

Pioneers top Patriots 13-0 in grid opener

Daily Local

September 12, 1992

By **STEVE PILONI**

Staff Writer

FRAZER—Sometimes it only takes one lucky break. Outplayed for most of the first half, Conestoga High School's football team finally got the break it was looking for in the fourth quarter.

The Pioneers turned a Great Valley mistake into a touchdown, and went on to win their non-league opener 13-0 Friday night.

It was Conestoga's first win over Great Valley since the 1987 season. That game ended 9-0.

"We were starting to think we were snake bitten against Great Valley," said Conestoga's head coach Bob Novotni. "Sure, this takes the pressure off." "We played four away games in a row, so this is a nice start for us." But it didn't look good for Conestoga until the second play of the fourth quarter with the game still scoreless.

Conestoga punter Ryan McGeorge lofted a high kick that almost disappeared above the portable lights. However, the Pioneers struggled to move the ball, and faced a fourth-and-10 situation.

That's when quarterback Steve Brown came up with his biggest run of the night. He scampered 14 yards on an option run around the right side to give the

Pioneers a first down. Two plays later, Brown scored from four yards out on another option run with 8:26 left in the game. McGeorge added the extra-point kick.

"We knew we were going to score," said Brown, who added an 11-yard touchdown run with 1:20 left to ice it. "Everybody had in their hearts that we weren't going to lose. We put everything together (after half-time)."

Shortly after Conestoga scored its first touchdown, Great Valley got a huge break when it recovered an errant Brown pitchout. Brown tried an audible at the line of scrimmage, but it went unheeded.

Conestoga's Mike Dennis broke free for runs of 26 and 21 yards to set up Brown's 11-yard touchdown run. "We're starting to come around," said Novotni, who said field position made a big difference in the second half. "I think we took a big step tonight."

"Things could've gone bad after the first half. We could've hung our heads. But we came out and played a good second half." Dennis finished with 72 yards rushing on six carries to lead Conestoga's offense. Andrew McGeorge added 68 yards on 11 carries.

Conestoga needed the production on the ground because its passing game only netted three yards. And once Conestoga got the break it waited for, that was the game. Also, Drew Falcone had an interception and a fumble recovery for Conestoga.



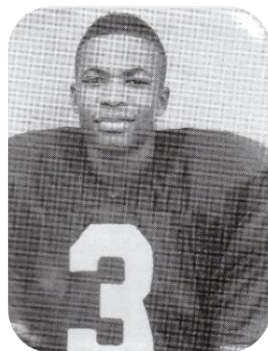
RYAN MCGEORGE

Captain

Senior 6-1, 185

Tailback

Linebacker



STEVE BROWN

Captain

Senior 5-10, 155

Quarterback

Cornerback



MIKE DENNIS

Junior 5-8, 175

Fullback

Linebacker



DREW FALCONE

Junior 6-0, 160

End

Secondary

Crawford's 3 TD's pace Viking victory

Daily Local

September 20, 1992

By **JERRY REIMENSCHNEIDER**

Staff Writer

"Buster Crawford, what can I say?" sighed a frustrated Bob Novotni, the Conestoga head coach who watched the 5-foot-9, 180-pound Viking fullback gain—by land and by air—all but 18 of East's total yards.

"That guy runs faster backwards than our kids do forward."

Luckily for East, Crawford's forward yardage was enough to offset a forward-minded Conestoga offense that outgained East's, 385-197, and that held the ball for nearly 18 of the 24 minutes after halftime.

The Pioneers offense was paced by quick senior quarterback Stevie Brown, an effective option runner and passer who accounted for 238 of Conestoga's yards. It was a pair of Browns—Stevie and senior tailback Troy (90 yards rushing)—that kept the Conestoga offense moving, mostly along the sidelines.

"I didn't think they could dominate offensively the way they did," said East coach Joe Carroll. "But I don't know if it was as much that they dominated inside at the line of scrimmage as that they got outside and made several big plays."

Indeed, the big play—on either side—was the trigger behind all the scoring. The firework first half started with Stevie Brown (9-for-16 passing, 192 yards, two touchdowns) hitting split end Case Vernon down the left sideline for a 65-yard scoring strike with 8:23 to play in the first quarter.

But the effective Conestoga offense could only keep the ball out of Crawford's hands for so long. Crawford and the Vikings struck back quickly to tie the game less than two minutes later.

