

Sports & Recreation

stuff shots

Heartbreak city for Harris, Fertig

BY MARK FLOYD
Sports Editor

Coaches Lynn Harris and Craig Fertig must be two of the most disappointed men in the state of Oregon this week.

Harris' Sandy High football team rallied from a six-point deficit in the last three minutes to tie McMinnville 6-6 at the end of regulation, only to lose to the Grizzlies in overtime, 13-6.

Oregon State coach Fertig watched helplessly from the sidelines as the Beavers squandered a 13-point lead (also in the final three minutes) to allow the Tennessee Volunteers to muster a 13-13 tie.

The two games had many similarities in addition to being decided in the waning minutes.

Both teams were searching for their first victory of the 1978 season, both defenses played exceptionally well except for two critical mistakes and both teams got stuck with unfortunate (and possibly undeserved) pass interference calls.

"I'm a little like Craig Fertig in that I'm tired of being the nice guy," Harris said. "The officials made two bad calls in a matter of a minute and 30 seconds, and those two calls were the only way they (the Grizzlies) advanced the ball."

"They scored right after that, by the way."

Ordinarily, such complaints would sound like sour grapes, but most people who saw the game Friday would agree that the calls were, at best, questionable.

The first pass interference call came against linebacker Mike Trachsel. Trachsel was downfield covering a zone on a third and 21 play when he and a Grizzly receiver collided. The official signalled defensive pass interference and McMinnville had a first down on Sandy's 14-yard line.

Two subsequent plays netted minus four yards and McMinnville was faced with a 3rd and 14 at the Pioneer 18. Again, when it appeared the play was well-covered, an official threw the flag signalling pass interference.

The play gave McMinnville a first down at the 12-yard line. Four plays later quarterback Mark Fislser hit split end Doug Rau on a rollout for a 7-yard score.

The Pioneers came back to knot the score, but had it not been for the two interference calls, the game may never have gone into overtime and Sandy would have chalked up its first mark in the win column.

Craig Fertig has to be even more disappointed, as the Beavers played excellent ball for about 57 minutes — and then came apart, giving up two quick touchdowns. But Fertig felt that a poor call by an official on Tennessee's first touchdown drive was the pivotal factor in the Beaver's demise.

In an Oregonian interview, Fertig said, "That's the worst (censored) officiating job I've ever seen in my life. Those (censored) took the game away from the kids — I'm sick and tired of being the nice guy and getting screwed."

Although a tie is better than a defeat, the game was especially hard to take in view of OSU's road record of recent years. The Beavers have not won a non-conference road game since 1970 when they defeated — surprise — the Oklahoma Sooners 23-14 at Norman. The week after the loss to the Beavers, Oklahoma switched to wishbone offense and it hasn't lost too many games since.

Sandy was tied at the end of regulation, but the Kansas plan, adopted in recent years, eliminates the possibility of any ties. The tie-breaking method gives each team a chance to score from the 10-yard line, until one team comes out on top. The way OSU played in the last two minutes, it is fortunate that the NCAA didn't adopt the Kansas plan for collegiate games.

The Sandy Pioneers stand 0-3 for the year and this is definitely a critical time of the season for the team.

Coming off a heartbreaking defeat to McMinnville could leave the Pioneers with an emotional letdown, but of all the weeks when the team needs to be up for a game, this is it.

Sandy plays Estacada this week. Besides being traditional rivals, the game marks the first league contest for the Pioneers. All previous games can fit into the exhibition category, because Sandy will be starting with a clean slate.

In the Coast-Valley League, interdivisional play doesn't count on a team's league record, so in effect the real season starts Friday, since Sandy hasn't played any division contest.

If that isn't enough to inspire the Pioneers, facing the Estacada Rangers should be.

Estacada nipped the Pioneers 12-0 last year to eliminate Sandy from a playoff berth. It's doubtful that a repeat of that score will happen this year.

