

MHS BLACK TORNADO REACHES OREGON A-1 FOOTBALL FINALE

Medford Gridders Down Oregon City Pioneers; Will Play North Salem

The Black Tornado is going to State.

Medford High school's football Hurricane, still unbeaten and untied, has reached the playoff finale for Oregon's Class A-1 diadem. It did it by emerging triumphant on Friday night over an earnest, gritty adversary in a Battle in the Sand.

Starting with a stormy rush and concluding with a sparkling flourish, but held in check in between—except for a long scoring aerial thrust, the Medford's downed the Oregon City Pioneers 20 to 7 here in a state semifinal elimination game.

The Tornado took charge at the opening kickoff with a 79-yard touchdown drive. Jack Lowery went over from the two-yard line. In the closing portion of the second quarter, a Dan Miles to Mike Barnes pass went for 48 yards and a goal.

Surge Back
A defensive second half changed to offense with a 79-yard rumble by the Pioneers, who touched down on a 15-yard Tim Jones to Rick Sekne passing play. Then, Medford surged right back for 51 yards and Lowery goaled from three-yards out with 10 seconds left to play.

Triumph sends the Big Twister into a championship deciding conflict on Friday night, Nov. 30, in Portland's Multnomah stadium. Medford's foe will be North Salem. The Vikings last Friday night crushed Portland champion Jefferson 20 to 0 in the other A-1 semifinal.

The Tornado will carry a 1962 string of 10 victories into the title game. Oregon City, at the hands of Medford, suffered its first loss of this season after nine victories and a tie.

Determined Effort
The Big Red Pioneers from the Tualatin-Yamhill Valley loop did not yield to Medford without a determined effort which gained respect for themselves and their circuit. Their reputed defensive prowess came to focus over the late first quarter and early second period and through most of the final half and they flashed offensive power on their successful goalward drive.

"They were a real fine team, weren't they," remarked Medford Coach Fred Spiegelberg. "It was a good team we played." At the same time, the Tornado mentor described his charges as "pretty ragged and not consistent" and "not as sharp as in the last couple of games." This took nothing away from the performance of the Pioneers who made it tough going for Medford through the middle and held in check the Tornado punt runback tries.

Yet, the Tornado flared superiority and poise with its closing TD promenade against a team, which in the estimation of its mentor, Tom Keele, is capable of playing in any league and showed it. And, Medford's ground defense overall was tougher, yielding 78 yards for the evening while the Tornado scoring machine was running up 201.

Outyarded Pioneers
With the aid of its two touchdown marches and the long TD pass Medford outyarded the Pioneers 268 to 156 from scrimmage.

Dennis Hudson, Bill Bonniksen, Gary Kmetec, Sekne and Corly Edens spurred Oregon City on defense while Gary Griffin, Bill Enyart, Chris Brewer and Mike Neathamer headed the Tornado crew.

Medford's Lowery led the offensive rushers with 79 yards in 20 carries. In passing Tim Jones completed 12 of 24 for 78 yards for the visiting Big Red. Medford quarterback Dan Miles had just three completions on eight tries but his ability to elude pass rushers and run the option were vital in the Tornado verdict. Miles' 38-yard scamper was key to the first MHS counter.

Eleven scrimmage plays were in the drive for the opening marker. Miles ran the opening kickoff back from the Medford two to the 21. Mike Watkins gained three yards and Barnes 20 to the 44. After three-yard tries by Barnes and Watkins, illegal procedure put the Tornado back to the 45. A Miles to Barnes pass clicked for 14 yards to the 41.

Scoted To Five
Lowery lost two yards. Then, Miles, back to pass, saw no receiver clear but there was an opening in the Big Red wall. He broke through and dodged and scoted to the five where Dave Bass brought him down. Lowery gained two and one yards and next

dove across the goal. Miles added the bonus kick for 7 to 0.

There was no threat by either club until the second quarter when OC's Brian Taylor intercepted a Miles pass to give the Pioneers the ball on the Medford 34. The Tornado held Oregon City on the 27, moved out to the OC 49 and Tim Murray punted to the Pioneer six. Oregon City reached the 14 and Denny Weiler kicked. Medford took over on the OC 48.

The ball was snapped to Miles who ran around the backfield like a sand flea evading would be tacklers. He finally unleashed a pass to Barnes along the right sideline on about the 30. With the aid of a booming block by Watkins, Barnes ran across the goal. Miles had two tries to kick the extra. One was low and one was wide. Medford headed 13 to 0 with 1:23 left in the half.

