

Pioneers' 410 yards good for a 27-6 win

by SCOTT NEWTON

The Sandy football team generated 410 yards of offense to down David Douglas 27-6 in a home game Friday night.

The Pioneers travel to The Dalles Saturday for a 7:30 p.m. Mt. Hood Conference game.

"We finally played as a team," said senior Todd Byron, who caught two passes for 44 yards Friday, including one for a touchdown.

"We knew we had to execute well," Byron said. He reports that the defense spent time last week working on shutting down David Douglas's quick-pitch option, and he feels that work contributed to a successful defensive effort.

Byron has caught nine passes for 110 yards and two touchdowns so far this season. Last year he caught seven for 145 yards, third in the Timber Valley League.

Coach Greg O'Meara acknowledged that Barlow and David Douglas played Byron pretty tight.

That doesn't worry Byron much. "We were kind of reading the defense," he said about the David Douglas game. "Like on the TD I was supposed to go toward the flag, but I saw it was open in the middle so I cut in," he said.

After falling 14-13 to Parkrose, and 21-0 to Barlow, Byron admits they were ready for a win.

"We're all positive now because we know we can win," he said.

He added that they're going to take them one game at a time.

About working with senior quarterback Gordon Brinser, Byron said, "He's getting it there. A couple of times I've come across the middle and he's really thrown with some power, some zip on the ball."

Brinser completed three of 10 passes for 51 yards (Scott Skipper caught one for seven yards). Chuck Kearney gained 196 yards on 33 carries and Skipper contributed 132 yards on 14 carries.

Sandy ran 62 plays to 36 for David Douglas. O'Meara likes to control the ball, but also said earlier this week he'd like to loosen things up more in the future to allow for more passing.

He said the defensive line did an "outstanding job." Those players include Pat Baird, Frank McKinnis and Troy Schmidt.

Jim Morgan and Terry Lind, at the defensive ends, and Skipper and Joe Betschart, the linebackers, were also credited with playing well. Mike Marleau and Brinser were praised for playing well in the defensive backfield.

Morgan led the team in tackles with seven. Baird and Skipper each had six, and McKinnis had five.

Lind had a fumble recovery.

Skipper and Kearney ran well, O'Meara said, with the line clearing the way. Betschart, at center, Baird and Marleau, at guards, and Bryan Zimmerman and Lind, at tackles, "did a good job."

Said O'Meara, "It was a good team effort. Even the people on the sideline were in on it, which you've got to have."

Skipper ran up the middle, for two yards, for Sandy's first score. Brent Kearney's kick was good for a 7-0 lead with 9:18 left in the second quarter.

The Scots threatened to tie it up before halftime, running an intercepted pass do7n to the Pioneer 20.

Sandy fans relaxed when Lind jumped on a loose pitch and the Pioneers took over on the 15 with three minutes left.

In the third quarter Skipper broke loose, running the ball 80 yards. Kearney's kick was blocked.

Four minutes later, with 2:12 left in the third quarter, the Scots got on the board with a 38-yard pass play. The kick was no good, and Sandy led 13-6.

The fourth quarter was Sandy's this week. David Douglas ran only nine plays in the final stanza, with two of them being punts.

With eight minutes left to play Byron caught a 13-yard pass from Brinser, and Kearney connected on the PAT.

With seven minutes left on the clock Mark Tinjum reminded the players on the sideline that they had

a two-touchdown lead and seven minutes to play the week they lost to Parkrose.

With 2:58 to play Brinser secured the Sandy win with a four-yard run. Kearney connected for the final 27-6 score.

O'Meara feels a team has to work a little harder against an opponent that passes, and that's what he's expecting the Pioneers to do Saturday.

The Dalles won 34-7 over Columbia and, interestingly enough, downed David Douglas 28-6.

Last week they fell 12-6 to Centennial.

Ron Huber is in his first season with The Dalles, and they've already improved on last year's 1-8 mark.

Six-foot senior Mark Beaton has completed 61 passes for 485 yards. Jon Robertson, 5-9 and 162 pounds, is his favorite receiver. Robertson has caught a touchdown pass in each game, and has four to his credit so far, along with 236 yards.

Senior Steve Horzynek, 5-11 and 201 pounds, ran for 175 yards in The Dalles' first two games, though they were held to minus-12 yards rushing against Centennial.

In other Mt. Hood Conference play

last week, Gresham won 25-6 over Parkrose, and Barlow downed Reynolds 21-7.