The Pioneer defense, nicknamed the Bandits, is too good to lose four straight games. The Bandits have yet to relinquish a touchdown on the ground this year, and if they can force a few turnovers, it may inspire the offense which is slowly coming around.

At any rate, I'll go with the Pioneers by 6 points.

Grizzlies dump Sandy in overtime

by MARK FLOYD
Sports Editor

The Sandy Pioneers came within one extra point of winning their first football game Friday night.

But close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades, as the saying goes and the McMinnville Grizzlies escaped with a 13-6 overtime victory at Pop Rannow stadium.

Trailing 6-0 with 2:40 left in the game, Sandy quarterback Mike Martin rolled to his right to pass, found everyone covered, and tucked the ball under his arm and began to run for his life.

Martin cut left against the grain, found some daylight and with the help of a couple of blocks sprung into the clear. The Pioneer quarterback outran the entire McMinnville secondary down the left sideline for a 50-yard touchdown run.

"Martin's touchdown was a break," said Sandy High coach Lynn Harris. "It was a throw and they were rushing hard. He just ran right around the rush and picked up a heckuva block by Scott Davis around midfield, another one by Kevin Peterson and he was gone."

The run aroused the previously subdued Pioneer student body who rose in unison during Martin's scamper and remained standing as place kicker Paul Daugherty lined up for the conversion attempt that would have put Sandy in front for the first time this year.

The McMinnville defensive line had other ideas, though, as three Grizzlies broke through Sandy's line to block the conversion attempt.

A short time later the clock ran out with the teams deadlocked in a 6-6 tie, and both coaches prepared strategy for the Kansas plan overtime.

Kansas Plan

The Kansas plan, adopted by the OSAA a couple of years ago eliminates tie games in Oregon high school football. A flip of the coin decides which team gets the ball first at the ten-yard line. The offensive team has four plays in which to score, then the opponents take possession.

There was optimism on the Sandy sidelines as the teams prepared for the overtime session. The Sandy defense looked solid throughout the game and the offense had picked up considerably in the second half.

"I was disappointed but not terribly concerned when we missed the extra point," Harris said. "I figured there was no way they were going to score on us in overtime."

However, even the best laid plans sometimes go awry, although for the first couple of overtime plays, Harris looked like a prophet.

McMinnville got the first possession and on first down Mark Fislser went off tackle for no gain. Ed Rissberger of the Grizzlies was caught holding on the next play, and with 2nd and 23 for McMinnville, it appeared that fortune, was indeed, smiling on the Pioneers.

A Mark Fislser to Ken Williams pass fell short and McMinnville was faced with third down. Fislser then tried to hit Doug Rau in the end zone, but the Grizzly receiver was blanketed by Kevin Peterson and two other Pioneer defenders.

Facing a 4th and 23 situation, McMinnville coach Don Mabey put Williams at quarterback and Fislser at halfback. Williams pitched to Fislser and then rolled into the left side of the secondary unnoticed by the Pioneer defense. Fislser spotted his teammate and Sandy found itself trailing 13-6 following the conversion.

"That last touchdown they scored still amazes me," Harris said. "We were in the right defense, playing pass all the way and our right cornerback just decided he was going to help everyone else."

"I don't know where our defensive end was either," he added. "It was one of those cases that if either one of them had been there they wouldn't have scored."

Pioneers Fizzle

The Pioneers had a chance to pull the game out of the fire, on their possession, but a first-down pitch to Peterson picked up only two yards.

On second down, Peterson took a handoff up the middle for a yard loss.

