

MCL teams complete unprecedented sweep Anderson

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By TIM HOSTETTER
Sports Writer

Three football state champions from one league. It sounds unbelievable. Until this season, most people considered it unachievable.

But last Saturday on a miserable cold and wet afternoon, the Mid-Continent League warmed the hearts of its supporters by accomplishing that unprecedented feat.

At Lawrence, Norton defeated Shawnee Aquinas, 14-0, to win the Class 4A title. At Manhattan, Plainville blanked Wellsville, 14-0, to win the 3A crown, and Victoria made it an MCL sweep by edging Centralia, 8-6, to win the 2-A championship.

"I'm very proud of our league," said Norton head coach Neil Melillo, whose team won the league and finished the season with a 13-0 record. "I doubt if it will ever be topped because it's so difficult. It not only takes talent but a certain amount of luck, also. We got so much support from the other league members before the final game. They really rallied around us and our kids felt that."

"It's just super," said Plainville head coach Larry Friend, who enjoyed his second state title ('80 was his first). "When our kids heard that Norton was ahead 14-0, they really got fired up. By the stats, it looked like Victoria should've lost, but they hung in there tough."

"We really didn't talk much about it before our game," said Victoria head coach Doug Moeckel of his team's need to win to give the MCL its sweep. "Afterward though, I asked some of our kids about it and they told me that they didn't want to be the one team to lose."

Victoria was the least impressive of the three schools in achieving its second state football crown ('81 was its first). The Knights were 2-4 in league play before scrapping their way to seven straight wins.

All three coaches cited determination as a key element in their championships, but Victoria had the greatest test of that intangible.

With just over a minute left in the game and leading 8-6, the Knights faced a fourth down situation from their own 1-yard line. Doubly tough was that sophomore punter Dale VonFeldt was preparing to kick into a strong north wind sweeping through KSU Stadium.

"Any number of bad things could've happened at that point," Moeckel said. "We couldn't afford a safety but a blocked punt could've resulted in one or a touchdown for them. I told them in the huddle that we needed to protect the punter like we never had before and that we needed a good low kick. It turned out that we got a good snap and the good kick and they fumbled and we covered the fumble."

Rochy Argo's fumble — recovered by Terry Braun — finally finished the Panthers. It was Argo's second such fumble of the game. The first resulted in Victoria's only TD.

VonFeldt was filling in for Mitch Berens, the Knights' regular punter and leading rusher. VonFeldt not only got off a great punt in that late situation, but rushed for 82 yards.

Plainville could have had three touchdowns in the first half against Wellsville, but managed just one — an 18-yard run by quarterback Grady Gaschler.

"It bothered me because we led 6-0 and they

had a good kicker who could easily have given them seven points after a touchdown," Friend said. "In a big game like that, you need to take advantage of your opportunities to score."

Plainville dominated on paper, rolling up 236 yards on the ground to just 3 for Wellsville, but the Cardinals weren't safe until sophomore running back Gerald Kennedy ran 44 yards for a TD midway through the third quarter. It was a big play for a team Friend labeled as a "big-play" team.

"Kennedy's run was a turning point in the game, but our goal-line stand at the end of the first half was just as important," Friend said.

It would be Wellsville's only real scoring threat of the day. The Eagles drove to the Plainville 13, but three straight incomplete passes and a missed 29-yard field goal by Mark Horne left Wellsville empty-handed.

The Cardinals, who lost only to Norton this season, dominated field position. Plainville started nine of its 13 drives in Wellsville territory. Wellsville never did start in Plainville territory and started five times inside its own 20.

Talent-wise, Friend had a better team last season. That squad was top-ranked and unbeaten before losing to Medicine Lodge in a sub-state game.

"This year's team wasn't expected to be as strong mainly because of a young offensive line."

"This year's team was a pleasant surprise," Friend said. "I really think that last year's team had more pressure on them because everyone expected them to win. This year's

team really worked hard and were determined to do well. They were thrilled to make the finals and really got cranked up for the game. Deep down, they knew they had a good shot at Wellsville."

Norton was as dominating on paper as Plainville was, but still was never safe on the scoreboard.

Like the other two games, however, there seemed to be a turning point for the MCL team.

For Norton, that time came midway through the second quarter. The Blue Jays led 14-0, but Aquinas recovered a fumbled punt at the Norton 25 and drove the ball to the 2.

On first down, Norton showed the Blue-streaks a different defensive wrinkle.

"At that point, we showed the eight-man front and stunted the linebackers and pinched on the line," Melillo said. "We had to gamble in a situation like that because our backs were up against the wall."

Norton's gamble that Aquinas would run paid off as Steve Davila was dropped for a 5-yard loss. The Bluestreaks never recovered and were stopped at the 1 on fourth down.

