less than 2 minutes. Cline hooked up with Ben Hootman for a 13-yard strike with 6:55 remaining.

Monroeville again answered back, this time on a 20-yard touchdown pass from Fries to Brian Jones, younger brother of Brett. That came with 4:26 left to play.

Mapleton scored again, this time on a one-yard run by Andy Hadley with only 1:22 on the clock.

Monroeville is 7-2 on the year.

New London	54
South Central	0

NEW LONDON — New London exploded for 28 points in the first quarter in a 54-0 clubbing of South Central in Firelands Conference play Friday.

The Wildcats, now 6-3 overall and 4-2 in the league, rolled up 296 yards total offense, including 216 on the ground, while limiting the Trojans (1-8, 0-6) to 141 yards offense.

W. Reserve	35
Crestview	29

ASHLAND — Western Reserve rolled up 369 yards of offense to score a 35-29 Firelands Conference win over Ashland Crestview Friday night.

The Roughriders never trailed after jumping out to a 12-0 lead in the first and owned a 29-7 advantage at the intermission.

FIRELANDS CONFERENCE

SCHOOL NAME	OVERALL				LEAGUE				PA	
	G	W	L	PF	G	W	L	PF		
St. Paul	9	7	2	299	104	6	5	1	188	57
Plymouth	9	6	3	150	111	6	5	1	100	76
Monroeville	9	7	2	205	107	6	4	2	139	99
New London	9	6	3	248	96	6	4	2	186	56
Crestview	9	4	5	225	219	6	3	3	135	152
Western Reserve	9	2	7	122	189	6	2	4	91	130
Mapleton	9	2	7	111	226	6	1	5	79	154
South Central	9	1	8	64	328	6	0	6	37	231

BOXING

Toney wins unanimous decision

TULSA, Okla. — For six rounds, he was a kid again, conquering the man in front of him and the years behind him.

But, as the fight wore on, as the punches began to accumulate, Tony Thornton began to look like the 33-year-old man he is.

And, when he did, James Toney, 25, the "real" kid, took over.

Toney, overcoming a slow start, scored a unanimous decision over Thornton to retain his International Boxing Federation super-middleweight title Friday night at the Tulsa Convention Center.

Judges Paul Weitzel and Steve Epstein scored the 12-round fight 118-110, while Lucien Joubert had it 116-112.

"He was tough," Toney said. "He's a good, experienced fighter, but he was in there with the best."

Toney, of Ann Arbor, Mich., improved his record to 40-0-2; Thornton, of Glassboro, N.J., fell to 35-6-1.

The two men fought on the inside for most of the first round, standing so close together that they looked like one amorphous mass, as if they had melded into a single fighter with four arms and four legs. Thornton boxed effectively, slipping punches as he pounded the body and head. Toney, usually the aggressor, retreated for much of the round, lying on the ropes without throwing punches.

Huron

Continued from Page B-1. turnovers but this year we didn't have the turnovers. And our line gave me great protection which gave me a chance to complete a lot of passes."

Harkelroad starting completing the passes early, hitting a 39-yard strike to Ryan Brown on the second play from scrimmage to set up an 8-yard touchdown run from Scott Kozar four plays later to take a 6-0 lead.

Roger Hamilton, who picked up 88 yards on 20 carries to lead all rushers, did the majority of the work on the Rockets' answering drive, rushing three times for 25 yards and catching two passes for 12 in the seven playing scoring drive, including the final 17 for the touchdown with 6:40 left in the first quarter.

Jason Baker came on to boot the extra point to give Oak Harbor its only lead of the night.

Harkelroad went right back to work, hitting 4 of 5 passes for 49 yards during the 63 yard drive with Mike Swanbeck breaking loose for a 14-yard touchdown run to put the Tigers in the lead to stay.

Harkelroad continued to apply pressure, hitting Rob Majoy with a 70-yard touchdown bomb midway through the second period and added a 42-yard scoring strike to Brad Bullock with just over two minutes left in the half to open up a comfortable 25-7 lead.

"They played a great game and I don't think we looked good in any aspect of the game," said Oak Harbor head coach Gary Quisno. "They made everything and played good defense."

