

# Victory on the gridiron, record 1-0

Joe Wallace

Sports Editor

On a day when Quaker sports fans had little to cheer about, the Guilford football team provided a lift as they travelled to Methodist College and returned victorious.

A crowd of 1,250 were on hand Saturday at Monarch Field and watched in shock as freshman quarterback Dan Strelkauskas led the Guilford offense on a 13-play, 77-yard touchdown drive in the closing minutes of the game to give the Quakers a 13-12 win.

Methodist got on the scoreboard first as Monarch quarterback Oscar Braun threw a 78-yard TD bomb to receiver Jesse Iverson with only 53 seconds remaining in the first quarter. The point-after-touchdown (PAT) failed and the Quakers trailed by a score of 6-0.

But on the ensuing kickoff, Guilford kick-returner Junior Lord caught the ball at the Quaker 8-yard line and returned it 92 yards for the score. Kicker Chris Meehl's PAT gave the Quakers a 7-6 eventual halftime lead.

There was no more scoring until early in the fourth quarter when Monarch runningback Phillip

Brembry broke through the middle of a tough Quaker defense, and scampered up the field 84 yards for a Methodist touchdown. Braun's two-point conversion pass fell incomplete and the Monarchs led 12-7 with 9:39 left in the game.

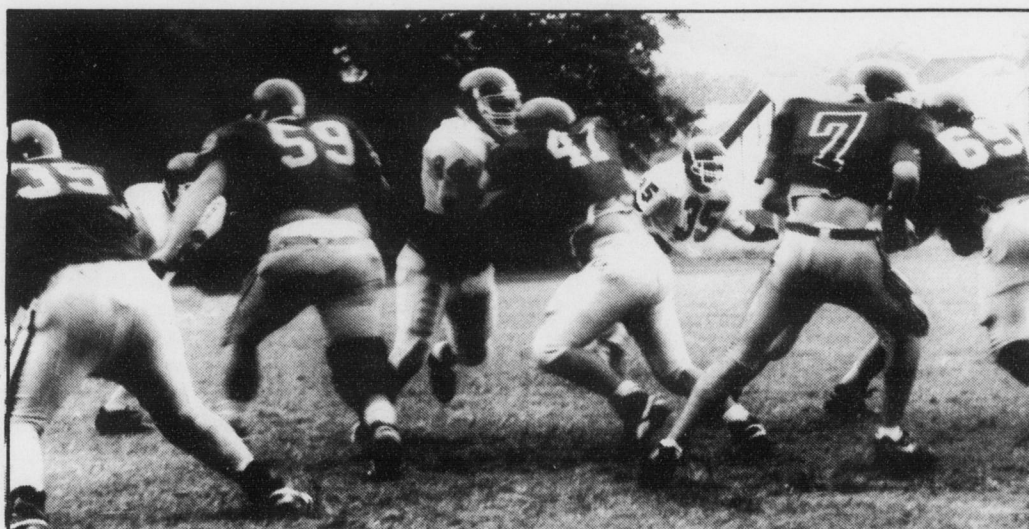
On the next series, Strelkauskas, who came into the game after an injury to Santes Beatty, executed his game-winning drive.

Quaker receivers Dee Rankin and Chris LiSoovey were instrumental in the drive as they both caught critical third-down passes to keep the drive alive.

Rankin's reception was particularly beneficial as it put the Quakers on the 4-yard line. Two plays later, justice was served as Strelkauskas himself took the ball the final 2 yards on an up-the-middle quarterback sneak for the go-ahead touchdown. The two-point conversion failed, but it didn't matter; Guilford had a 13-12 lead with 3:06 remaining.

Any hopes of a Monarch comeback were then squelched when Brad Smith snagged his second interception of the day at the Quaker 38-yard line, preserving the Guilford victory.

The score of the game was a true reflection of exactly how close the game was.



John "Ricky" Carbaugh

*The Quakers' victory celebration was short-lived as they went right to work preparing to continue their success against next week's foe, Chowan*

The Quakers mustered 160 yards rushing and 122 yards passing for a net total of 282 yards, only 12 more than the 270 yards acquired by the Monarchs.

The only real disparaging statistic is Guilford's dominance of the game clock. Due to the run-oriented ball control offense implemented by the Quakers, the team ate 37 minutes and 13 seconds off the clock.

Of course, even this stat is balanced out by the 10 penalties for

65 yards the Quakers amassed, one of which nullified a would-be touchdown reception.

Defensively the Quakers were very strong.

The defensive back grabbed 3 interceptions on the day, 2 by Smith and 1 by Cam Richardson, and they forced the Monarchs to punt 7 times.

But the real star of the game was Strelkauskas.

After Brembry's 84-yard TD run, it seemed as if the Quakers

were destined for another defeat. Many of the returning players had their heads down and had appeared to have given up.

But the freshman quarterback stepped in with youthful ambition and showed his elders that the Quakers were good enough to answer the challenge. And that's just what they did.

The Quakers, now 1-0, continue their long road trip next week when they travel to Chowan on Saturday.

## NFL REPORT: ROOKIE IMPACT TO MAKE AFC SUPERBOWL CONTENDER

Jason Barber

Staff Writer

This year's rookie class of the NFL promises to be one of the best and brightest that we have seen come out of the college ranks in a long, long time.

With high quality players like Marshall Faulk, Willie McGinest, Sam Adams, Charles Johnson, William Floyd and Eric Rhett, this season is going to be one of the most exciting ones of the last several years.

Due to this, many of last year's Superbowl "pretenders" could quite possibly become this year's Superbowl "contenders."

An example of this is the Seattle Seahawks who, depending on the play of their rookies and their veteran runningback, Chris Warren, could have their best year since they still had Steve Largent.

As far as how the rest of the AFC shapes up, each division has one or two teams we need to keep a close eye on.

The toughest division this year

is going to be the AFC East. All five teams, Buffalo, New England, Miami, New York Jets and Indianapolis, have the talent and the potential to make the playoffs.

With Dan Marino at the helm, the Dolphins are always a threat, as are Thurman Thomas and the Bills.

But probably the most improved team is the Indianapolis Colts. The acquisition of top-notch rookie runningback Marshall Faulk and free agent quarterback Jim Harbaugh has made the Colt offense one opponents will have a hard time stopping.

As for the AFC Central there's only one team really to consider, the Cleveland Browns.

The main reason Cleveland is the team to beat in this division is because of one name... Eric Metcalf. Metcalf is a talented and unpredictable player and he is always dangerous regardless of who he happens to be playing.

Already Metcalf has made a difference. In week one of the football season, he returned a kickoff 92 yards for a touchdown in the Browns victory over the Bengals.

The AFC West, quite frankly, is a three team race. The Chiefs, the Raiders and the Broncos should make this division very interesting.

Like the Browns, when discussing the Chiefs we really only need to mention one name... Joe Montana. Enough said.

The Raiders' speed should be the largest asset to their playoff chances. With receivers James Jett, Alexander Wright and Raghib "The Rocket" Ismail, along with QB Jeff Hostetler, the Raiders should really be lighting up the scoreboards all over the place.

What the Broncos lack in speed, they make up for in pure athletic ability. They have a 4000-yard passer in John Elway, and a great receiver in free agent acquisition Anthony Miller.

When the Broncos and the Raiders meet, the combination of these two "high-powered offenses" should easily make this an explosive game.

With so many potentially dangerous teams, this could be the year the AFC remakes its claim to be the conference of the World Champions.

*"One day, Jonh and Suzi werre walking home frm scholo."*

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