

BLACK TORNADO, MARSHFIELD MEET IN STATE FINALS

Medford Wins 34-0; Teams Tied Earlier

Pendleton—(U.P.)—Marshfield, defending state high school class A-1 champion, moved into the finals again this year with a 32 to 14 win over Pendleton here yesterday afternoon.

The Pirates, sparked by the running of Hardy Spurgeon, Roger Johnson and Jack Shanley, piled up a 26 to 0 halftime margin and withstood any Pendleton scoring until the final period when the Buckaroos scored two touchdowns.

Spurgeon went for two first half touchdowns, one on a 55-yard gallop and the other on a 77-yard jaunt. Shanley hit the Pendleton end zone from 32 yards out in the first period, then added the Pirates' third period score on a 5-yard run. Johnson accounted for the other Marshfield score taking off on a 32-yard touchdown run.

Joe Tyler connected with Don Barnes with a 19-yard pass for the first Pendleton score in the fourth period. Tyler took it over on a keeper for the other touchdown.

Marshfield now meets Medford, a 34-0 winner over Benson Friday night, for the state championship. The Pirates and Medford battled to a 20-20 standoff early this year.

By DICK JEWETT
Mail Tribune Sports Editor

"This is it! It's Tornado day!" So hundreds of handbills proclaimed Friday. And it was so. The tremendous, terrific Medford high football aggregation roared to victory in the wake of those prophetic words and blew tumultuously into the finals for the 1956 Oregon Class A-1 diadem.

The swirling red and black clad Tornado surged Medford into a state gridiron championship game for the first time since the title year of 1944 by thundering 34 to 0 over the Portland crown-wearers: the Benson Tech engineers.

Medford goes next week end against Marshfield in the titanic skirmish for Oregon's "big school" titular banner, bidding to excel the 1956 runner-up achievements in basketball and baseball in a brilliant year of sports.

Riley, Funston Blaze

Sparked offensively by the slicing dashes of halfback Gary Riley and defensively by smashing tackles of linebacker Jim Funston, who had their biggest nights of the year, the whirling Black Tornado, after skilfully taking its usual slow time in gathering up to gale proportions, spun out, hitting on all 11 with its machine-like team force, and smothered the best Portland Interscholastic league had to offer.

It took almost an entire quarter for the Tornado to strike into the Benson end zone. The Medfordites recuperated from a fumble well into their territory and had one big push stymied before they got on the scoring track. But they burst across the zero stripe in every period, twice in the third quarter, far exceeding all but the most optimistic prognosticators, turning in one of their great performances of the season and showing their sharp pass defense of the year.

Riley, who carried the ball 14 times for 159 yards and an 11.36 average for the evening, scored four of the Tornado touchdowns on two scampers of 24 yards each, on one slam of less than a yard and on a final breakaway amble of 46 yards. Halfback Eldon Francis got the Big Wind on the road to triumph with a first quarter 38-yard pass interception runback for a six-point tally. End Dick Copple, added four successive points after touchdown kicks.

Butler, Warren Elusive

The elusive running of backs Bob Butler and Jim Warren made the engineers a scoring threat all night. Butler led the Tech backs with 88 yards on 19 carries. But only twice did the Portlanders push dangerously close to the Tornado end zone. In the second period they got to the 23 and in the fourth they marched to the five. Tornado defenders roused up to hold for downs on the first occasion. On the second halfback Gordon Owsley's pass interception halted the imposing bid.

The Tornado rolled up a bulging 326 net yards on the ground, and held the visitors to 179. And the much respected Tech passing threat gained nowhere against a hard-rushing tight-covering defense. Only "completions" on 13 heaves by quarterback Bob Christiansen and his replacement, Carl Seeley, were two interceptions by Francis and the one by Owsley. Medford gained 61 yards on two pass connections.

While Riley was having his big night rushing, fullback Loren Christian tallied 82 yards and had one 42-yard slash, and Quarterback Dick McLaughlin, fullback Bob Gee and Francis packed for yardage with the help of the crunching forward wall.

Team Effort

Funston paced defense against the Benson running attack with some 24 tackles or assists. But the record sheets bore out the team effort with tackles Neil Plumley and Larry Cranston and guard Bob Apple doing tremendous work in the middle of the line. Copple and Tom Hamlin doing workman like jobs on the flanks and Dick McLaughlin and Tom Merton teaming strongly at the backer spots. Riley came through with some timely tackles and joined with Francis, Owsley, McLaughlin in busting the aerial thrusts hurried by front linemen.

