

City High blanks sputtering Kennedy, 21-0

By Bob Hilton
Gazette sportswriter

IOWA CITY — Iowa City High football coach Larry Brown said he couldn't explain the Little Hawks opening their season by scoring on their first three possessions, but whatever the explanation, once would have been enough.

Last year's Mississippi Conference Valley Conference co-champion Cedar Rapids Kennedy netted just 93 yards in total offense, all on the ground, and bowed before a happy Frank Bates Field crowd, 21-0.

Kennedy Coach Don Knock was terse after the game.

"Congratulations to Coach Brown. He's got a fine ballclub. Good luck next week," Knock said in what he evidently

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intended as a summary statement.

When a pursuing writer asked if he was surprised by the shutout, Knock replied, "I'm surprised every day of my life. I don't know what kind of team I have. I don't know what kind of team Coach Brown has. They played very well tonight. Congratulations."

After declaring, with a grin, "I can't explain it myself" when queried about City High's solid opening offensive display, Brown added, "We've been ready to play for a week. I'm very pleased."

Brown said the Little Hawks' defense "set the tone" when it forced Kennedy to punt four plays into the game.

He praised the play of quarterback Chris Hamford, who completed five of his first seven passes for 99 yards and two touchdowns; 170-pound junior fullback-noseguard Corey Honore, who rushed for 45 yards and a touchdown on eight carries and sacked Kennedy quarterback Jarvis Allison twice for a total of 20 yards; and senior defensive back Travis Mayer, who sacked Allison twice for a total of 14 yards, recovered a fumble, and broke up two passes.

"He was everywhere on the field," Brown said.

Brown did not need to praise speedy 166-pound junior tailback Tim Dwight. He gained 62 yards on his first seven carries and finished with 107 on 21. He also made a key tackle on Kennedy's

one major offensive weapon, 215-pound senior tailback Eric Martin, for a 3-yard loss when the Cougars had 2nd-and-6 at the City High 7 midway through the third period. After successive sacks by Mayer and Honore, Kennedy ended that possession on the City High 29.

Martin wound up an even 100 yards — 44 on nine carries the first half, 46 on nine carries the second.

Allison was 0-of-12 passing and lost a total of 46 yards on five sacks. He hit his receiver on the numbers alone on the City High goal line on the last play of an 11-play, 42-yard drive opening the fourth period.

City High began its first possession with a 5-yard delay penalty, but Kennedy immediately drew a 15-yard personal

foul walkoff after Dwight's 12-yard run, and it took the Little Hawks four more plays to complete the 46-yard trek to their first score, with 7:53 left in the first period.

Honore knifed in from the 1, and Scott Jones kicked the PAT.

Kennedy put together two of its three first-half first downs, then punted to The City High 21. Hamdorf's perfect pass to senior flanker Jason House spanned the last 30 yards of a scoring sortie on which the Little Hawks had to make up for a 10-yard holding penalty. Jones kicked the extra point with 51 seconds left in the quarter.

Hamdorf completed three passes for 29 yards.

Warriors' Vespa leads winning drive

Washington tops Dubuque Senior, 15-12, in opener

By Mark Dukes
Gazette sports editor

Tony Vespa missed all last season but he didn't miss anything down the stretch Friday night.

Vespa, senior quarterback at Cedar Rapids Washington, completed four straight passes in the winning touchdown drive as the Warriors opened the high school football season with a 15-12 victory over Dubuque Senior at Kingston Stadium.

"He dislocated his shoulder last season so it was almost like starting over for him," Washington Coach Wally Sheets said. "He settled down a little and threw some good passes."

"It was good for us to get a win and get some confidence. I thought our young people did a good job for the first game. There's always those jitters and nerves the first game."

JUNIOR JEFF SHAW, strong all night on both sides of the ball for Washington, plunged two yards for the winning touchdown with 55 seconds remaining. Vespa passed across the field to a wide-open Chris Faulkner for the two-point conversion.