Melillo looked at that sequence of plays as half the turning point. The other half was Norton's offense, which drove the ball to the Aquinas 44 before punting.

"The defensive was great, but the offense driving the ball out of there was very important," Melillo said. "To even get a first down was big because if we would've had to punt from back there, we could've ended up in another difficult situation."

entrepreneur who is one of the sponsors along with TransWorld International, next year's other two players might be chosen by a popular balloting similar to that of baseball's All-Star Game.

In such a ballot, Lee Trevino surely would be among the leaders. But for a previous commitment in Japan, the Merry Mex might have been competing this year.

Seve Ballesteros, more and more the world's most respected golfer, also would be a popular choice next year. But the dashing Spaniard is an unlikely choice now that the PGA Tour, which owns the Skins Game, recently banned him from playing on its tour next year, except for the New Orleans Open, which he won this year, and the U.S. Open, Masters and the Professional Golfers Association championship, which are not under Tour jurisdiction.

For all its tension, the Skins Game has a weakness. None of the four golfers risk the loss of money, unlike any dufer who bets a few dollars in his own skins game.

Let each of the four golfers in the Skins Game put, say, \$50,000 of his own money into the pot. Let him be concerned about losing some money, not just about how much he might win.

Scoreboard

Football

NFL standings

All Times CST		AMERICAN CONFERENCE		
W	L	Pct.	PF PA	
N England	9	4	0	692 278 231
NY Jets	9	4	0	692 323 228
Miami	8	4	0	667 298 245
Indianapolis	3	10	0	231 245 330
Buffalo	2	11	0	154 169 296

All Times CST		NATIONAL CONFERENCE		
W	L	Pct.	PF PA	
Dallas	9	4	0	692 289 231
NY Giants	8	5	0	615 329 201
Washington	7	6	0	538 226 260
Philadelphia	6	7	0	462 223 238
St. Louis	4	9	0	308 220 325

Monday's Game	
Chicago at Miami, 8 p.m.	Sunday, Dec. 8
Allentown at Kansas City, 12 p.m.	Washington at Philadelphia, 12 p.m.
Dallas at Cincinnati, 12 p.m.	Miami at Green Bay, 12 p.m.
New Orleans at St. Louis, 12 p.m.	New York Jets at Buffalo, 12 p.m.
Los Angeles Raiders at Denver, 3 p.m.	New York Giants at Houston, 3 p.m.
Cleveland at Seattle, 3 p.m.	Pittsburgh at San Diego, 8 p.m.

NFL summaries	
BENGALS 45, OILERS 27	First downs 22
	Rushes-yards 18-73 29-231
	Passing 272 324
	Return yards 0 35
	Comp-Att 22-30 19-25-0
	Sacks by 2-11 5-26
	Punts 5-35 1-28
	Fumbles-Lost 5-2 4-1
	Penalties-Yards 4-27 10-73
	Time of Possession 25:52 34:08

RUSHING—Houston, Woolfolk 5-31, Luck 5-26, Woolfolk 3-8, Moriarty 3-4, Edwards 1-4, Morski 1-0, Cincinnati, Brooks 11-81, Kinnear 17-75, Brown 3-60, Jennings 5-16, Essianon 2-0, Schoner 1-1 (minus 1).	
PASSING—Houston, Luck 16-28-0-194, Marzetti 6-11-0-114, Cincinnati, Essianon 18-24-0-320, Schoner 11-0-15.	
RECEIVING—Houston, Woolfolk 9-130, Hill 7-129, T. Smith 7-103, Moriarty 1-16, Rrazier 1-7, Walls 1-7, Williams 1-6, Cincinnati, Collinsworth 6-66, Brooks 4-85, Holman 3-84, Brown 3-47, Kinnear 2-9, Harris 1-13.	
MISSED FIELD GOALS—Cincinnati, Breach 28.48.	

Scoring Summary	
Houston 0 10 3 14—27	Cincinnati 21 7 14 3—45
First Period	
Cin—Kinnear 7 run (Breach kick), 1:50	
Cin—Kinnear 1 run (Breach kick), 8:15	
Cin—Brooks 57 pass from Essianon (Breach kick), 14:31	
Second Period	
Cin—Kinnear 3 run (Breach kick), 4:01	
Hou—FG Zendejas 25, 9:26	
Hou—Woolfolk 46 pass from Luck (Zendejas kick), 15:00	
Hou—FG Zendejas 26, 5:07	
Cin—Holman 64 pass from Essianon (Breach kick), 8:25	
Cin—Brown 19 pass from Essianon (Breach kick), 9:06	
Fourth Period	
Cin—FG Breach 29, 0:08	
Hou—Rrazier 1 run (Zendejas kick), 2:02	
Hou—Moriarty 1 run (Zendejas kick), 14:27	
A—46, 140	