Linemen Randy Hawk, Arlen White and Jim Duncan were the defensive leaders of the Techmen.

First Medford touchdown struck Benson with stunning suddenness with only 35 seconds left in the first quarter. The Tornado had just been denied a TD after blasting from its own nine-

yard line 68 yards to the Benson 23 in 14 plays and five first downs. Two pass plays failed from there with end Dick Copple not quite able to snare McLaughlin's aerial into the end zone.

Francis Swipes Ball

The Engineers took over and one play gained to the 28. A pass try fell incomplete. Then quarterback Christiansen fired another. Halfback Francis swiped the throw on the 38-yard line and raced away to the goal. Copple added the first of his conversion kicks for 7 to 0.

Medford strengthened its lead on its very next chance with the pigskin. The Portlander's scrimmage series after the kick-off netted three yards lost and Lee Buckley punted from behind the Engineer 18. Halfback Gordon Owsley's fair catch gave Medford the ball on the Tech 47.

Halfback Riley toted nine yards and fullback Gee three. Francis broke loose for 11 yards to the 24 on a reverse. On the next play Riley shot through the right side of the line, got a fine block from Gee, cut left and scampered to the end zone. Copple added another bonus kick for 14 to 0.

Benson's next effort to move against the Tornado was stopped when guard Tom Merton of Medford recovered a Christiansen fumble. On a 23-yard pass play, McLaughlin to Copple, the southern Oregon powerhouse got to the Mechanics' 37. Riley got to the 17 on an option play but a procedure penalty nullified the run then a McLaughlin pass was intercepted by Benson's halfback Jim Warren.

Go To 23

The Engineers moved from their own 45 to the Medford 23, helped by a 21-yard romp by fullback Bob Butler, for their deepest penetration of the half. Medford got the ball on downs. Game Sewed Up.

Medford lashed out in the closing portion of the third quarter for a pair of TDs which sewed up the semi-final triumph. The 42-yard ramble by big strong fullback Christian set up the first of the brace of counters.

The Tornado had taken over on its own 40-yard after a Tech kick. McLaughlin went four yards on a keep. Christian followed with his sock through the middle and run to the 16-yard line. McLaughlin gained two and Christian seven. McLaughlin kept and poked to within a yard of the end zone. Riley cracked the left side for the final distance and Copple added his third straight bonus boot for 21 to 0.

Francis's pass interception and 19-yard run home to the Medford 41 got the home club on its way to the second score of the panel. Christian punched for six yards and Riley faked a pass and scooted for 26 yards to the Engineer 27. Christian smashed for three more and Riley on another pass-run gallop swung around right end, got a nice bit of blocking aid from end Tom Hamlin, cutback to the left and was on his way to the touchdown. Copple's thump for four in a row made it 28 to 0.

Tech To Five

The big city champs made their biggest bid for a TD in the fourth quarter after the ball squirted from Christian's grasp and Bud Mock fell on it. That gave the Techmen the pigskin on their own 32.

Warren got loose for 13 yards and Butler for 17 as Benson fought in five plays to the Medford 33. A pass interference call against linebacker Jim Funston then put the ball on the 18. A good number of reserves had filtered into the line-up but coach Fred Spiegelberg returned more experienced hands to the fight. Benson, nevertheless went to



NEARS GOAL LINE — Dick McLaughlin (with ball) is stopped about one yard from the goal line in Medford's third touchdown drive in the semi-final game against Benson here Friday night. Three Benson Engineers, including Jim Polier (whose hand is on McLaughlin's helmet), brought the Black Tornado quarterback down. Number 33 is Dick Copple, Medford end.

(Landis-Shangle Photo)



PASS INTERCEPTION — Gordon Owsley, number 11, intercepts a Benson pass intended for Bob Butler just inside the goal line in the

fourth quarter to stop an Engineer threat. Owsley ran the interception back to the 15-yard line.—(Landis-Shangle Photo).

a first down on the eight. A Christiansen pass failed to connect and Warren lost two yards. Christiansen kept and got to the five. He then passed and the ball was snared by Owsley just inside the end zone and run back to the 16.