Washington started its winning drive with 6:15 left at its 21-yard line, and immediately went in reverse on a delay penalty. Vespa hit Faulkner on a huge 12-yard pass on third-and-10 to keep the drive going. He tossed 2 yards to Shawn Moore, then found Dedric Ward for a 20-yard gainer to the Senior 45.

Ward, who caught seven passes for 123 yards despite fighting leg cramps, helped open the running game because Senior dropped a linebacker to help in pass coverage.

Shaw quickly charged for 18

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yards to the 27, then nine more yards to the 18. The drive sputtered and Wash faced a tense fourth-and-3 at the Senior 20 with a minute remaining. Vespa hit Ward for an 18-yard gainer, though, to set up Shaw's winning score.

Vespa, a 5-foot-10 left-hander, completed 11 of 23 passes for 166 yards. Shaw led Washington in rushing with 56 yards on 11 carries.

John Osterkamp gave Senior a 7-0 lead with 9:16 left in the half, capping an 80-yard, 12-play drive with a 2-yard run.

WARD PUT THE Warriors in front with 9:18 left in the third, catching a pass from Vespa on a slant pattern. He slipped a tackle at the 8 and completed the 23-yard scoring play. Jeremy McMurrin kicked the extra point.

Osterkamp's 3-yard touchdown run with 6:32 left allowed Senior to regain the lead, 12-7. A two-point pass failed.

Washington's defense played very well between the Rams' two touchdowns. The Warriors allowed a total of 32 yards on four possessions, and Mario Gebran, Shaw and Faulkner got sacks during that stretch.

Joe Oleson attempted a 42-yard field goal with 17 seconds remaining, but the ball fluttered into the wind and fell well short. But in the third period, he booted a strong 42-yarder that hit the left upright and bounced away.

JASON DAVIS had a solid game at tailback for the Rams, gaining 78 yards on 17 carries. Quarterback Marty Fitzpatrick hit 9 of 17 passes for 95 yards.

Both teams play Thursday, Washington against Kennedy at Kingston and Senior against Wahlert at Dalzell Field.



Gazette photo by Todd McInturf

Cedar Rapids Regis' Jim Zachar, left, tries to turn the corner as Linn-Mar's Brad Walsh hangs on to a shirt sleeve Friday night during season-opening prep football action at Armstrong Field. The Lions spoiled the Royals' Mississippi Valley Conference debut, 20-6.

Linn-Mar: Spoils Royals' MVC debut

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straight ahead six times for 31 yards, including the final eight off left tackle. Hubler completed passes to Dave Brauhn for gains of 18 and 15 and flicked to Mike Shipley for another six.

The scoring drive, which culminated with 7:27 still left in the first period, seemed to deflate the Royals. They totaled only 36 yards of offense in the first half and — thanks to a pair of first half Linn-Mar fumbles — were lucky to be trailing by only two touchdowns at intermission.

"I thought at the end of the first half we

finally started to get into it," Regis Coach Gaylord Hauschildt said. "At halftime, we reached an understanding that we needed to be more physical, and I was pleased with the way the kids responded in the second half."

Hauschildt said he was disappointed with the loss, but not discouraged. In fact, just the opposite.

"I'm happy we were able to get out there and play a hard football game," he said. "All-told, it was an encouraging performance."

The Linn-Mar offense wasn't quite as pro-

lific in the second half as in the first, but Purnell did introduce yet another weapon. Senior Eric George nailed field goals of 28 and 26 yards to complete the Linn-Mar scoring. George also connected on both of his extra-point kicks.

Regis scored its only TD with 11:47 left in the game when junior Charles Schimberg took a pitch from quarterback Jeremy Green and raced 24 yards down the left sideline. The Royals drive covered 63 yards in seven plays.

Green passed for 122 yards.