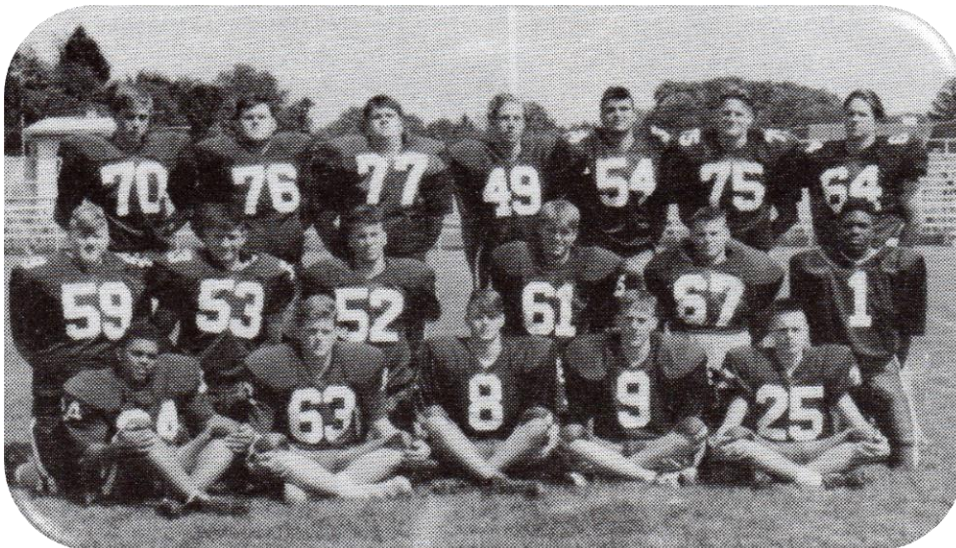
After trading turnovers, Conestoga drove 93 yards on 12 plays, scoring when fullback Andrew McGeorge dove in from the two with 9:33 to play in the second quarter. But Ryan McGeorge missed what would be a haunting point after kick for Conestoga, and the Pioneers settled for a 13-6 lead.

Conestoga staged its second-half, ball-control show, climbing to within 21-19 when Brown hit Jesse Knight with a perfect, 41-yard strike with 9:43 to play. But the Pioneers failed to tie it on a two-point conversion, as Brown's pass trickled off the fingertips of a diving Arron Van Horn.

"We played well enough to win the ball game, no question," Novotni said. "It's frustrating, and I feel badly for the kids. But they played as hard as they could. It'll come."

Juniors

Front Row: Jeff Childs, Matt Norris, Drew Falcone, Andrew McGeorge, Justin Cassidy
Middle Row: Taylor Young, Dave Benedick, Doug Layman, Pete Kubat, Jim Simmington, Nate Floyd
Back Row: Dave Oliver, Vinnie Miller, Heath Harris, David Smith, Arash Bonakdar, Tom Burns, Brent Effgen
Not Pictured: Lior Keet, Gary Kiang, Mike Dennis, Paul Burg



Upper Darby downs Conestoga

Daily Local

September 27, 1992

By **CARLO IACONO**, Staff Writer

UPPER DARBY—Taking a physical beating is always a tough way to lose a football game. But that is what occurred to Conestoga High School in its 27-7 loss to Central League rival Upper Darby High School, Saturday afternoon.

“Upper Darby is a really tough team that controlled the ball,” Conestoga head coach Robert Novotni said. “But their passing game is what hurt us.”

After holding the Royals to three downs and a punt on their first possession of the second half, Conestoga could not generate a thing offensively.

With the game still within reach, Conestoga opened the final quarter by stifling Upper Darby again. Senior Troy Brown became the featured player in the Pioneer’s next drive.

With starting fullback Mike Dennis out after suffering a neck injury during the second-half kickoff, Brown jump started an anemic Pioneer offense with two runs of five and 14 yards. The scampers gave

Conestoga its only first down of the game with 7:43 left.

But on the next play from scrimmage, Dennis was tackled by three Royals and stripped of the ball. “Coming in we knew Darby would be tough. Their quarterback did a great job and their team did a better job in the second half.”

Aaron Van Horn provided Conestoga’s only score with a 35-yard touchdown reception. Van Horn dove for Brown’s pass to knot the game at 7-7 and accounted for all the offense on that drive by adding a 14-yard reception. But Van Horn was ignored by Brown the rest of the afternoon, or maybe it was the Royals who made Van Horn disappear.

Conestoga caps off its month-long, season-opening road trip at perennial league-champion Ridley this Friday night. The Pioneers may be faced with a season-maker before it even plays in its friendly confines.

“Don’t remind me,” Novotni said of the teams’ tough September road trip. “This team will come back. They’ve developed a lot of character.”

Sophomores

Front Row: Pat Hong, Jesse Knight, Joe Norcini, Pete Melchiorre, Tom Hamilton, Hurry Phenguath

Middle Row: Shawn Proctor, Lance Cannon, Mike Leviston, John Bickel, Alex Hamer, Greg Cannito, Joe Bliemeyer

Back Row: Tim Brown, Steve Gersbach, Steve Bradley, Rob Sprague, Mike Dennis, Jared Quereau, Eric Eley, Mike Morey, Todd Ill

Not Pictured: Josh Schottland, Matt Fleishman, Dan Morgan



Ridley crushes Conestoga

Daily Local

October 3, 1992

By **CARLO IACONO**

Staff Writer

FOLSOM—Conestoga High School had the perfect game plan to defeat Central League foe Ridley High School.

