

# The 1969 Conestoga Pioneer Football Team Highlights

The 1969 Pioneer football team amassed a record of six wins and four losses for a third place finish in the very competitive Central League. Of course, their major accomplishment was a Thanksgiving Day 32-6 trouncing of the West Chester Warriors to conclude their most victorious decade of Turkey Day wins since the 1910's. Earlier they defeated Upper Darby, 14-0; Radnor, 22-16; Lower Merion, 36-19; Springfield, 13-12; Marple-Newtown, 26-12.

Captain Corky Foster, as quarterback, led the attack, and he doubled on defense at safety. Senior Rich Carter and junior Glenn Capriola were the workhorses on the ground. Tim Barrett, Tom Bucci, and Rick Stratton were the go-to men for Foster's aerials. The offensive front line: Center Bruce Upper, Guards Carl Huling and Steve Schindler, and Tackles Jim Pettia and Pete Ingersoll.

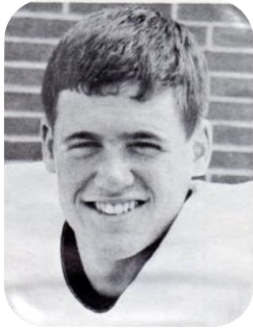
The defensive line: Guards Carl Huling and Steve Schindler, Tackles Jim Pettia and Pete Ingersoll, Ends Mike Young and Dave Anderson. Linebackers were Mark Pace and Tim Barrett. Defensive secondary were Foster, Pete Strong and Bob Chandler.



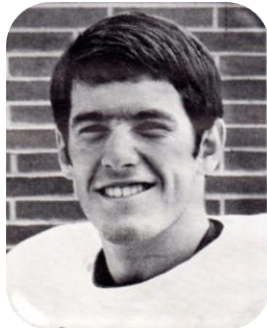
Bill Paolantonio entered his 15<sup>th</sup> season as the Pioneers head coach. Tom Keyser, one-time West Chester State College Rams linebacker and center, started his third year as line coach. Harry Golden, who starred as a guard at Yale, began his sixth term as line coach. Clarence Culpepper, former linebacker at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a VPI defensive coach, made his debut as the overall defensive coach. Pictured left to right are: Keyser, Paolantonio, Golden, Culpepper.

# Backfield Holds Key to Pioneers' Fate

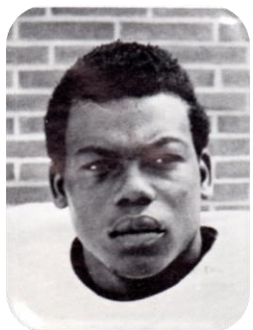
Daily Local News Football Preview  
September 18, 1969



Bob "Corky" Foster



Jeff Thorne



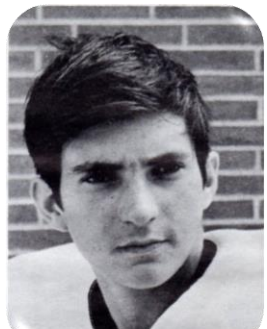
Rich Carter



Bob Chandler



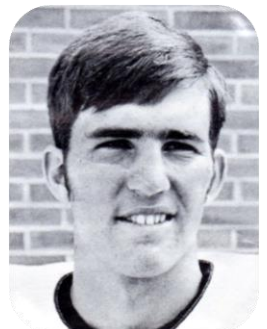
Tim Barrett



Tom Bucci



Frank Marcantonio



Bruce Upper

Bill Paolantonio's Pioneers finished in undisputed possession of second place in the Central Conference last year with a 6-1-1 record, and they completed a 7-2-1 overall season with a decisive 27-7 triumph over a high-scoring West Chester eleven.

It was Paolantonio's best year since his 1961 team finished second to Pottstown (10-0) with a 9-1 mark. The previous year saw Conestoga post a 9-0-1 record for the Ches-Mont championship and the school's first undefeated season since 1934.