49ERS 35, REDSKINS 8	
First downs	15 21
Rushes-yards	32-107 22-87
Passing	117 311
Return yards	21 16
Comp-Att	13-25-0 30-58-2
Sacks by	1-17 4-37

Punts

Fumbles-Lost	1-1 3-3
Penalties-Yards	3-25 5-35
Time of Possession	25:16 34:44

Individual Statistics	
RUSHING—San Francisco, Craig 15-61, Tyler 13-50, Montana 2 (minus 3), Harmon 1-2, Cavanaugh 1 (minus 3), Washington, Griffin 11-48, Riggins 10-39, Monk 1-0.	
PASSING—San Francisco, Montana 11-22-0-119, Cavanaugh 2-3-0-15, Washington, Schreder 30-58-2-348.	
RECEIVING—San Francisco, Francis 4-48, Clark 3-21, Craig 2-10, Solomon 1-39, Monroe 1-9, Frank 1-4, Tyler 1-3, Washington, Clark 10-116, Monk 8-150, Didier 5-38, Griffin 5-31, Warren 2-13.	
MISSED FIELD GOALS—Washington, Moseley 41. 24.	

Scoring Summary	
San Francisco 7 14 7 3—35	Washington 3 5 0 0—8
First Period	
SF—Monroe 35 kickoff return (Werschling kick), 20:1	
Was—FG Moseley 25, 9:20	
Second Period	
Was—safety Montana intentionally grounding, 5:36	
SF—Tyler 4 run (Werschling kick), 7:41	
SF—Turner 65 fumble return (Werschling kick), 11:07	
Was—FG Moseley 21, 14:13	
Third Period	
SF—Tyler 4 run (Werschling kick), 5:15	
Fourth Period	
SF—Francis 8 pass from Montana (Werschling kick), 6:43	
A—51, 321	

RAIDERS 34, FALCONS 24	
First downs	20 16
Rushes-yards	39-177 33-130
Passing	211 235
Return yards	118 0
Comp-Att	13-27 11-28-2
Sacks by	5-28 2-25
Punts	5-43 7-42
Fumbles-Lost	0-0 2-1
Penalties-Yards	5-35 6-37
Time of Possession	29:58 30:02

Individual Statistics	
RUSHING—L.A. Raiders, Allen 28-156, Hawkins 6-10, Wilson 1-5, King 3-4, Jansen 1-2, Atlanta, Riggs 25-95, Archer 6-28, J. Washington 2-7.	
PASSING—L.A. Raiders, Wilson 13-27-1-226, Atlanta, Archer 11-28-2-263.	
RECEIVING—L.A. Raiders, Christensen 7-109, Hester 2-54, Allen 2-42, Williams 2-31, Atlanta, B. Johnson 6-136, Cox 2-7, J. Washington 2-41, Riggs 1-9.	
MISSED FIELD GOALS—Los Angeles, Bahr 38.	

Scoring Summary	
L.A. Raiders 7 7 6 14—34	Atlanta 10 7 0 7—24
First Period	
Atl—FG Luckhurst 3:55	
Atl—Hester 37 pass from Wilson (Bahr kick), 6:08	
Atl—Cox 62 pass from Archer (Luckhurst kick), 12:31	
Second Period	
Atl—FG Bahr 2:23	
Atl—Riggs 11 run (Luckhurst kick), 5:03	
Atl—FG Bahr 49, 13:46	
Third Period	
Atl—Allen 4 pass from Wilson (Bahr kick), 8:28	
Fourth Period	
Atl—Hawkins 1 run (Bahr kick), 3:31	
Atl—Williams 7 pass from Wilson (Bahr kick), 7:00	
Atl—B. Johnson 25 pass from Archer (Luckhurst kick), 13:55	
A—20, 585	

VIKINGS 28, EAGLES 23	
First downs	13 24
Rushes-yards	18-67 39-147
Passing	172 306
Return yards	128 56
Comp-Att	14-37-0 23-42-1
Sacks by	2-14 3-20
Punts	6-42 6-37
Fumbles-Lost	0-0 2-2
Penalties-Yards	9-35 4-23
Time of Possession	23:56 36:04

Today's schedule

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2	
BASKETBALL	
Fort Hays State vs. Marymount at BiCenter, 7:30 p.m.	
Corolla Christian at Kansas Wesleyan women, 8 p.m.	