It was going to control the football on the ground and then capitalize on the game's turning points. Everything worked on paper. But on the playing field of Phil Marion Memorial Field Friday evening nothing could go right for the Pioneers as they dropped the league game 30-3 to the Raiders.

Conestoga executed half of its game plan by posting 146 rushing yards, but they came up empty on Ridley's two turnovers and several short third and fourth down attempts. "Third and fourth down conversions are the marks of a team," Conestoga head coach Bob Novotni said. "When it comes to crunch time you have got to have it and we didn't. It is a question of fortitude."

The Pioneers pushed the running game to start the second half, but after marching to two first downs on the drive, Conestoga could not convert a fourth and one at the Raider 41-yard line.

Mistakes costly as Conestoga falls to Lower Merion

Daily Local

October 10, 1992

By **CARLO IACONO**, Staff Writer

BERWYN—The mistakes started just about the time the heavy rain did for the Conestoga High School football team Friday evening.

The Pioneers lost three fumbles which helped Lower Merion manage a 12-6 Central League win. The loss kept Conestoga winless for the season at 0-5, 0-3 in the league.

With inclement weather forcing both teams to go with a ground game, the running-minded teams traded lengthy possessions with few scoring results.

Clinging to a 6-0 lead, Long faced a third and long from his own 7-yard line to start the fourth quarter. Seventy-seven yards later, Long had a first down on the Pioneer 15-yard line. Both teams traded mistakes in the relatively dry, scoreless first half. But as heavy rains slowed the game in the third quarter until Lower Merion marched successfully for the first score of the evening.

Conestoga also played like a team in the second half. But it collectively made key mental mistakes to stop two scoring drives. Conestoga, which posted an

effective running game of its own with 173 yards, went to the air attack to get on the board.

With just under five minutes remaining in the game, Stevie Brown connected on long pass routes. Twice he hit Aaron Van Horn on 20-yard hooks and he connected with Case Vernon on an 18-yard post pattern.

Brown capped the drive with a seven-yard run. But after the blocked point after, Conestoga was unable to score again. Long later converted a fourth and short in the next possession but the Pioneers ran out of time outs.

"All we can do is build on the positives," Novotni said. "We have to stay positive as a team." Those positives include an 84-yard passing performance by Stevie Brown, a 98-yard rushing effort by Troy Brown and an all-around outstanding effort by McGeorge on both sides of the ball.

But with the softest of the Central League set in Radnor next on the schedule, the Pioneers must build one game at a time.

"You can't take anything light as far as next week," Novotni said.

Conestoga gets a blowout in first league win

Daily Local

October 18, 1992

By **CARLO IACONO**, Staff Writer

RADNOR—The one constant for Conestoga High School football team's frustrating season was its inability to execute plays. That constant changed in a hurry Saturday afternoon as Conestoga posted its first Central League win with a 45-0 drubbing of host Radnor.

The Pioneers reaped the benefit of a week of focused practices and executed in all three phases of the game. It was the determined Pioneers who exercised personal demons as they won for the first time in a month of frustrating losses.

"It was real important for us to come out here and have fun," Conestoga coach Bob Novotni said. "We've played well but have been frustrated all season. They worked hard and deserved it."

The Conestoga defense set the tone by sacking Radnor quarterback Rafe D'Amico for large losses on the first two plays from scrimmage. The Pioneers defense would swarm D'Amico and, eventually, backup Andy Dewese all day to produce nice sacks.

The Conestoga offense, alternately led by quarterbacks Rob Sprague and Stevie Brown, orchestrated six scoring drives to out gain Radnor 310 to 62 in total yards. Sprague, awarded his first start of the season, did not disappoint as he led the Pioneers to a 6-0 lead on its first drive.

Conestoga's weapon of choice on that drive, as well as most of the afternoon, was tailback Troy Brown. Brown capped the drive with a three-y-

slashing run. After Josh Guzman recovered a fumble on the first play of Radnor's next drive, Stevie Brown led the Pioneers to their next score. Again it was Troy Brown from three yards out.

Troy Brown would go on to finish the day with 110 yards rushing on 20 carries to go along with his two scores in about two halves of work. "Yes our problem has been not executing," Troy Brown said. "But this week we worked on getting our assignments done properly. We have the talent, but we just didn't put it to use."

Troy Brown's backup Josh Schottland, as well as the rest of Conestoga's backups, also did basically what they wanted to against Radnor. Schottland would score on an 8-yard run to punctuate his 52-yard rushing performance. Junior Mike Dennis became the featured back in a third-quarter drive and scored on a 1-yard plunge. All in all, the Pioneers' backups accounted for more than half of their 277 rushing yards and three touchdowns.

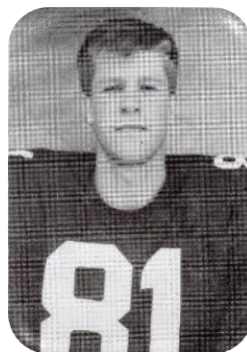
"I was real pleased with the reserves," Novotni said. "Team effort was the key today."