Ever since the school district split in which Great Valley was formed and gained almost the entire returning Pioneer line in 1962 and Conestoga entered a stronger Suburban II league, Paolantonio has been trying to rebuild his dynasty that won four Ches-Mont titles between 1955 and 1960.

Then came the organization of the Central Conference in 1967, and Conestoga showed promise with a 4-3-1 record. Last year, the Pioneers only lost to league champ Haverford as quarterback Corky Foster engineered a powerful Conestoga offense centered around halfbacks Todd Parrish and Butch Smith.

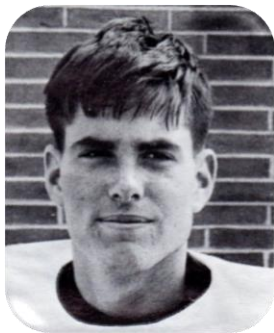
Foster returns at quarterback, but Parrish and Smith have graduated. Jeff Thorne (5-6, 140) and Rich Carter (5-9, 16) are Conestoga's running backs for 1969. Both are quick-starting, shifty runners who like to carry the ball.

Foster is an astute quarterback who led the Pioneers to 215 points last season for a 21.5 per game average. "He's not fancy, but he gets the job done," explained Paolantonio, who rates Foster highly as a team leader. "He is best in the option play because he's a very strong runner. I just hope he can throw the pass when we need it."

## 11 Lettermen Back

Foster, Thorne and Carter are only three of 11 lettermen that Conestoga has returning. Other returning lettermen include number two QB Bob Chandler; ends Tim Barrett, Tom Bucci and Frank Marcantonio; center Bruce Upper; tackle Scott Dittimore, and guards Carl Huling and Guy Calloway. With this base, Paolantonio should be able to build a team that is strong enough to challenge Haverford and Ridley for the Central Conference title.

Conestoga's always rugged line will be anchored by three-year starter Bruce Upper (6-3, 205) at center and a *good, dependable* guard in Calloway (5-11, 190). Huling a small (5-9, 165) has the edge for the other guard spot. Dittimore (6-2, 190), junior Rick Bent (6-2, 205), junior Pete Ingersoll (5-11, 200) and senior Dave Wells (6-3, 205) are in a drag-out fight for the two tackle spots.



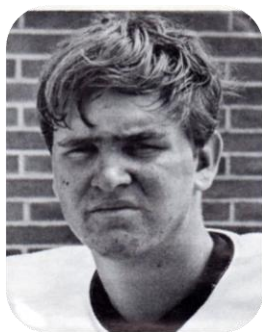
Scott Dittmore



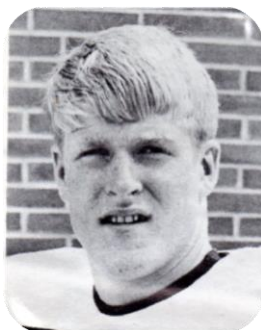
Carl Huling



Guy Calloway



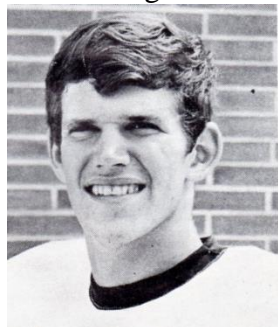
Rick Bent



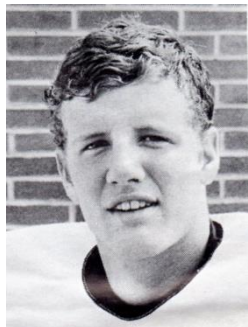
Pete Ingersoll



Dave Wells



Mike Young



Pete Strong

Paolantonio describes Barrett (5-10, 180) as a “good, tough kid who plays well on defense and is an outstanding blocker,” Barrett will play one end, while sophomore Mike Young (5-10, 150) battles Bucci (5-11, 170) for the other end spot. “Bucci is taller and has better hands, while Young should definitely assume a defensive end position.”

### Pioneers Have Depth

Conestoga also has excellent depth at most of its offensive position and may need it despite Paolantonio’s extensive conditioning period at the start of pre-season practice. “I’ve never seen so many crazy little injuries like jammed fingers and so on. We have also had almost everyone out at one time or another with a virus. They are back in two days, but they feel all washed out.”