Girls soccer team ties

The Pioneers had a strong start and a good finish against Central Catholic Tuesday, but in between the Sandy girls soccer team allowed four goals.

The Pioneers ended up tying 4-4 with Central Catholic, a school that also has a first-year program.

The Pioneers went out and "boom, boom, boom," had a 3-0 lead.

"The girls were playing for the win," Coach Robert Karsten said.

He said the girls were playing hard, but then relaxed, which is something one expects out of a team that lacks experience, he said.

"It was good for the girls to find out they have the capabilities to win," Karsten said, "and we do have the capabilities to win." The key is "being mentally in-tune for the whole game."

Sandy jumped to a 3-0 lead on goals by Amy Lynch, Anne Sarich and Kendra Rowland. Central Catholic scored four straight, with Linda Knofezynski scoring the tying goal for Sandy with five to 10 minutes left in the game.

Karsten said he expects Lynch and Sarich to score. "It was real exciting for me to see Linda take advantage of the opportunity," Karsten said.

Volleyball team falls

The Sandy girls volleyball team suffered a setback against Reynolds Tuesday night, falling 15-5, 14-16 and 11-15.

"Reynolds kept the ball in play, and we just couldn't keep up with their rallies," said Roger Ford, assistant coach.

The Pioneers had 12 service errors, or "as many as I can ever remember as having," said Coach Ron Grantz.

In fact, that was more errors serving than the Pioneers had in their first three games. Sandy is now 2-2.

"We played well in the first game, but couldn't keep the momentum going," Grantz said.

Sophomore Michele Fleischman, junior Jill Ingram and senior Lorrie Shelton were credited with playing well.

All 11 on the roster saw playing time Tuesday in the away game.

The loss dropped the Pioneers down with the rest of the pack in the Mt. Hood Conference, with Barlow, Gresham and David Douglas at the top.

"I still think we're one of the better teams in the league, but thinking it and doing it are two different things," Grantz said.

Ford said Reynolds players did some things well. They were hustling, covering the floor well, and getting under spiked balls.

A key matchup for the Pioneers will be today at 5:30 p.m. against Gresham at the SUHS gym.

Former lineman joins backfield

Cal McKinnis Jr., a 1982 SUHS graduate, carried the ball three times for 12 yards during the Oregon City Steelheads 13-0 win over West Seattle two weeks ago.

Last week McKinnis carried the ball once, but fumbled.

"It wasn't my fault," McKinnis joked. He could afford to be in a good mood. The Steelheads won 24-0 over Skagit County Saturday, putting the Steelheads in the playoffs "for sure."

McKinnis said it's important to keep winning so that they'll be assured of a home site in the playoffs.

McKinnis, a lineman for the 6-4 SUHS Pioneers last season, admitted being nervous about carrying the ball when he first went in to the West Seattle game.

"After the first time it was excellent," McKinnis said. "It was great."

McKinnis said he played fullback, and mostly handled blocking duties during the three quarters (in both games) in which he saw action.

His father, Cal Sr., a 1982 SUHS graduate who has played semipro football for 20 consecutive years, made six solo tackles in the West Seattle game. He made eight tackles in the Skagit County game. Another Sandy graduate, Allen Fry, also saw action in both games.

The Steelheads play Seattle (a different team than West Seattle) Saturday at Oregon City at 7:30 p.m. They have beaten every team in the Northwest International Football League except Seattle.

And Seattle, McKinnis Jr. said, is "already out of it."

Jogathon set to benefit Bull Run Community Fund

Youngsters from the Bull Run area will still be looking for sponsors today for the Bull Run Community Club's third Jogathon.

"It's worked out great," Cindy Peetz, chairman, said of the Club's last two efforts.

Money raised benefits the Cub Scouts, Brownies, 4-H and the Cinder Hawk track team, as well as going toward new basketball uniforms, the school Christmas program and the

school picnic. Each student who participates receives an iron-on transfer. The class to raise the most money will be treated to Dairy Queen banana splits, and the top boy and girl will receive \$25.

They youngsters will run 18 laps at the school, or about three miles, or will run for one hour.

The jogathon will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. Sept. 24.



SUHS senior Todd Byron returns a kickoff.

Photo by Scott Newton

Coach 'really impressed' with SUHS showing

Scott McMullen, Sandy cross country coach, said he was "really impressed" with the Pioneers' showing against Beaverton in a quadrangular meet held here last week.