Stevie Brown would toss an 18-yard touchdown pass to Aaron Van Horn and have a 7-yard scoring run of his own to round out the offensive execution. Even the Pioneers' special teams got into the effort. Ryan McGeorge recovered a muffed punt snap in the Red Raiders end zone in the fourth quarter to cap the scoring.

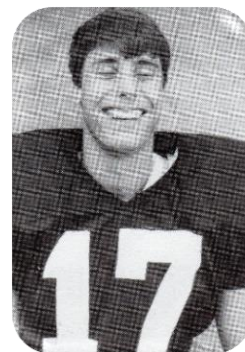
"I'm pleased with our success offensively," Novotni said. "We worked on the basics this week and made sure we knew what we've been doing wrong."



ROB SPRAGUE
Sophomore 6-2, 175
Quarterback
Secondary



BO BYARD
Senior 5-8, 160
End
Secondary



SHAWN JENKINS
Senior 6-1, 170
End
Linebacker

Goal-line stand preserves 25-23 Conestoga victory

Daily Local

October 24, 1992

By **CARLO IACONO**, Staff Writer

BERWYN—Springfield High School fullback Mike Bean could do anything he wanted to with the football against Conestoga High School Friday evening. Make that almost anything he wanted. Bean, who rushed for 124 yards on 22 carries, met a wall of Conestoga defenders as he tried to make a two-point conversion with: 45 seconds remaining.

The Pioneers' Ryan McGeorge and Dave Oliver stopped Bean behind the line of scrimmage to preserve a 25-23 Central League victory at Teamer Field. "In the time out before the play, we knew we had to get to the flat if we had to stop them," Conestoga coach Bob Novotni said. "That is where they went."

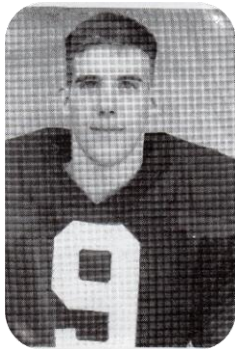
The win upped the Pioneers' mark to 3-4 overall, 2-3 in the league. Conestoga streaked to a 13-0 first quarter lead behind the running game of fullback Andrew McGeorge. The versatile Pioneers, who feature a different back each week, attacked the small Springfield line with the power game of McGeorge, who gained 119 yards on 13 carries with two long touchdown runs.

After Mike Dennis recovered a fumble on Springfield's first play from scrimmage, Conestoga marched 60 yards on five plays. McGeorge plowed 17 yards up the middle to give it a 7-0 lead. Two minutes later, after a Springfield failed fourth down, McGeorge busted open a counter-trap for a 57-yard score and 13-0 lead.

"I always felt that the power game worked for us," McGeorge said. "A lot of big plays were the difference tonight." After a 3-yard scoring run by Bean with 2:30 remaining in the half, Conestoga struck quickly before the gun. Quarterback Stevie Brown connected on a 39-yard touchdown pass with Case Vernon for his only completion of the night.

The Pioneers owed their 19-6 halftime lead to the athletic ability of Brown and Vernon. Brown got the ball away just as he was being sacked to find the fingertips of Vernon over the middle. Vernon dodged two Cougars for the score.

"Bean is a great athlete who has been doing that to teams all year," Novotni said. "It was just a matter of time until he was a factor." Conestoga tackle Mike Barmore intercepted a Romesburg pass to set up McGeorge's third touchdown of the evening.



ANDREW MCGEORGE

Junior 5-10, 170

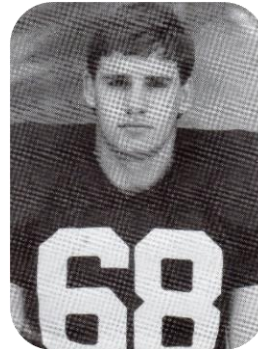
Fullback
Linebacker



CASE VERNON

Senior 6-1, 185

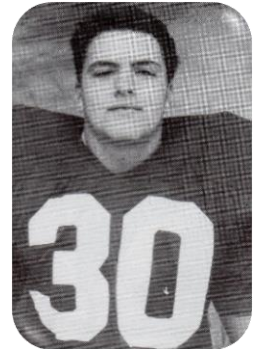
End
Defensive End



MIKE BARMORE

Senior 6-2, 225

Tailback
Linebacker



BERNARDO ALBINO

Senior 6-0, 190

Fullback
Linebacker

Conestoga fights to 21-0 win

Daily Local

October 31, 1992

By **CARLO IACONO**, Staff Writer

BERWYN—Conestoga High School powered its way to a 21-0 Central League win over Haverford High School on a sloppy Friday evening. The host Pioneers knotted their record at 4-4, (3-3 in the Central League) behind the rushing of tailback Troy Brown.