Huling is just returning from a lengthier illness and may watch sophomore Steve Schindler (6-1, 180) start the season opener against Nether Providence on Friday. Paolantonio has also been impressed with senior end Charles Hable (out with broken thumb); sophomore tackles Chris Edwardson, John Ramsey and Steve Gibson (out with injured ankle), guards Chris Zaro and Pete Melchiorre and center Mark Pace.

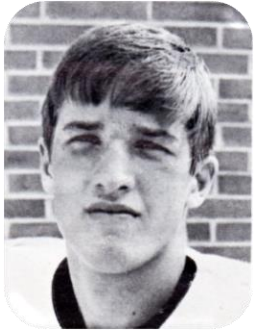
In the backfield, Chandler has seen his share of varsity action and is a good passer and runner. Pete Strong (5-10, 160) and Glenn Capriola, a sophomore, should see a good deal of running duty. Juniors Rusty Piersons and Bob Sullivan have also looked good in practice.

Conestoga’s main problem will be forcing its linemen to do double duty. Barrett is already charged for a defensive end role, while Young will replace offensive end Bucci. Sophomore Schindler may have earned an important senior guard spot, while the four-way tackle battle could nicely break down to an advantageous two offensive and two defensive arrangement.

Thorne and Upper are scheduled to play linebacker, while Ed Battisfore, a sophomore, will be used strictly as a defensive halfback.

With an 88-40-9 record since taking the Pioneer controls 15 years ago, Paolantonio has turned out many fine teams. The 11 returning lettermen should provide Conestoga with another winning season, but the backfield’s play will determine how closely the Pioneers battle Haverford and Ridley for the conference crown.