Riley Romps 46
Medford covered the 84-yards to the goal in just two plays. The passing combination, Francis to Copple finally connected for 38 yards to the Engineer 46. From there Riley got a gap through the left side of the line, swung to the left and scampered down the left side stripe to the pay zone. This time Copple's kick fizzled.

Coach Fred Spiegelberg, who with the aid of assistants Paul Evensen and Bob Newland, has groomed his first state finalist ball club, indicated his thrill and pleasure with the Black Tornado following the game. He praised the club for its team victory. Spiegelberg flew to Pendleton Saturday to scout the Marshfield-Pendleton semi-final game.

All 33 members of the Tornado squad saw at least brief duty in the fray.

Not one penalty was stepped off against the Techmen. Several were called but the Tornado took the advantage of refusal. Medford was penalized 45 yards.

Medford whacked LaGrande 14 to 0 to take the state title in 1944.

STATISTICS:

	Benson	Medford
First downs penalties	2	10
First downs rushing	10	10
First downs passing	0	2
Total first downs	12	12
Net yards rushing	179	326
Net yards passing	0	61
Total net yardage	179	387
Passes tried	13	39
Passes completed	0	2
Fumbles intercepted	3	1
Fumbles lost	1	1
Yards penalized	0	45
Points	4-23	8-37

SCORING:

Medford	TC	Yds.	Ave.
Christian	8	82	10.4
Riley	14	159	11.36
Butler	19	88	4.63
Coons	3	19	3.33
Polier	3	12	4.0
Seeley	2	2	1.0
Hyland	1	3	3.0

INDIVIDUAL RUSHING:

Benson	TC	Yds.	Ave.
Warren	11	48	4.36
Christiansen	10	20	2.0
Butler	19	88	4.63
Coons	3	19	3.33
Polier	3	12	4.0
Seeley	2	2	1.0
Hyland	1	3	3.0

BENSON LINE-UP

Ends—Miller, Blankenship, English, Barker, Hanks.
Tackles—White, Mock, Gramlich, McCoy, Dillard.
Guards—Blair, Edington, Novak, Hawke, Duncan.
Centers—Donovan, Schnell.
Backs—Christiansen, Newborne, Warren, Butler, Weston, Seeley, Eberley, Corah, Coons, Hyland, Polier.

MEDFORD LINE-UP

Ends—Copple, Hamlin, Saffley, King, Harrington.
Tackles—Plumley, Cranston, Slesinger, Jim Corum, Knight, Albert, West.
Guards—Merton, Apple, Gusa, Morris, Dick Corum, Miller.
Centers—Swinney, J. Funston.
Backs—Owsley, Christian, Riley, Brauner, Gee, McLaughlin, Francis, Russell, Walker, Lane, Peery, F. Funston.

Sports Broadcasts

Radio station KWIN and television station KBES will start broadcasts of the Los Angeles Rams-Baltimore Colts football games at 10:50 a.m. and 11 a.m., respectively, today.

Dinner Tuesday For Crater High Football Squad

Central Point—Central Point and Gold Hill Lions clubs will hold their annual football banquet for Crater High school players on Tuesday evening, Nov. 27, at the school cafeteria.

The turkey dinner will start promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance at the dinner is open to the public. Tickets may be bought from any member of the two Lions clubs. They are available also at Crater Department store and the M and M agency in Central Point.

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SPORTS

Crater Host For 50 Hoop Jamboree

Crater high of Central Point will be host for the Southern Oregon conference basketball jamboree. That was decided last night when the Medford high football team defeated Benson of Portland in Class A-1 semifinals.

The hoop jamboree is set for Saturday night, Dec. 1.

Medford was originally scheduled to be host to the season cage starter with action to be at the Hedrick Junior High school court. But with the Black Tornado gridders playing in Oregon championship final next Friday, Medford will not be a participant in the jamboree.

Interest of the local school and its fans will be centered in the Friday extravaganza and not in the maplecourt sport, even though it follows on Saturday.

Crater will be host to Klamath Falls, Grants Pass and Ashland.

Squad of 15

Basketball workouts have been underway at Medford high, despite the emphasis on football. Coach Frank Roelandt currently is working with a squad of 15, including two of the seven lettermen who will be on the squad this season. The two are Richard Puhl and Larry Perkins.

Scheduled to turn out for the basketball after the football finale are lettermen Dick Copple, Dick McLaughlin, Neil Plumley, Larry Slessler and Mike Stearns and other youths who were jayvee eagers in the 1955-1956 season. The five lettermen and Perkins were members of the Tornado club which was runner-up for the 1956 state title. McLaughlin was named to the all-state second team.