Brown's performance of 178 yards on 23 carries was capped with two touchdowns scampers of 44 and five yards. Brown's rushing and seven Haverford turnovers proved the difference in this penalty-plagued affair played in a steady rain.

Conestoga amassed 130 penalty yards on 17 yellow flags, while Haverford fouled six times for 45 yards. "I'm really happy with the physical aggressiveness we displayed," Conestoga head coach Bob Novotni said. "But I am not sure what happened there with all of those penalties. That disturbed me."

Conestoga mustered 286 rushing yards to counter a non-existent passing attack of 10 yards. Brown, along with his cousin, quarterback Stevie Brown and Andrew McGeorge led the ground game. Conestoga went 84 yards on eight plays. Troy Brown scampered 44 yards behind a huge-hole left by the offensive line to give the Pioneers all the scoring they would need.

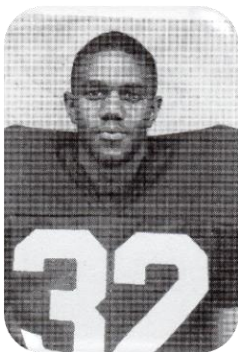
"The line was blocking well," Brown said. "It was the best we played, blocking-wise, this season." Novotni said. "Things are starting to click for this line at this stage."

Conestoga guard Ollie Knewstub scooped his second of three fumble recoveries with 7:44 left in the first half. Steve Brown capped the three-play, 11-yard jaunt with a five-yard run. After new kicker Josh Schottland converted his second extra-point, the Pioneers had a 14-0 lead.

Conestoga's offense also started to disappear in the rain of the second half. But once it stopped a Haverford drive with 6:38 remaining in the game, the Pioneers went back to what got them there. The bread and butter was the hand off to Troy Brown. Brown slashed his way to a 19-yard score with 2:11 left shut the door on the Fords at 21-0.

"Troy Brown gave us a heck of an effort today," Novotni said. The defense went on the preserve the shutout against three throws by backup quarterback Joh Van-Devere.

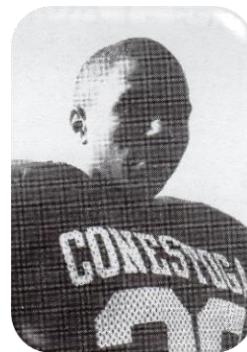
Conestoga now finds itself in a respectable situation after a month-long losing streak. "We definitely want to beat Strath Haven," Novotni said. "We will have to execute in that game."



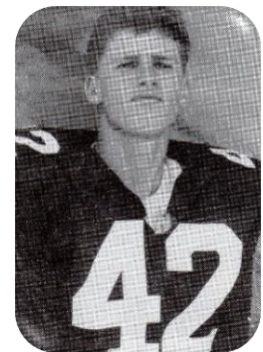
TROY BROWN
Senior 5-10, 155
Tailback
Secondary



OLLIE KNEWSTUB
Senior 5-8, 220
Guard
Defensive Tackle



JOHN VAUSE
Senior 6-0, 190
Fullback
Linebacker



BRIAN ZAGOL
Senior 6-0, 165
End
Secondary

Strath Haven crushes Pioneers, 40-7

Daily Local

November 7, 1992

By **CARLO IACONO**, Staff Writer

WALLINGFORD—The Conestoga High School football team was banking on conventional wisdom to beat undefeated Strath Haven High School.

And a quietly-talented Pioneer team was hoping to play the spoiler by stealing a win Friday evening. That scenario did not work out as the host Panthers (9-0) spanked the Pioneers 40-7 with focused attack that left Conestoga (4-5) out of the contest by halftime.

So much for surprising them. "They just dominated us," Conestoga coach Robert Novotni said.

"If I could explain why we played so flat, we wouldn't be doing that."

It took an incredible athletic effort by backup halfback Jessie Knight to get Conestoga on the board. With 1:56 remaining, Knight took a hand-off and threw a pass on the run as he got clobbered by two Panthers. The toss hit Stevie Brown in the numbers 38 yards away for the score.

"We were worried about tonight," Strath Haven coach Kevin Clancy said. "Conestoga is a physical and very good team that will have to be reckoned with in the future."

13-12 Victory

Blocked kick helps Conestoga knock off Penncrest

Daily Local

November 14, 1992

By **CARLO IACONO**, Staff Writer

BERWYN—One constant during the roller coaster season for the Conestoga High School football team is its ability to rise to the occasion despite itself. Whatever unwise penalty, poor execution or other unfortunate circumstance comes its way, it usually digs itself out of the hole.

That constant remained Friday evening as senior Aaron Van Horn burst through the line of scrimmage to smother a 21 yard field goal attempt as time expired. The block preserved a 13-12 Central League win over Penncrest High School. The hurried snap hit the ground and Chambers didn't have a chance as his kick hit Van Horn in the chest.

