

# ND rips Trumansburg for sixth straight win

## Knights, Irish add impressive wins

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

As far as the Elmira Notre Dame football team was concerned, this was a day at the beach.

Despite high winds, rain and mud, the Crusaders executed flawlessly in what was supposedly the showdown of the season against Trumansburg last Friday, Oct. 16.

ND rolled to a 35-3 victory over the host Blue Devils and remained unbeaten with a 6-0 record. That win also propelled the Crusaders into first place in Section 4 Division 5 with a 2-0 league mark, while Trumansburg fell to 2-1 and 5-1.

"We played just about as perfect a game as you can play," remarked ND Head Coach Mike D'Aloisio.

Also emerging victorious from the weekend were McQuaid Jesuit and Aquinas Institute, who each broke losing skids with City-Catholic League triumphs on Saturday, Oct. 17.

McQuaid (2-2, 3-3) pulled off a 20-8 upset over visiting Franklin, while Aquinas (1-3, 2-4) won by the same 20-8 count over host Edison Tech. The Knights and Little Irish will clash this coming Saturday, Oct. 24, in a 2 p.m. game at AQ.

Also on Oct. 17, Bishop Kearney and Geneva DeSales were both denied their first victories of the season. BK (0-3-1, 0-5-1) lost 20-6 to host Victor in Finger Lakes League play, and DeSales (0-3, 0-5) was defeated 42-6 by visiting Red Jacket in another Finger Lakes game.

The opening kickoff between Notre Dame and Trumansburg was delayed by half an hour due to what D'Aloisio termed "a mini-hurricane."

"I heard trees crashing on the hill, and they sounded like pretty big trees," D'Aloisio recalled.

The challenging conditions seemed to favor Trumansburg early on, with the Blue Devils taking a 3-0 lead after one quarter on a 27-yard field goal by Clark Wilson.

But it was all Crusaders after that, as ND took advantage of numerous Trumansburg turnovers to score five

unanswered touchdowns.

Steve Latchford set up ND's first score by recovering a fumble at the Trumansburg 17-yard line. A few plays later, Shaun Bennett scored on a two-yard run early in the second quarter.

Bennett also scored later in that period, on a three-yard run, to put ND up 14-3 at halftime.

Early in the third period, John Maio made an interception at the Blue Devils' 7-yard line to set the table for Joel Stephens' four-yard TD run. Later in that quarter, Jason Cresswell recovered a fumble at the Trumansburg 32, which led to Bennett's third touchdown — this one on a 12-yard carry.

Dan Wilson capped the scoring with his 17-yard run in the fourth period.

Stephens finished with 147 yards on 20 carries, and Bennett rushed 17 times for 77 yards.

"Stephens and Bennett followed some excellent blocking by the offensive line, and got some tough yardage in poor field conditions," said D'Aloisio, whose team entered the Trumansburg game ranked 17th in the state Class C-D poll.

McQuaid's win over Franklin came against a Quaker club which entered the game with a 4-1 record. More importantly, this victory kept alive the Knights' slim chances of qualifying for a Section 5 playoff berth.

All three McQ touchdowns resulted from long drives. The first TD was a one-yard run by quarterback Kelly Scanlon midway through the first quarter.

