

## Nyssa Bulldogs Drop Close Game At Ontario, Coaches And Players Prepare For Vale Contest

By Richard Sept

There was a rumor going around Nyssa last week that Ontario's head coach had predicted his Tigers would defeat the Nyssa Bulldogs by about 55 points. Whatever the truth of the rumor, the 21 to 14 victory for Ontario couldn't have felt very good to the Ontario coaching staff.

ONTARIO CAME within a few short minutes of ending up a Tigerskin rug in the Nyssa football locker room. Nyssa outplayed the larger Ontario team throughout most of the game, but the Tigers were able to capitalize on a Bulldog fumble with less than three minutes to go. Ontario hit with two long passes after the fumble recovery and then went over with the winning touchdown.

Just after the horn ended the Friday night contest, Art Bullock, Nyssa's head coach, told his players, "You had it, but you lost it. Don't let it

get you down, because you're a better team and you proved it tonight."

COACH BULLOCK Monday after the game, Coach Bullock said, "We didn't win and of course this is what we're out there for."

"We didn't go the full ballgame, because the last three minutes lost us the ballgame."

HITTING and exchanges were two problem areas that hurt the Bulldogs, according to Bullock. "We should tackle as well as we should and our quarterback to halfback exchanges were not as good as we'd like, we had some fumbles."

OVERALL, said Bullock, "We were pleased with some kids, but of course we were disappointed with the loss."

"I'm well pleased with my three coaches and the game they put together for these youngsters. "We're going to profit by our mistakes this week," added Bullock.

NEXT FRIDAY night, September 14, the Bulldogs will go up against their area rival's from Vale High School on the Vale field. The game will start at 8:00 p.m.

Vale, according to Bullock, runs from a singling formation and plays a "power" form of football.

OFFENSIVE LINE Jerry Huntley, offensive line coach, scouted Vale last Friday night and predicts a "typical Nyssa-Vale football game."

"They don't do a lot of fancy things," said Huntley "they just run right at you."

"IT'S A TOUGH offense to stop; if they consistently get their four and five yards, they'll hurt you." Because he was scouting Vale, Huntley had to listen to the Nyssa-Ontario game on the radio; however, on Monday he was able to watch the game films and get a better idea of how the team did.

"I looked at the films," said Huntley "and the line did the job that they were expected to do, and some of them a little bit more."

"I THINK WE can beat Vale. There's no doubt in my mind that we can beat 'em if we play ball like we played last week."

DEFENSE "We didn't have any lapses on defense," said Max Brittingham, defensive coach. "We were there, we executed correctly, but in a few instances we didn't make the tackle."

"ESSENTIALLY we weren't hitting with our heads up and driving through the people." "I was proud," said Brittingham "that our guys came back after Ontario made that quick touchdown."

Since Brittingham was pleased with the overall defensive game, he plans to present the same type of defense to Vale this Friday night.

"Our scouting report says they run about 80 percent of the time," said Brittingham. "We've got a few little things designed to see if we can't upset their whole pattern."

ONE PROBLEM that showed up during the Ontario game was the lack of an effective pass rush, according to Brittingham. "We just didn't get any pressure on the quarterback, especially in the last two minutes when they scored."

"You let any quarterback have that long in the pocket and he'll burn you."

OFFENSE "I think that we showed that the basic offense itself is good," said Gerald Talbot, offensive coach. "And I think that to a certain extent the boys have learned the system pretty well."

"WE DID SEE some mental lapses against Ontario," said Talbot "in things like taking handoffs incorrectly, not executing the fakes properly and not running to the correct hole."

"We did establish the running game that we wanted, but we weren't able to get our passes off to the receivers."

said Talbot, "more because of our backfield than our line."

Talbot, naturally, will be making some adjustments for the game against Vale this Friday, but he said he was satisfied with the overall offensive game.

"I think we just need to refine all the techniques that we've already got down," said Talbot, "because basically we we're there."

NEXT WEEK Coach Bullock said this week will be spent eliminating the mental lapses that hurt the Bulldogs against Ontario.

"We're gonna' run the same game," said Bullock.

"We just hope to do things better."

## Nyssa Linebacker Tackles, Acts As Defensive Leader

Earlier this fall Max Brittingham, Nyssa's defensive coach, was searching the ranks of this year's football players for a boy "with a nose for the ball."

"The one guy," said Brittingham "who is somehow always right there where the ball is; as if he knows in advance what play is being called."

"That's the guy you use as your defensive signal caller."

TED JOYCE, a junior, was the boy Brittingham picked to

take the job. Ted, the defensive captain, calls the signals for the defense from his middle linebacker position.

"Ted did a real good job against Ontario," said Brittingham.

At 160 pounds Ted is not an exceptionally big linebacker, but he uses his "speed and strength" to help offset his size.

"I LIFT WEIGHTS to get strength, mostly arm strength," said Ted. "In our drills in practice we work on hitting low, but I'm not that kind of a tackle; I usually hit high."

During the game last Friday against Ontario, Ted picked off an option play pitch and almost took it all the way for a score.

"I saw that the end and the linebacker had gone on the quarterback," said Ted. "I could see where the pitch-man was; I covered the man and suddenly had the ball in my arms."

The quarterback is the offensive leader and the defensive captain has much the same responsibilities with the defense. Ted not only calls the signals, also he has to make certain that the signals he calls are followed.

"IF SOMEONE BLOWS IT," said Ted "I let him know about it and try to encourage him to do better."

"I wouldn't say anything in the huddle, but right after I see it and just before we get into the huddle."

Ted was baptized "under fire" last week in his position as defensive signal caller and he's come out of it looking forward to the next game.

"I like it pretty much," said Ted. "It gives me a sort of a sense of responsibility."



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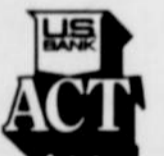
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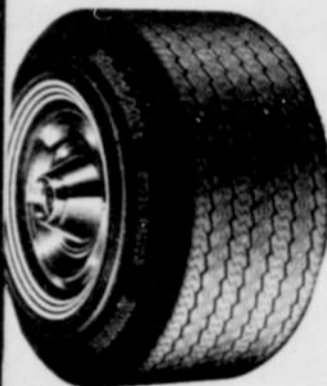
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