

Owen beats W. Henderson

by Ron Price

Owen's high-flying Warhorses spent an enjoyable Friday night, blistering Shaford Field for 352 yards rushing as they shot down West Henderson 14-0 before another standing room only crowd.

The Falcons threw a couple of scares into the third-ranked

Warhorses in the first quarter by recovering two fumbles inside the Owen 20. But both threats failed to put any points on the board as the home forces' defense checked the first on downs and the second on an interception of a Mike Dolce pass at the goal line by Will Goure. Goure returned

the interception to the 9 yard line to set the stage for Owens first scoring drive.

With his team bottled up and needing operating room, Denny Hicks sent Randy Scott into the fray. Although nursing sore ankles Scott responded by ripping off 47 yards to the Falcon 44 on the first play of the second quarter. From there Brad LeVine and Don Reese took care of the rest of the distance with Reese scoring from the six to cap a 91 yard 9 play drive. LeVine kicked the extra point to end first half scoring and the Warhorses led 7-0 at the half.

Owen scored again early in the third quarter on a long sustained drive with Scott and LeVine grinding out the yardage. Robby Rucker scored from two yards out after a slick fake to Scott and LeVine added the point after for the final margin.

The Warhorses spent the balance of the game moving at will up and down the field, keeping the ball away from West Henderson but scoring no further points. Owen drove to the Falcons 15 late in the fourth quarter and seemed destined to add a third touchdown but a holding penalty moved them back out of range. They subsequently gave up the ball on downs and the defense allowed the Falcons to move into Owen territory before regaining possession with less than three minutes to play. Coach Hicks distained further efforts to run up the score and the Owen reserves were allowed to gain some vital combat experience in the final moments.

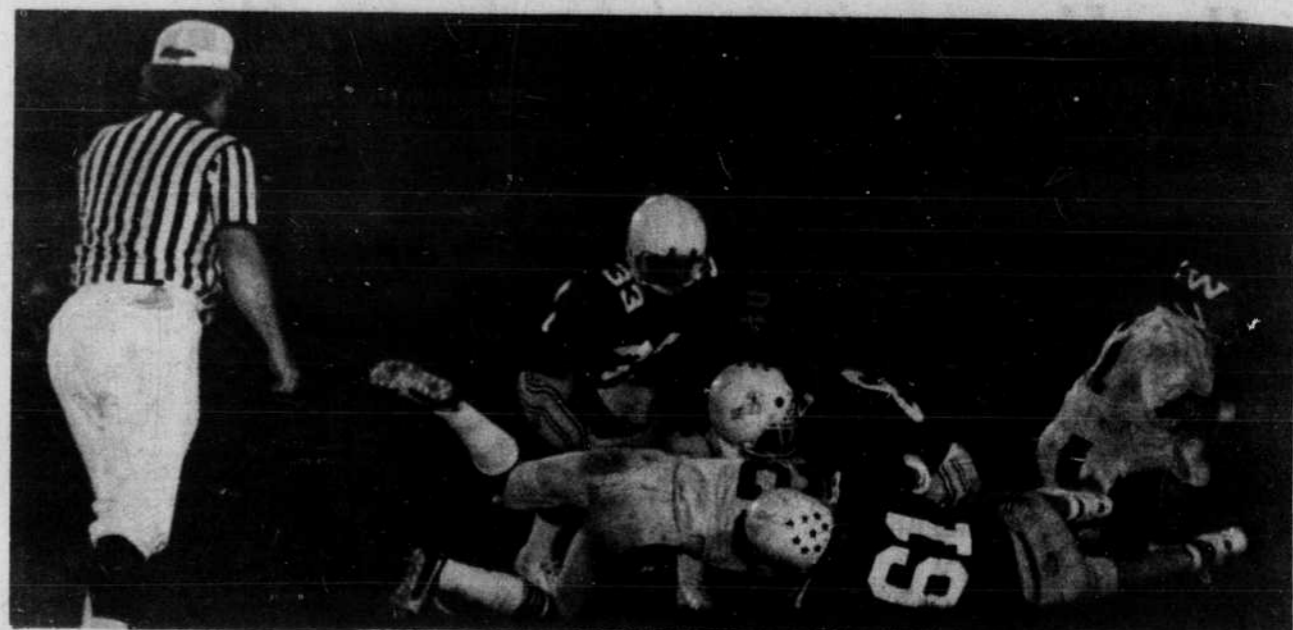
The West Henderson offense lost all chance to make a close

game of it in the second quarter when star running back Mike Guthrie left with a shoulder injury. With Guthrie out the Falcon attack was helpless to get anything going against the scrappy Warhorse defense who recorded their second straight shut-out and eleventh consecutive scoreless quarter. With big Larry Duncan slowed by an elbow injury, Jack Staggs, Tim Raines, and Ken Dotson took up the slack and stopped the West inside game cold. David Ford, John Payne and Goure kept the outside sweeps under control and the Falcon passing game fared even worse with Dolce completing only one for very little yardage. Dolce was also dropped trying to pass once for a ten yard loss by Raines.