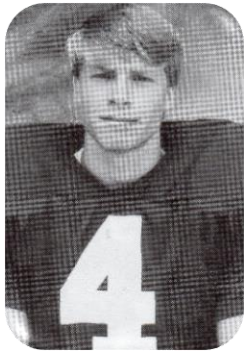
Van Horn's block was redemption for a pass interference and face mask penalty assessed to the Pioneers on Penncrest's last drive. The come-from behind win evened Conestoga's record at 5-5 (4-4) league and was laced with a myriad of subplots that fueled the Pioneers.

For the first time since 1980 and 81' editions, the Pioneers are ensured a shot at back to back winning seasons. And for the seniors that was all they needed as motivation. "That last play felt like our whole season," senior Dave Oliver said.

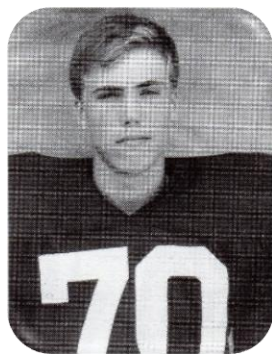
After both teams traded ineffective drives in the first half, Conestoga made adjustments to knot the score at 6-6. Sensing the Lions use of a linebacker blitz, Conestoga moved the ball outside and capitalized on the slashing running style of Troy Brown. Brown opened the second half with a 54-yard run en route to 172 yard day on 17 carries. That run set up a one-yard plunge by Cousin Stevie Brown.

Three plays later, Andrew McGeorge (16-56) drove for a one yard score with 6:26 remaining. With the game on the line, Conestoga coach Robert Novotni went with senior (and long field goal kicker) Ryan McGeorge on the PAT attempt instead of his usual sophomore kicker.

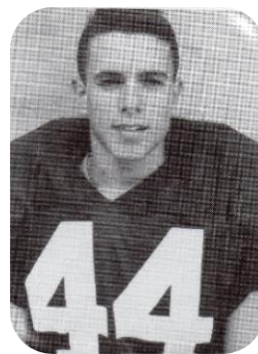
The decision paid off as McGeorge's point after was the difference. "It was a great win and it showed how we pulled together as a team especially after being down in the first half," Van Horn said.



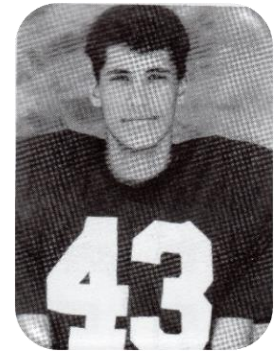
AARON VAN HORN
Captain
 Senior 6-2, 196
 End
 Linebacker



DAVE OLIVER
Captain
 Junior 6-1, 190
 Tackle
 Defensive End



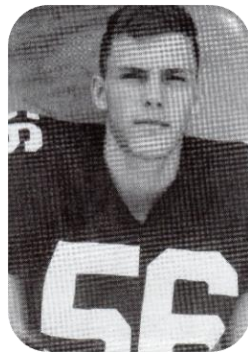
LEWIS BRANDOLINI
 Senior 5-7, 145
 Tailback
 Secondary



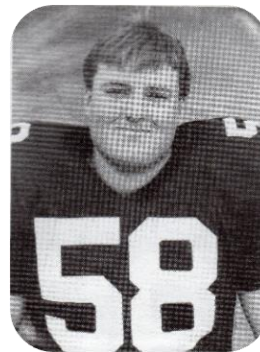
JOSH GUZMAN
 Senior 6-3, 175
 End
 Secondary



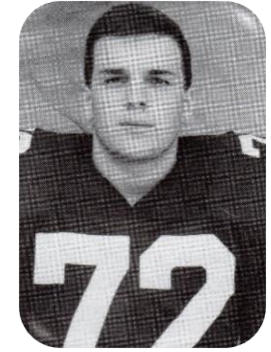
TED BRAUN
 Senior 6-2, 210
 Tackle
 Defensive Tackle



CHRIS SELLERS
 Senior 6-0, 175
 Fullback
 Linebacker



CHRIS CANIZ
 Senior 6-0, 235
 Tackle
 Defensive Tackle



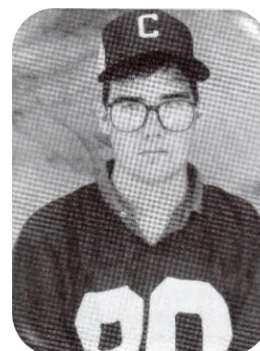
PETE OSGOOD
 Senior 6-1, 210
 Center
 Defensive Tackle