"The first time we had the ball, we went right down the field and answered their score and we needed to do that again to take some wind out of their sails and we couldn't do it."

The Rockets, who were limited to just 187 yards total offense, were able to move the ball in the third quarter and controlled the ball for all but four minutes in the period. But they came up short on a fourth-and-15 from the Huron 25 to end the threat.

"We might have been able to get back into the game if we would have punched one in, but they made the defensive plays," said Quisno. "We run the ball and try to play good defense. It just didn't happen."

Tim McGraw closed out the scoring with a 3-yard touchdown run with 6:02 left to play with the Huron substitutes slamming the door on an Oak Harbor scoring threat when Larry Balcarcel sacked Noggle on a fourth-and-three play at the Tiger 5.

Huron piled up 360 yards total offense in the game with nine players running the ball, led by Swanbeck's 41 yards on four carries. Also, Majoy finished the game with five receptions for 102 yards, raising his season totals to 51 catches for 720 yards, while Brown chipped in three catches for 61 yards.

"It's still vintage run-and-shoot," said Legando.



Margaretta junior quarterback Jason Bodi fights for additional yardage as Edison's Stan Baryliski holds on during second period action in Friday's SBC game. The Polar Bears prevailed, 34-6.

Bears

Continued from Page B-1. he put more people on the line of scrimmage.

Just as a pack of wolves can drag down a bear, Campana put nine players within three yards of scrimmage to counter the Bears.

But Edison would tally nine rushing yards in the red for the first half and had already taken to the air by the second quarter, leaving themselves open for two interceptions against the Bears' one turnover.

Margaretta and Edison had three interceptions each for the game, with the Bears recovering two more fumbles.

"Until we can establish some kind of an offense, we're just going to have a real hard time. 1-2-3-punt just doesn't really get it," Campana said.

The back-and-forth play ended

on the sixth drive into the second quarter, when the Bears started a 10-play drive from their own 43 yard line. They consistently moved the ball less than 10 yards a down to a first-and-goal at the four yard line. Keck carried the ball into the end zone for six more with 0:34 left in the half.

Edison took the kick off to their own 31, and junior passer Frank Carrico hit senior split end Paul Beach for a 69-yard marathon down the sidelines for Edison's only score with 0:07 left in the half.

"We felt very strongly we wanted to play an excellent half and come back. And we did in the first half, and then in the second half it wasn't all that we wanted," Zang said.

In the third quarter, Bodi threw an interception to the Chargers' Jason Bryant, but Carrico threw to Margaretta's Dan Weyer on the next play to set up the Bears at the 16 yard line.

Howard's one-yard run set up another Bodi-to-Griffin score with 7:17 left in the third, with Howard running his own two-point conversion to end scoring for the game.

Although Zang complemented his special teams' improvement, he said, "There's still little things that we can get better."

"We do some good things and then something happens. We just have to stay focused and we just have to work on the little things."

While Zang is smoothing bumps, Campana is molding entire players.

"Our young kids are gaining an awful lot of experience this year and that's pretty much what the plan was in the begin of the year," Campana said.

"We were hoping to be at least .500. We thought there was a couple teams in the league we could compete with and beat."

"And we haven't been able to do that so far."

SMCC

Continued from Page B-1. thers the early lead and junior Corey Smith scored on a one-yard run and booted the PAT after each score to close out the first period explosion.

Heading into next Saturday's regular season finale with Edison at Strobel Field, Spadaro has 1,996 yards for his career and that includes 908 this season. Against PC, he gained 134 yards on 16 attempts.

"We wanted to come out of the gate and establish our ground game. We were frustrated after the last two weeks and the kids were ready to go. They wanted to get their respect back," said Panther head coach Ty Roth.

After a 28-yard punt by Rick Cassel, the Panthers began from the PC 39.

And, it only took four plays for SMCC to get on the board. On a second-and-18 call, Spadaro found an opening and that's all he needed to reach the end zone. Smith came on for the PAT and a 7-0 lead with 7:25 to go in the first period.

Forced to punt again, Cassel lifted the ball into the waiting arms of Chad Rosin and the talented senior came up with a 32-yard return as the Panthers took over at the PC 30.