The Warhorse offense continued to roll up impressive statistics but once again failed to put up a convincing score. It would seem that according to past performances the only thing lacking in the Owen arsenal is the killer instinct. Too many times the Warhorses have piled up the yardage but have not managed to score over three touchdowns against any opponent. With Owen now seemingly on a collision course with mighty Pisgah in the playoffs, the Warhorses must stop blowing scoring opportunities and take advantage of every break. With a veteran line, LeVine and Scott proven as top notch running backs, Rucker as a passing threat, and a fleet of speedy receivers the Warhorses have all the tools to put on a point explosion. That explosion could come Friday night in Marshall against the Madison Patriots, holders of

the longest losing streak in Western North Carolina.

Owen received a real boost Friday night with some unaccustomed help from Hendersonville as the Bearcats knocked off Sylvester Webster, the only other unbeaten team in the Little Mac. The Bearcat victory boosted Owen into sole possession of first place and set up the final run for the conference title and the Warhorses first play-off action in twelve years.



John Payne (33), Matt Black (80) and Tim Raines (61) show top defensive form in sacking West Henderson quarterback Friday. (Dan Ward)



An Owen soccer player makes a kick toward the goal in a futile battle against Roberson. (Tom Albright)

Linemen are unsung heros

by Clint Williams
Anytime a football team has two running backs gaining over one-hundred yards in a single game, like the Owen Warhorses did in Randolph Scott and Brad LeVine last week, you can be sure it also has an offensive line blasting holes big enough for a sports-writer to saunter through. You can also be sure that the adage "the offensive line does all the work and gets none of the glory" is one of the ten oldest cliches in all of football, almost as old as the "we take em one week at a time" one. But like all cliches, there is a basis of truth in it. The offensive line for the Warhorses does not do all the work—I doubt any sportswriter in America could gain a hundred yards behind any line—but it is true that they don't get much glory, or recognition for that matter. Quick! Name just one of the five shuttling guards that play for Owen. If you can't, you may want to read this article twice.

Frank Butler, the 200-pound senior right tackle, may have to be considered the strongest link in the unit after receiving All-Conference and All-County honors last year as a junior. Yet despite the individual honors, he seems completely team oriented.

"All of us are good friends on and off the field," says Frank when asked about his compatriots in the "pit." "We take a lot of pride in our down-field blocking and we take a lot of pride in our backs. They always come to you and say something after good blocking. They let you know if you mess up too. There is no lack of communication."

Frank hopes to play football in college and so far has received letters from N.C. State and Western Carolina.

The tackle on the left side, Keith Pope, is also a senior. Weighing in at 205 pounds, he is one of the biggest men on the line. Not nearly as big however, as the 244 pound defensive tackle he had to go against when Owen played Mountain Heritage.

"We really had to work that night," he said shaking his head. "Frank's man weighed about 247 lbs."

Keith also emphasized the closeness of the unit. "We like to push each other, to get better each week."

Having heard from Western Carolina and East Tennessee State, Keith too hopes to continue playing football in college.

The man who has molded these players into the unit that they are is Offensive Line Coach Al Lucksavage, known to his players sometimes as "Papa" or "Father LaCree". Lucksavage coached in the Atlanta area for two years before being hired by Coach Hicks when he took over two years ago. Lucksavage played offensive center and tackle at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He is originally from New York City, New York.

Although he is "pretty well pleased" with the most recent performance of his line, he still sees the lack of any real leadership as the main problem of the unit. Fortunately, "each man can handle themselves" so the lack of leadership is not a crucial problem.

The offensive line of the Owen Warhorses is a close, justifiably proud unit. It is this group of unglorified trojans that just may bust the back-field loose through the crunching regular season and into the broken field of the play-off.

Now quick! Name one of the five shuttling guards!

Booters beat Enka

by Clint Williams

The Warhorse Booters bounced back from a 10-0 drubbing at the hand of T.C. Roberson to soundly defeat Erwin for the second time this year. Owen out-shot Erwin 23 to 5 as they scored seven goals to Erwin's single point.

Right-wing Jeff Stock came off the bench to lead the scoring with three goals. It was the first "hat-trick" in the history of Owen soccer. Eric Brem scored two goals from his half-back position. They

were the first goals of the seniors' career. Chuck Linkston and Steve Stock each put one shot past the goalie and into the net.

The defense was much improved, primarily due to the switch of Mark Burhrmaster from half-back to full-back. Goal-keeper Billy Davis had little to do in the contest making only four saves.

The soccer Warhorses play Asheville High on their new field at the Juvenile Center Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

M-AC awarded grant

Montreat-Anderson College has been approved for a Cooperative Education grant in the amount of \$35,000, it was announced by Congressman Lamar Gudge. The grant is through the Office of Education, Department of H.E.W.

Joyce Kinnison is project director for the College. The purpose of the project is to provide Federal support for

cooperative education programs, including the planning, establishment, expansion or carrying out of such programs in institutions of higher education. Cooperative Education programs are those which alternate periods of full-time academic study with periods of full-time public or private employment.

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