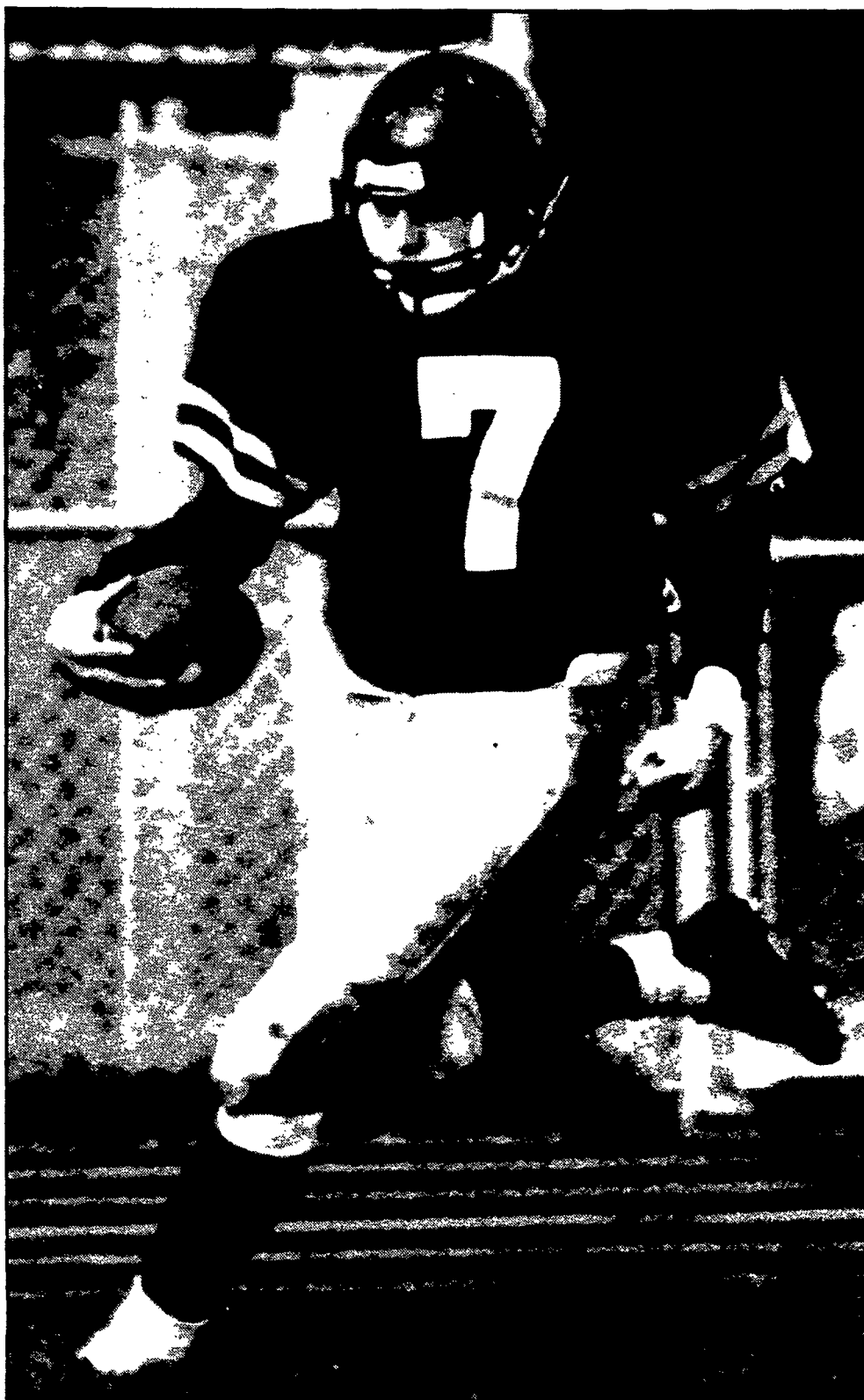
Franklin came back to take an 8-7 halftime lead, but the Knights went ahead for good after consuming half of the third quarter on their second TD drive. Scanlon culminated that drive with a five-yard run.

Scanlon picked up his third touchdown when he completed a seven-minute drive early in the fourth quarter, running again for five yards.

"It was our best-played game of the year. We played pretty much mistake-free football," commented McQuaid Coach Tom Sprague, whose team ended a two-game losing streak.

For Aquinas, its victory over Edison halted a three-game skid.

"We needed a boost. It's been a tough year," said AQ Coach Joe Munno, whose team was coming off



Babette G. Augustin/Photo Editor  
McQuaid Jesuit quarterback Kelly Scanlon delivers his second touchdown of the game during the host Knights' 20-8 win over Franklin Oct. 17. Scanlon scored all three McQuaid touchdowns against the Quakers.

an 8-0 regular-season in 1991. "Now we want to finish this season at .500. We don't want to have a losing season after going undefeated last year."

AQ took an early 7-0 edge on a 15-yard touchdown throw from Matt Delly to Mark Johnson. The play was set up by a 50-yard completion from Delly to Nick Reisinger.

The Inventors rallied for an 8-7 edge after one quarter, but AQ went into the locker room up 14-8 after Phil Wegman's eight-yard TD run.

Wegman also scored the game's final touchdown, on a four-yard run in the fourth quarter. He finished the day with 120 yards on 24 carries.

Both Kearney and DeSales were held scoreless until the fourth quarter during their defeats.

BK's Vernon Banks scored on a one-yard run against Victor to prevent a shutout, and DeSales' Dave Casasanta also made a one-yard TD in the Saints' game against Red Jacket.

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