It only took one play for them to add to their lead with Spadaro going 30 yards for the score and Smith again converted for a 14-0 lead with 5:39 showing on the clock.

Another PC punt and 33-yard return by Rosin set the Panthers up again at the PC 27-yard line. Seven plays later, Smith plunged in from one yard out and he also added the point after for a 21-0 lead with just 37 seconds left in the first quarter.

The Panthers converted twice on third down situations during the drive, once on a personal foul against the hosts at their 19 and the second time on a Spadaro one-yard run to the PC 1.

"We didn't have to drive the ball very far and Chad really did a good job of getting to the wall on those returns. We thought they (PC) would be overaggressive on defense and we were able to score with Pete on a straight dive and trap," added Roth.

The Panthers cashed in on a PC turnover for the final score of the first half.

After a recovery by Smith, the Panthers took over at the PC 15-yard line. Following a five-yard penalty, senior quarterback Tom Jeffrey threw a perfect strike to Rosin, who came up with the over-the-head toss in the end zone for a 20-yard touchdown completion. Smith converted again and the SMCC lead went to 28-0 with 7:03 left before halftime.

Midway through the third period, the Redskins put together a sustained drive. Beginning at their own 35, they moved to the SMCC 12 where a first down pass from sophomore quarterback Earl Rahm was intercepted by Rob Wikel at the 3-yard line.

The Panthers closed out the scoring early in the fourth period with Spadaro scoring his third touchdown of the game and 13th of the season on a 24-yard run. That came on the heels of a 33-yard run by Smith as the 71-yard drive took just five plays. Smith converted again and the Panthers had a 35-0 lead with 10:22 to go and it held up the rest of the way.

"Rob had his finger mangled right before halftime and it was a severe broken finger but that didn't keep him from playing the second half. He's not tall, but we have him in the secondary because he's fast and has a lot of quickness. That was a big stop for the defense."

"We needed this one to keep our playoff hopes alive. We're still hoping that we might get some help," added Roth.

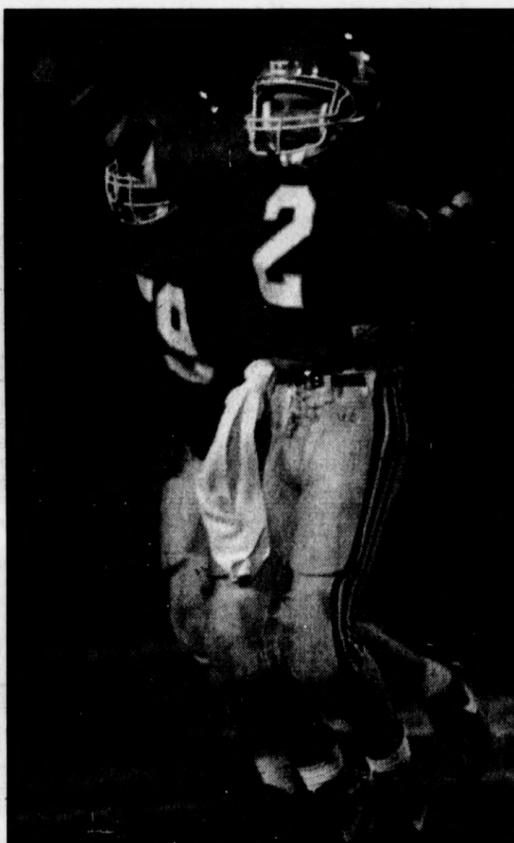
Clyde

Continued from Page B-1. The Pirates put together their loan scoring drive early in the final stanza as they marched 51 yards in 15 plays with Bryan Gangwisch crunching in from the one.

Jason Poirier did most of the work but just couldn't get the final needed yard. The junior running back finished the night with 122 yards on 34 attempts.

"None of our starters saw action in the second half. We didn't want to run up the score and we didn't want to risk any possible injury going into our showdown match next Friday at Oak Harbor", stated the eighth year mentor.

"Our game plan was to get a quick jump, stay healthy and get everyone into the game. This we were able to do", concluded coach Bishop.



Ryan Brown celebrates a Huron fumble recovery during the second quarter against Oak Harbor Friday night. Brown caught three passes for 61 yards to help lift the Tigers to a 31-7 victory over the Rockets.