Senior Donna Nelson opened the season with a first-place finish, running the 3000-meter (1.85 miles) course in 11:28.

Junior Sam Romey took second in the boys competition, falling to Tom Sera of Beaverton. Romey said Sera told him he had been running about 70 miles a week during the summer, while Romey said he ran in the 30 to 40 mile-per-week range.

In the past few weeks, however, Romey has stepped up his mileage to the 55 to 60 mile-per-week range,

according to McMullen. Romey ran the 5000-meter (3.1 miles) course in 16:56, while Sera finished in 16:45.

Beaverton, with over 20 junior varsity runners, has a good cross country team, McMullen said. With four solid, strong runners they "will again be top contenders at state," McMullen said.

Beaverton won the boys meet with a score of 22. Sandy was second with 47. Gladstone was third with 81 and Grant finished with 86.

In girls competition Sandy was first with a score of 35. Beaverton was second with 49. Gladstone was third with 56 and Grant finished with 87.

The meet was "a real eye opener," McMullen said. With the

summer ending, the level of competition the runners will face, as well as each individual's conditioning, was exposed.

"They know what they have to do to get the job done," McMullen said.

The Pioneers have an important meet right off the bat. They'll take on Parkrose and Barlow in a triangular at Blue Lake today.

The goal for both the boys and the girls teams is to win the Mt. Hood Conference dual-meet trophy, McMullen said.

McMullen said senior Brian Reick did a good job last week.

He's the most improved over last season, McMullen said.

Reick finished seventh, having run the course in 16:49.

Junior Sharon Jensen finished third, covering the course in 11:37. She did "outstanding" in the last half of the race, McMullen said.

He was also pleased with sophomores Patty Groombridge and Petra Beissman, who as "dark horses" came through for 10th and 12th places after junior Polly Kelley dropped out with a knee ailment.

Senior Laura Stringham was ninth in 12:27, edging Beissman.

Beissman also ran the course in 12:27, and Groombridge in 12:34.

Junior Lisa Hassett finished 14th, running the course in 12:40. Hassett "is beginning to turn into a distance runner," McMullen said. "She'll be coming on later in the season."

Others to place for the boys included senior Phil Burks, who was ninth in 18:01; senior Brian Buhler, who was 14th in 18:39; and junior Audie Ellis, who was 15th in 19:07.

Senior Tyson Cummins was 18th in 19:24 and senior Phil Ayers was 24th in 20:17.



Cross country team members at the start Thursday are, from left to right, Donna Nelson, Polly Kelley, Lisa Hassett, Sharon Jensen, Laura Stringham (behind Jensen), Petra Beissman and Patty Groombridge.

Nelson, other girls motivated

SUHS senior Donna Nelson said a running camp this summer made a big difference in her mental outlook.

"When I left I really wanted to run," Nelson said. Before attending the Steens Mountain Running Camp in early August she was unsure, she said.

Thursday she seemed to know what she was doing. She led the entire 3000-meter race, winning the season-opening quadrangular on the Sandy trail.

"I think our team is going to do well," Nelson said, adding that it's not unreasonable to think the girls team could finish among the top five at state.

A district title is also a goal, and Nelson said she's not alone in thinking that. This team is motivated, she said.

As a sophomore Nelson was on

the cross country team, which made the trip to the state meet. In track, she set a personal record in the 3000-meter run at the state meet (10:41) despite the fact she competed at both district and state with stitches in her hip from an automobile accident.

Her junior year she was unable to match that 10:41, but she plans on changing that. "I'll break it," she said.

Knee and foot injuries slowed her down some her junior year, but she admits it was also mental. "I had too much to do," she said, "but now I'm back into it."

As for her injuries, she thinks she tried to go too far and fast too soon.

She ran this summer, though not as consistently as she would have liked.

At the running camp they ran

some, but also did a lot of hiking. Mental toughness was also part of the camp, and Nelson said she reflected back to accomplishments at the camp during the race Thursday.

Nelson doesn't have the luxury of taking it easy in practice either as junior Sharon Jensen, who finished 16th at the AAA state meet last season, is there to push her.

Nelson said that's good for both of them as they take turns encouraging each other.

"We help each other if anything," Nelson said. "We yell at each other and kind of keep the other going."

"It's not like we're out there to beat each other. It's like we're out there to beat the other team."

In addition to athletics, Nelson is also a member of student senate.



Brian Reick

Photos by Scott Newton