Griffin Intercepts
On the first play after the kickoff Medford's Gary Griffin intercepted a Jones pass. Medford took over on the OC 25 and a Miles' throw to Lowery gained five. Two pass tries to Lloyd Hammons in the end zone were incomplete, the halftime horn sounded on the second.

Medford had a couple of opportunities in the third quarter, when OC had its back to the wall, and one in the fourth before either club scored in the second half. Weiler fumbled on the OC 36 and Bill En-

STATISTICS: Med. OC
First downs rushing 9 4
First downs passing 1 1
Total first downs 10 5
Net yards rushing 201 78
Net yards passing 67 78
Net scrimmage yards 268 156
Passes tried comp. 24-12 10-3
Passes intercepted by 1 1
Penalties and yards 2-20 4-12
Fumbles lost 0 2
Punts and yards 7-36 8-32.1

INDIVIDUAL RUSHING:
Medford TC Yds. Avg.
Miles 8 36 4.4
Lowery 20 78 3.9
Barnes 10 52 5.2
Gandee 1 0 0.0
Van Pelt 7 21 3.0
Watkins 6 13 2.1

INDIVIDUAL PASSING:
Medford PA FC Yds.
Miles 12 3 67
Neathamer 2 0 0
Oregon City PA FC Yds.
Jones 12 12 78

INDIVIDUAL RECEIVING:
Medford PR Yds.
Barnes 2 15
Lowery 1 5
Oregon City PR Yds.
Clinton 7 30
Clinton 2 10
Sekne 2 38

yart recovered for the Tornado. But the home team netted just one yard on three plays and Murray punted to the five.

Then, the ball was knocked from Jones' hand by Tornado defenders as he tried to pass. Brian Petersen recovered for the Big Wind on the 12. Lowery gained two yards and lost two and Barnes got to the nine. On fourth down, Sekne spilled Miles back on the 17.

In the fourth canto, Medford pushed in five plays from its 49 to the OC 21 and lost the ball on downs.

Penalty Aids
Oregon City charged to the Medford goal in 10 plays. Jones kept for a yard and passed to Ted Clinton for seven. Clinton ran for six and a Jones to Sekne pass picked up 17. Weiler ran for four and a Jones to Clinton heave got three. OC's Jack Ford ran for three and Clinton for six. That put the ball on the Medford 32.

A personal foul, unsportsmanlike conduct, on Medford put the ball on the 16. A pass failed and illegal procedure set the Pioneers back five yards. Weiler packed to the 15 and Jones hurried to Sekne in the end zone. R. J. Hudson kicked the extra point and Medford's lead was sliced to 13 to 7 with 1:36 left to play.

Hudson tried an onside kickoff, hoping that his club might recover the ball but Jim Snodgrass grabbed it for the Tornado on the Medford 49. Medford strategy here was to work for first downs and just run out the clock. Oregon City, took time outs aiming to get the ball again. But, the



OPENING SCORE—Jack Lowery (20) dives in for first touchdown for Medford high in state semifinal football game here Friday night with Oregon City's Pioneers. Oregon City defenders identified are Dave Bass (46) and Brian Taylor (42). Medford's Mike Watkins (45) is on ground by Lowery and head of Tornado quarterback Dan Miles is seen over shoulder of Taylor. Medfordite at left is Jerry Fann (68). In background is Gibb Mitchell (88). Medford drove off the kickoff for the open touchdown and went on to win 20-7. —(Ken Knackstedt photo)

Griffin, Westfall All-State Choices

Gary Griffin, linebacker, standout on the Medford high school football team, was named at guard on the Class A-1 all-state first eleven announced by the Oregon Journal on Saturday.

Dave Westfall, Phoenix guard, was chosen to the A-2 all-state crew.



DAVE WESTFALL
Journal A-2 Choice

Joining Griffin on the A-1 team from the Southern Oregon conference was Bob Shepard, Grants Pass end.

Second team A-1 choices included Lloyd Hammons, end, and Jack Lowery, halfback, both of Medford and Terry Isabell, halfback, Grants Pass. Gary Van Koten, Grants Pass, was named at fullback on the third team. Mike Glines, Crater was named at fourth team quarterback.

In A-2 selections Phoenix placed Jim Consbuck, halfback, on the first team; Jon Granby, end, and Rich Richey, tackle, on the third eleven and Dave Johnson, halfback, on the fourth unit. John Riggs, Henley, was a fourth team choice. The fifth team included Pete Naumes, end, and Jim Calhoun, quarterback, St. Mary's, and Charley Thompson, Henley, tackle.