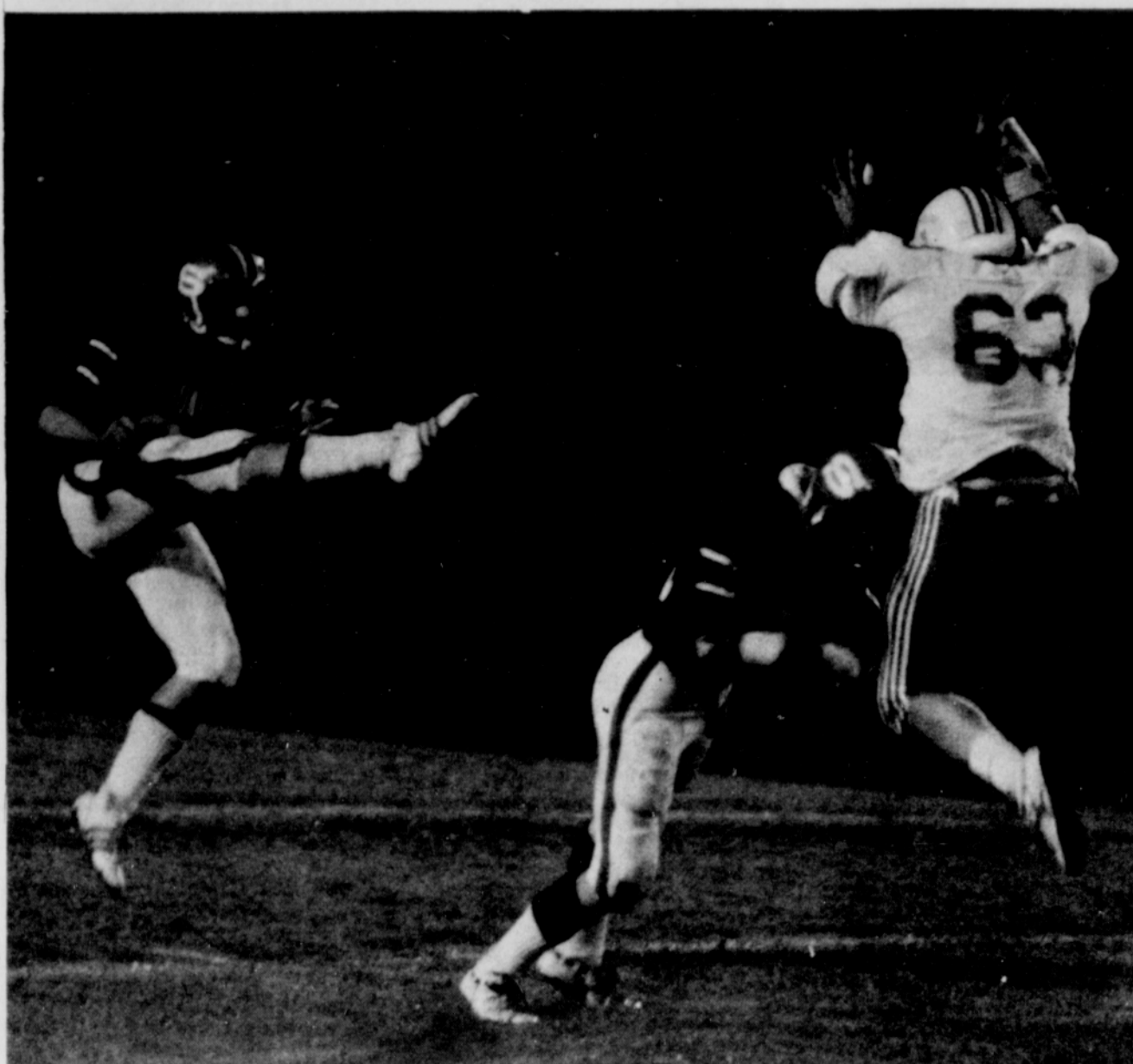
"On the first play, we were anticipating a fairly tight defense, so we tried to spring Peterson outside so he could outrun them to the flag," Harris said. "Then we tried a lead."

"Pete carries behind the lead of the fullback off tackle," he added. "He gained over 100 yards rushing, primarily on that play, but this time they closed real hard on it."