With so many of the experienced men missing, Roelandt has had his squad spending more time than usual on fundamentals.

Independent Cage Frays On Monday

Medford Independent Basketball league opens its official schedule with two games on Monday, Nov. 26, but the 1956-57 season will not get into full swing until Dec. 10 when the McLaughlin Junior High school gymnasium here becomes available.

In the Monday action with both games on the Prospect high court, Company A (Medford) of the National Guard will oppose Butte Falls at 7 p.m. and Prospect will entertain Hawkinson Tire Tread at 8:30 p.m.

Eight teams in all are competing in the Mibi this season. The other four clubs are National Guard Headquarters company (Medford), Ashland National Guard, Lea Motors and Campus Five.

Dec. 3 Game

One Dec. 3 game has been set up with Prospect at Butte Falls. Two games will be contested on Dec. 5 at the Ashland armory. Ashland Guard will play Lea and Headquarters will meet the Campus club.

All games scheduled for Medford will be at the McLaughlin school, scene of most MIBL games in past seasons.

Each team this year is limited to 15 players and each must file its roster by its third league game. Coaches are eligible for league play but high school players are not.

Sport Parade

By OSCAR FRALEY
Sports Writer
United Press

Melbourne — (U.P.) — Fearless Fraley's facts and figures from the Olympic Games:

The Australians make a big deal out of the fact that John Batman, when he landed on what is now the site of Melbourne, proclaimed: "This is the place for a village."

Apparently there wasn't a question mark after that statement, but there might well have been. Either that, or old John was a man, addicted to frequent showers. Because the annual average in Melbourne is rain on 164 days of the year. Which leaves 201 days, mostly cloudy.

The most popular man on the United States Olympic team is high jumper Charley Dumas of Los Angeles. The photographers have named him "the man we find most uncooperative," and the reporters think he speaks only in Sanskrit.

Tennis Promoter Busy

Jack Kramer, the tennis promoter, is at the games in a television capacity but he isn't neglecting his tennis plans. Kramer hopes to nail young Ken Rosewall for his pro tour.

"I've got a fighting chance to get him, but there won't be anything until after the Davis Cup," Jake allows.

There's a golf course in New Zealand, for the information of you fairway fanatics, that uses sheep to keep its fairways mowed and has square greens which are surrounded by two-strand wire fences—to keep the sheep off the greens, naturally.

A rather thorough check of the female athletes discloses that the most votes for most beautiful go to India's Mary Leela Rau, a figurine-sized gymnast. Consider-

ing that there are 120 million women in India, and she's the only woman on the Indian team, you can imagine that she has something going for her.

Traffic a Problem

Traffic is quite a problem in this town. One day, about 10 a.m., "Prime Minister" Robert Menzies was scheduled to leave his official residence for the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

All traffic was held up for a half hour.

When the official car finally came down the avenue who do you think was in it?

The prime minister? No.

It was the Duke of Edinburgh. Which goes to prove that royalty reigns supreme down here down under.

FOOTBALL SCORES

FRIDAY SCORES
By UNITED PRESS
Furman 27, Davidson 13
Miami (Fla.) 18, West Virginia 0
McMurry 20, Southern State 13
Arkansas Tech 25, Arkansas St. 7

High School Scores

FRIDAY SCORES
By UNITED PRESS
Class A-1 Semifinals
Medford 34, Benson 0
Class B Semifinals
Stanfield 26, Moro 7

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LAST WEEK!

BARKER'S FOOTBALL CONTEST

BARKER'S FOOTBALL CONTEST

INSTRUCTIONS: Check the team you pick to win. If you pick a tie game, check both teams. All slips must be at the store by 5:30 Friday evening.

December 1st

_____	Navy vs. Army	_____
_____	Miami (Fla.) at Florida U.	_____
_____	Georgia Tech at Georgia	_____
_____	Mississippi State at Mississippi U.	_____
_____	Louisiana State at Tulane	_____
_____	Kansas U. at Missouri	_____
_____	Rice at Baylor	_____
_____	Texas Tech at Hardin-Simmons	_____
_____	Texas Christian at So. Methodist	_____
_____	Notre Dame at USC (So. Cal.)	_____
_____	Tennessee at Vanderbilt	_____

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