The A-1 first lineup included Steve Bunker, Pendleton, end; Doug John, Roseburg, end; Dave Eulberg, Jefferson, tackle; Walt Looney, North Salem, guard; Ernie Manders, Marshfield, center; Paul Brothers, Roseburg, quarterback; Ron Delplanch, Hillsboro, and Tom McAllister, Jefferson, halfbacks, and Lee Montgomery, Jefferson, fullback. Among those on the A-2

first club were Chuck Niemi, Seaside, and Charles Elston, Estacada, ends; Rance Sopko, Seaside, and Gary Neal, Central, tackles; Jerry Alto, Seaside, guard; Jim Larson, Gold Beach, center; Tom Jernstedt, Yamhill-Carlton, quarterback; George Nelson, Seaside, and Mike Curran, North Catholic, halfbacks, and Doug Giles, Bandon, fullback.

HONORABLE MENTION:
A-1—Thurston Hazel, Klamath Falls, tackle; Willie Jones, Crater, and Jerry Fann, Medford, guards; Glenn Scott, Grants Pass, and Bob Holman, Klamath Falls, centers; Dan Miles, Medford, quarterback; Ron Hitchcock, Klamath Falls, fullback.

A-2—Charles Pomeroy, Eagle Point, Terry McNaught, Illinois Valley, and Gust Scheffstrom, Rogue River, ends; Mike Stinson, St.



GARY GRIFFIN
On A-1 All-State

Medford push had momentum. Barnes Goes 25

Frank Van Pelt gained three and four yards and Lowery three for first down on the Oregon City 41. Barnes erupted through a gap for 25 yards to the 16 and first down. Barnes got two more and Lowery four and seven. The Tornado had first and goal on the three.

Medford abandoned its strategy and ambitious for the touchdown, called time with 15 seconds on the clock. Lowery slashed across the pay line and Miles kicked the extra.

The game was played on rolled sand between the hash marks in the center of the field. Sand replaced mud which had been scraped away. Players found the footing not so good as on turf but much surer than on the mud of the Roseburg game.

Spiegelberg said that "the field was all right. It wasn't bad at all."

What about next Friday? "We're going to Portland to win," declared the Medford mentor.

Thrice-beaten North Salem handed slightly favored Jefferson its first loss of the season. Halfback Rod Allison scored the Vikings' touchdowns on a pair of two-yard runs and a one-yard plunge. The winners were ahead 7-0 at halftime.

Fullback Gary Collette gained 136 yards in 17 carries for North Salem.

The Vikings held a 12-7 advantage in first downs and a 286-150 edge in total yardage. Medford, ranked first in Oregon Journal coaches' poll during most of the year, probably will be favored against North Salem in the finals. The Vikings have an 8-3 record.

Linebackers Sponsoring Bus Jaunt

Medford Linebackers, sports booster group, is sponsoring a Greyhound bus trip to Portland next Friday for the Medford - North Salem high state football championship game.

Chairman Wally Watkins reported that the bus will leave Medford at 10:30 a.m. Friday and will return from Portland at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Package rate for the round trip transportation, first class downtown hotel room, bus service to and from the game and reserve seat ticket will be \$17 per person if a double hotel room is requested. It will be \$19 if a single hotel room is desired.

Watkins said that arrange-

ments must be made by Wednesday at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the Greyhound depot here. Persons wishing information may telephone Watkins at 773-7038 or Joe Tomjack at the Greyhound depot, 772-2202.

Medford Linebackers will meet at North's Chuck Wagon at noon on Thursday, one day ahead of usual.

Reserved Seat Tickets Coming

A total of 2,000 reserve seat tickets for the Medford-North Salem state championship football game at Portland's Multnomah stadium next Friday night have been ordered. Medford High Principal Lester Harris reported.

He said that it was not exactly certain when the tickets will arrive. But, they could be on hand for sale on Monday at the high school office.

Persons interested should check with the office. Arrangements were made to send the tickets by bus.

The reserved seats will cost \$2 each. Adult and general admission tickets for \$1.50 will be available at the game. Students with student body cards will be admitted for 75 cents.

Mary's and Tim O'Mara, Phoenix, centers; Tom Darland and Jim Webb, St. Mary's, Steve Bell and LeVoy Young, Henley, and Jack Salter, Rogue River, halfbacks; Ron Thornhill, Illinois Valley, and Marv McGee, St. Mary's, fullbacks.

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