Individual Statistics	
RUSHING—New England, C. James 19-64, Collins 13-64, Eaton 5 (minus 3), Tatuau 4-5, Weathers 2-6, Indianapolis, McMillan 19-79, Worsley 7-35, Bentley 3-16.	
PASSING—New England, Eaton 20-28-1-293, Indianapolis, Pagel 15-28-2-174, Bentley 1-10-0-6.	
RECEIVING—New England, Collins 4-81, Morgan 4-63, Starring 4-53, Fryer 3-66, C. James 3-16, Ramsey 2-14, Indianapolis, Bonta 4-55, Boyer 3-46, McMillan 3-19, Worsley 2-34, Capers 2-14, Beach 1-6, Pagel 1-6.	
MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.	

Scoring Summary	
New England 7 17 0 14—38	Indianapolis 7 10 0 14—31
First Period	
NE—Fryer 6 pass from Eaton (Franklin kick), 5:40	
Ind—McMillan 1 run (Allegre kick), 10:50	
Second Period	
NE—FG Franklin 35, 5:33	
NE—Morgan 14 pass from Eaton (Franklin kick), 2:03	
Ind—FG Allegre 25, 8:31	
Ind—McMillan 6 run (Allegre kick), 12:03	
Third Period	
NE—C. James 4 run (Franklin kick), 15:51	
Fourth Period	
NE—Morgan 25 Pass from Eaton (Franklin kick), 5:0	
Ind—McMillan 6 run (Allegre kick), 10:50	
Ind—Tatuau 1 run (Franklin kick), 9:39	
Ind—Bonta 10 pass from Pagel (Allegre kick), 12:52	
A—56, 740	

BROWNS 35, GIANTS 33	
First downs	17 28
Rushes-yards	31-109 33-229
Passing	205 267
Return yards	83 28
Comp-Att	14-33-0 23-37-2
Sacks by	4-22 3-16
Punts	7-39 6-45
Fumbles-Lost	4-2 3-1
Penalties-Yards	5-40 3-40
Time of Possession	25:55 34:05

Individual Statistics	
RUSHING—Cleveland, Mack 14-66, Byner 14-44, Kosar 3 (minus 1), New York, Morris 2-55, Newsome 3-32, Brennan 3-29, Galbreath 1-13, Carpenter 2-27, Carthon 2-7.	
PASSING—Cleveland, Kosar 6-16-0-86, Danielson 8-17-1-135, New York, Simms 23-37-2-289.	
RECEIVING—Cleveland, Weathers 3-59, Byner 2-55, Newsome 3-32, Brennan 2-30, Mack 2-8, Young 1-17, New York, Adams 5-27, Galbreath 4-37, Bavaro 3-60, McConek 3-39, Carpenter 3-29, Johnson 2-48, V. Williams 2-27, Carthon 1-22.	
MISSED FIELD GOALS—New York, Schubert 34.	

Scoring Summary	
Cleveland 7 14 0 14—35	New York 7 13 3 10—33
First Period	
NYG—Morris 3 run (Schubert kick), 7:26	
Cle—Mack 42 run (Bahr kick), 10:4	
Second Period	
Cle—Byner 2 run (Bahr kick), 2:06	
Cle—Grass 37 interception return (Bahr kick), 4:46	
NYG—Morris 58 run (kick failed), 6:27	
NYG—Johnson 29 pass from Simms (Schubert kick), 14:45	
Third Period	
NYG—FG Schubert 35, 7:54	
Fourth Period	
NYG—Morris 5 run (Schubert kick), 0:4	
Cle—FG Schubert 40, 3:17	
Cle—Weathers 25 pass from Danielson (Bahr kick), 6:08	
Cle—Byner 9 run (Bahr kick), 13:08	
AQ66-462.	

BRONCOS 31, STEELERS 22	
First downs	20 27
Rushes-yards	26-93 27-77
Passing	238 250
Return yards	79 51
Comp-Att	24-42-1 19-40-4
Sacks by	6-33 0-0
Punts	7-37 5-40
Fumbles-Lost	1-0 2-0
Penalties-Yards	4-41 3-45
Time of Possession	32:14 27:46

Second Period

SD—FG Thomas 24, 1:04
SD—Hendy 75 interception return (Thomas kick), 6:23
SD—Spencer 1 run (Thomas kick), 13:03
Buf—Cribbs 2 run (Norwood kick), 14:18

Third Period	
SD—FG Thomas 28, 6:24	
SD—Stevens 23 pass from Fouts (Thomas kick), 12:56	

Fourth Period	
Den—Sewell 12 run (Karlis kick), 5:58	
Pit—Lippis 31 pass from Woodley (Anderson kick), 8:28	
Pit—Merrillweather 35 interception return (Anderson kick), 9:58	
Den—Sewell 2 run (Karlis kick), 13:15	
Den—Harden 42 interception return (Karlis kick), 13:36	
A—56, 797	

SAINTS 29, RAMS 3	
First downs	13 14