JIM VITRAY
 Senior 5-9, 175
 Guard
 Linebacker



JESSE CHUTE
 Senior 5-10, 150
 End
 Secondary



AARON FLOYD
 Senior
 Manager

Thanksgiving Preview

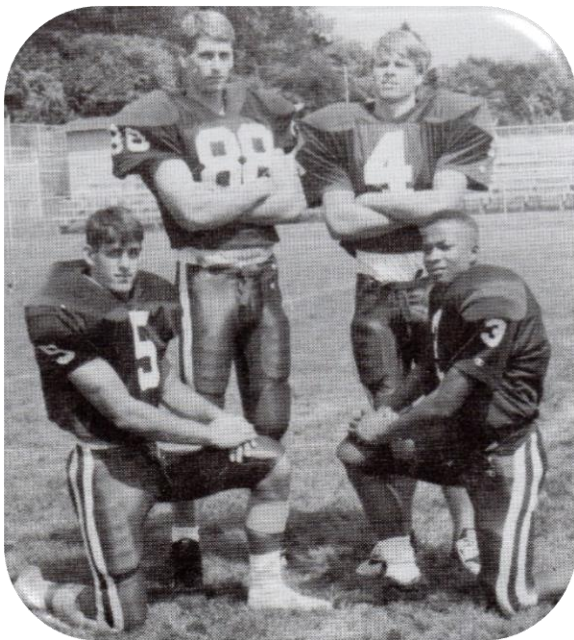
Marple Newtown at Conestoga

Daily Local

November 25, 1992

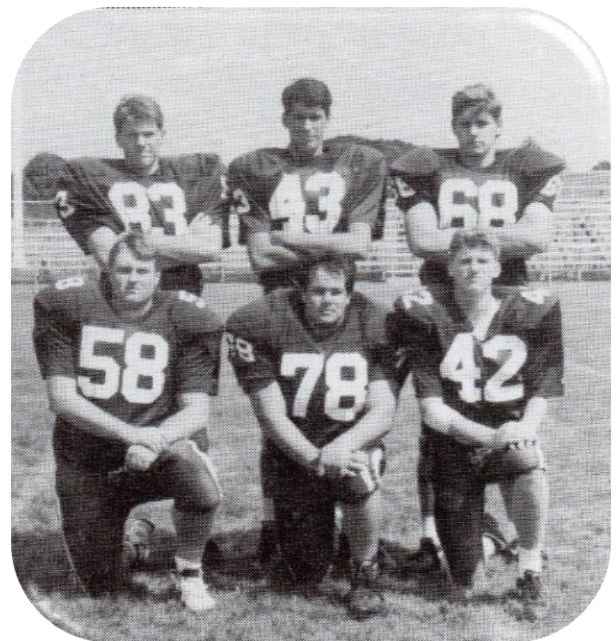
Conestoga (4-4, 5-5) can finish above .500 for the second straight season with a win over Marple Newtown (1-7, 1-10) in their Central League rivalry. The Thanksgiving Day series is tied 7-7-1.

The Pioneers have put together another good season, so they want to finish on a positive note. With Troy Brown, Stevie Brown, and Andrew McGeorge leading the offense, Conestoga should be able to move the ball against Marple on the ground. Troy Brown has rushed for 810 yards, and the Pioneers have averaged 182 yards per game—second in the area to Coatesville.



Captains

Ryan McGeorge #5, Steve Brown #3
Dave Oliver #88, Aaron Van Horn #4



Team Council

Chris Caniz #58, Ollie Knewstub #78,
Brian Zagoli #42, Case Vernon #83,
Josh Guzman #48, Jared Quereau #86

Conestoga rally halted—for lack of a football

Daily Local

November 27, 1992

By **TOM METZ**, Staff Writer

BERWYN—Last year's Conestoga vs. Marple Newtown Thanksgiving football game was remembered for the brawl. This year's game, a 7-0 Marple upset win, will be remembered for the ball---or lack thereof.

With Conestoga on Marple's two-yard line with the final seconds ticking away, the Pioneer players scrambled to line up for the game's final play. The problem was that the previous play, a three-yard pass reception to Troy Brown, ended on the far corner of the field and the ball was never brought back to the center of the field.

Despite the fact that Conestoga's offense was in position to call one more play, time was allowed to run out. The game ended with Conestoga's players and coaches screaming for an official's time-out to put the ball in place.

"Right," said Conestoga coach Bob Novotni, acknowledging his team's complaint. "And when the quarterback is hurt you should stop the game."

Novotni was referring Conestoga's quarterback, Stevie Brown, who was hit at the line of scrimmage on a first down play from Marple's seven-yard line with 48 seconds left and got up very slowly, apparently with a shoulder injury. Time was not called; however, and Brown was forced to play on.

Despite the apparent official's mix-ups at the end of the game, Novotni acknowledged that his team should not have been in a come-from-behind position to begin with against (2-7, 2-10) Marple. "We didn't

play well in the first half," said Novotni. "In the second half I thought we played good football."

Both the Conestoga's possessions in the first quarter ended with turnovers. In the second quarter Conestoga (4-5, 5-6) had two possessions end with punts, one of which was a shank that went out-of-bounds at Stoga's 32-yard line and led to the game's only score, and another end on an unsuccessful fake punt. "We just didn't do what we wanted to do in the first half," said Novotni.