Lehman takes Milwaukee Open lead

Associated Press

FRANKLIN, Wis. — Tom Lehman traveled a long road to regain his tour card, but the distance he may remember most is 80 feet.

That's the length of the birdie putt he made Friday to take the second-round lead in the Greater Milwaukee Open.

"You make one of those a year. It goes over the hump and breaks in — it was ridiculous," Lehman said. "In this game you take it when you can get one like that."

Lehman had a 4-under-par 68 on Friday and completed two rounds at 135 for a one-stroke advantage over first round co-leader David Frost, Tom Sieckmann, Dudley Hart, Dick Mast and defending champion Mark Brooks. Brooks shot a 66, Sieckmann and Hart had 67s, Mast a 69 and Frost a 70.

Four other golfers were two shots back, including Mike Springer, whose 65 was the low round of the day at Tuckaway Country Club.

PRO GOLF

Lehman lost his PGA Tour card in 1985 and moved to the Ben Hogan Tour, winning once in 1990 and three times last year. His four Hogan victories are a record for that tour and he's among three players to win \$100,000.

"The Hogan Tour is a good place to test things you're working on," Lehman said. "I've played in a lot of out-of-the-way places."

Last year he missed by a stroke of regaining his PGA Tour card in the qualifying tournament, then earned it by being named Hogan Tour player of the year.

Lehman is 32nd on the money list with seven top-10 finishes this year. He was fourth in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

After sinking the 80-footer on the par-5 second hole for a birdie, Lehman double bogeyed No. 3. But he came back with three more birdies on the front nine

and then added three against a lone bogey on the back.

Senior lead to Blancas

■ GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Homero Blancas shot a 6-under-par 65 to take the lead after the first round of the Senior PGA Tour's \$400,000 First of America Classic at the Elks Country Club's Highlands course.

Blancas' round, two strokes off the course record held by Miller Barber, held a one-stroke lead over Barber, Lee Trevino, Tommy Aaron and Isao Aoki. The 54-hole, no-cut tournament runs through Sunday.

Blancas, whose lone win on the senior tour came in the 1989 Doug Sanders Kingwood Celebrity Classic, split his six birdies between the front and back nines. He finished Friday's round by sinking an 18-foot uphill putt on the 398-yard, par-4 18th hole.

Barber's 66 featured an eagle on the 522-yard, par-5 10th hole. He holed out from 85 yards with a pitching wedge.

NEWS NOTES/ AREA SPORTS

Ram Run

■ Cornell's Ram Run this morning kicks off the Rams' cross country season.

The 17-team men's and women's meet starts near the soccer field on the south edge of the Mount Vernon campus. The women will run two miles at 11 a.m., the men four miles at 11:30.

Coe, Grinnell, Loras and Dubuque are among the other teams in the field.

Correction

■ Chris Sarchett kicked the extra point in Cedar Rapids Jefferson's 7-0 high school football win over Dubuque Wahlert Thursday night. A story in Friday's Gazette incorrectly identified the kicker as Chad Bosch, who was the holder.

Rugby schedule

■ The Cedar Rapids Rugby Club begins its fall schedule today with an appearance in a 10-team

tournament at Dubuque.

The Cedar Rapids club practices Tuesdays and Thursdays at Roosevelt School.

Other dates this fall are: Sept. 13, Algona; Sept. 19-20, Aspen, Colo. (TBA); Sept. 26-27, at English tournament; Oct. 3, at Mason City; Oct. 11, Skunk River; Oct. 18, at Iowa Falls; Oct. 25, Luther; Oct. 31, Muscatine.


For more information, call 364-1906, 363-6706 or 364-8769.

Baseball tourney

■ WATKINS — Four teams will play Monday in the 43rd annual Labor Day Baseball Tournament at Watkins.

Teams from Norway and Fairfax open play at 12:30 p.m., and Watkins and Williamsburg will square off at approximately 2:30.

The two winners will then play for the championship.



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