Harris felt that McMinnville might be expecting another lead play, so he called on quarterback Martin to fake the play on third down and carry himself.

"I think that was the play that could have done it for us, but we just didn't execute properly," Harris said. "After the last play we thought we'd fake the lead and let the quarterback go for it."

"We had poor execution, though," he added. "Our



Staff photo

Kevin Peterson gets off the punt over the rush of McMinnville's Greg Jones.

quarterback didn't fake, so he got nailed. It's not his fault, though, he's only worked out at quarterback for two days."

With regular starting quarterback Royal Proctor on the sidelines in streetclothes because of a broken nose sustained in practice, Sandy went for its last chance on fourth down.

However, the play never had a chance to develop, as McMinnville defenders forced Martin into a hurried pass that was batted down in the end zone, and McMinnville escaped with the victory.

Raps Officials

Harris was disappointed with the defeat, but felt his team should have won the game in regulation play.

"The officials made two bad calls in a matter of a minute and 30 seconds," Harris said. "And the two bad calls were the only way they advanced the ball."

"They scored their touchdown right after that," he added.

With Sandy in possession midway through the 2nd quarter, Grizzly tackle Bob Campbell intercepted a Pioneer pass at Sandy's 33-yard line and returned it 10 yards to put McMinnville in scoring position.

Two plays later came the first questionable call, according to Harris. McMinnville was faced with a 3rd and 21 at the 30-yard line when Pioneer defender Mike Trachsel and a Grizzly defended collided. The official whistled Trachsel for pass interference, although Harris claims that the Grizzly defender ran into him.

The play kept the McMinnville drive alive, giving the Grizzlies a 1st and 10 at the 14-yard line. The Pioneer defense stiffened and the next two plays netted minus four yards. On 3rd and 14 Fislser attempted to hit a receiver in the end zone, but the play was well covered by two Sandy defenders. An official thought otherwise, and called Sandy for pass interference.

Four plays later, Fislser hit Rau for a 7-yard touchdown strike.

"On the second interference call, their quarterback threw the ball in the end zone and three people went for it," Harris said. "They all had their hands up and nobody was pushing."

Upstairs in Wheatland Bldg.
in Heritage Square

MT. HOOD ATHLETIC

WE'RE OPEN:

- * Mon. thru Thurs. 9:30-6 p.m.
- * Fridays open 9:30-8 p.m.
- * Saturdays open 9:30-6 p.m.
- * Sundays 10:00-4 p.m.

NEW longer hours to serve you!

Adidas Kids' Shoes
Jeff-Ben-Dirk

NORMALLY \$16.95 **\$11⁹⁵**

Kid size 10 thru Boys' size 6

668-7068

LOG BUILDING

WANTED

FOR COMMERCIAL USE

ON HIGHWAY 26
HOODLAND AREA
1200 SQ. FT. MIN.

LODGE LOGS

MATERIALS AT COST TO DEVELOPER
NOTIFY Log Home Supply: 622-3601

Barlow Trail Inn

-- ANNOUNCES --

Live country-western music for
dancing Friday & Saturday 9-2:30
and Sunday 6 - Midnight

ALSO

SMORGASBORD

(All you can eat)

6-9 p.m. every Tues.

\$4.95 adults; 1/2 Price, 6-12 yrs.

Under 6 years of age is Free!

New owners Bea and Homer

Barlow Trail Inn

Hwy 26 between Welches & ZigZag 622-9995

CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT

NOW 1979 Full Line

Chevrolet Cars & Trucks

You've heard the Chevy Story
THEN

SEE THE "NOW" CHEVY DEALER
who wants his entire 1979 inventory on the streets at YESTERDAY'S prices, plus a few
leftovers 1978 Models

— NOW —

Treat yourself to a trip to Carlson Chevrolet and we'll treat you to the Best Price in the
Country fresh air country, that is, at

PETE CARLSON

668-4101 SANDY Open Sunday
& Evenings

CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT CHEV-IT