Due to the weather and Conestoga's already chewed up Teamer Field, neither team's offense was particularly successful. In fact the team's offenses combined for less than 200 total yards in a game.

"It takes a while to adjust to the field," said Novotni. "It hurts everybody." Conestoga was able to awaken its passing game a bit in the second half but again, were unable to score. The Pioneers moved past midfield four times in the second half but were turned away each time.

Conestoga's last ditch attempt at pulling out a win came with 2:40 seconds left and began at their 10 yard line. With a winning season hanging in the balance, the Pioneer offense quickly went to work. Two Brown pass completions moved the ball just past midfield with 1:49 left.

Three plays later a Nate Floyd flanker-pass to Aaron Van Horn moved the Pioneers down to the 19-yard line, with 1:11 left. The Pioneers crept to inside Marple's five-yard line before the game ended.

"Time just ran out on us," said Novotni. "I told the kids they had nothing to be ashamed of. They took the ball from their own 10, all the way down to the one-yard line. They didn't quit. That's all we can ask."

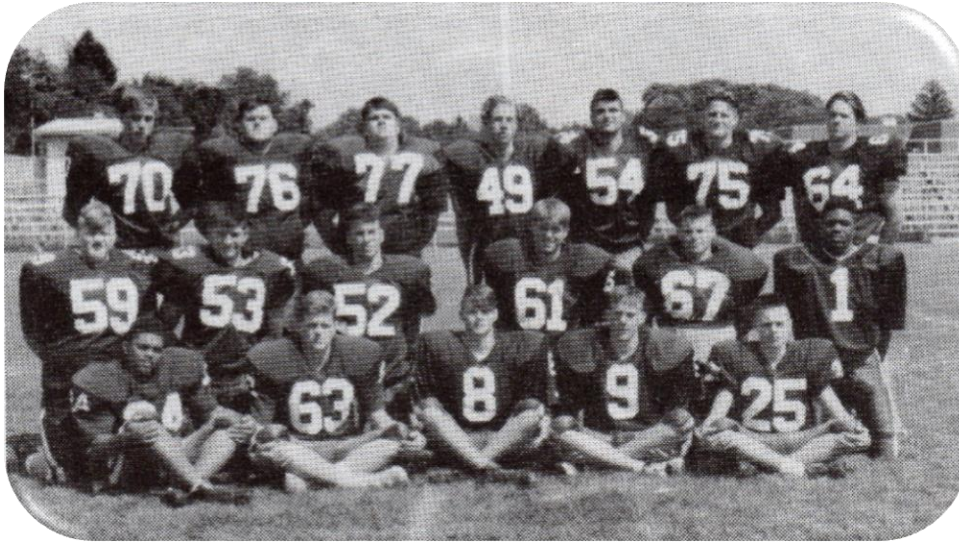
Juniors

Front Row: Jeff Childs,
Matt Norris, Drew Falcone,
Andrew McGeorge,
Justin Cassidy

Middle Row: Taylor Young,
Dave Benedick,
Doug Layman, Pete Kubat,
Jim Simmington, Nate Floyd

Back Row: Dave Oliver,
Vinnie Miller, Heath Harris,
Dave Smith, Arash Bonakdar,
Tom Burns, Brent Effgen

Not Pictured: Lior Keet,
Gary Kiang, Mike Dennis,
Paul Burg



Sophomores

Front Row: Pat Hong,
Jesse Knight, Joe Norcini,
Pete Melchiorre,
Tom Hamilton,
Hurry Phenguath

Middle Row: Shawn Proctor,
Lance Cannon, Mike Leviston,
John Bickel, Alex Hamer, Greg
Cannito, Joe Bliemeyer

Back Row: Tim Brown,
Steve Gersbach, Steve Bradley,
Rob Sprague, Mike Dennis,
Jared Quereau, Eric Ely,
Mike Morey, Todd III

Not Pictured: Josh Schottland,
Matt Fleishman, Dan Morgan



The 1992 Conestoga Football team had a chance to finish above .500 with a Thanksgiving win over perennial opponent Marple Newtown. BUT “ With Conestoga on Marple’s two-yard line with the final seconds ticking away, the Pioneer players scrambled to line up for the game’s final play. The problem was that the previous play, a three-yard pass reception to Troy Brown, ended on the far corner of the field and the ball was never brought back to the center of the field. Despite the fact that Conestoga’s offense was in position to call one more play, time was allowed to run out. The game ended with Conestoga’s players and coaches screaming for an official’s time-out to put the ball in place.” (DLN, 11/27/92)

So the Pioneers ended with a 5 and 6 season. Victories were recorded against Great Valley, Radnor, Springfield, Haverford and Penncrest. Bob Novotini was the head coach. Captains were Ryan McGeorge, Steve Brown, Dave Oliver and Aaron Van Horn. The Team Council consisted of Chris Caniz, Ollie Knewstub, Brian Zagol, Case Vernon, Josh Guzman and Jared Quereau.