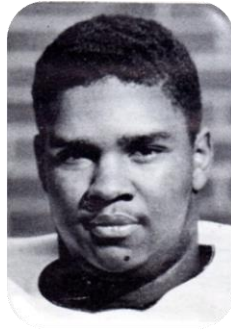
# ***Daily Local Football Preview***



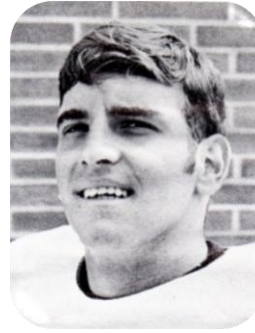
Steve Schindler



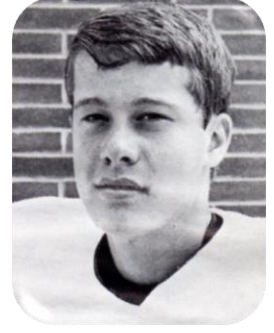
Charles Hable



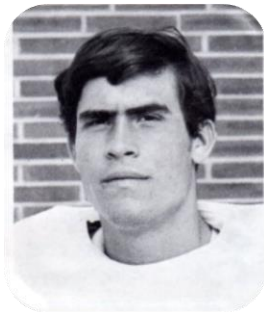
Steve Gibson



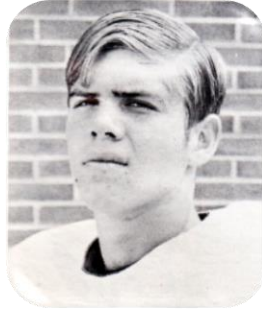
Pete Melchiorre



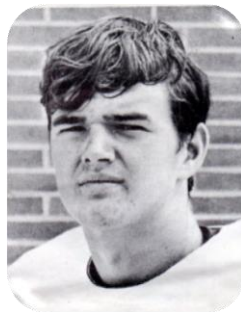
Mark Pace



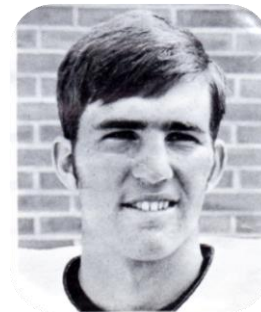
Glenn Capriola



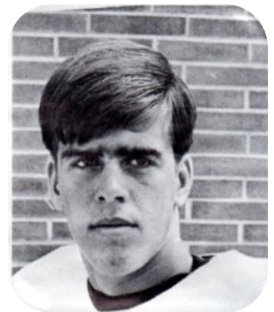
Rusty Pierson



Bob Sullivan



Bruce Upper



Ed Battisfore

## **Conestoga vs. Nether Providence**

Friday September 19, 1969

13-7 Loss

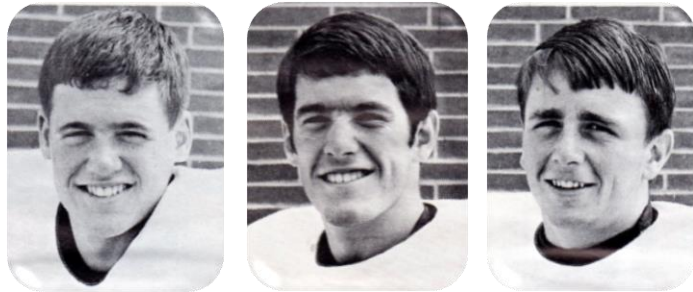
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# Conestoga Recovers Six Fumbles in Topping Upper Darby, 14-0

## *Junior, Sophomores Lead Revised Pioneer Defense in Win*

By ERIC WORTH  
(Of the Local News Sports Staff)  
October 4, 1969

Conestoga's Corky Foster threw a 25-yard touchdown pass to Jeff Thorne with 14 seconds left in the first half, and Tim Barrett recovered one of six Upper Darby fumbles for a fourth-quarter TD as the Pioneers blanked the Royals, 14-0, last night before 3,500 at Teamer Field in Berwyn.



Corky Foster

Jeff Thorne

Tim Barrett

Junior Dave Anderson and sophomores Steve Schindler, Mike Young and Ed Battsfore led a greatly revised Conestoga defensive unit that cracked into Upper Darby running backs to produce four of the six fumbles. Young and Anderson also contributed heads-up defensive plays that led to the Pioneers first touchdown.

### **First Touchdown Set-up**

Conestoga's sputtering offense had gained only 47 yards and two first downs including just 14 yards rushing. Foster had completed two of six passes for the other 27 yards on 11 and 16-yard tosses to halfback Rick Stratton. Thorne lined up as a flanker on the right side and ran a long, down-and-out pattern. Foster delivered the ball beautifully for a 19-yard gain as Thorne was pushed out-of-bounds at the Upper Darby 25 with 20 seconds remaining.

### **Same Play**

Coach Bill Paolantonio rushed word to Foster to come back with the exact same play. Foster did, and the Royals' defense failed to adjust in the last-minute excitement. Thorne had just crossed the goal line when he turned to receive another well-thrown pass, joggled the ball once, and then hugged it as he turned away from the UD defense man. Frank Marcantonio, easily booted his first of two extras points.

### **Barrett Scores**

Conestoga's clinching score came on a fourth-period punt, which Foster boomed from his own 48-yard line. The Upper Darby punt returner tried to haul down the ball as it sailed over his head. The ball hit him and started bouncing around inside the 10-yard line. Sophomore Chris Zaro grabbed the ball in the end zone with a flying dive, but the ball squeezed under his right arm when he hit the ground. Senior end Barrett made sure of his recovery effort for the touchdown. Marcantonio added the PAT.

Barrett had two fumble recoveries. Stratton caught two first-period passes for 27 yards and ran the ball twice for 13 yards. Sophomore Capriola has proven to be the Pioneers' most potent running back through the first two games as he gained 34 yards on 10 carries. Senior Rick Carter, who has injured his shoulder twice in the past two weeks, ran hard to pick up 19 yards on 11 tries. QB Bob Chandler gained 15 yards on five tries including three QB sneaks at the game's end.

"Our defense did an outstanding job, especially the sophomores," said Paolantonio. "There was one good thing about this game and that was we didn't have any injuries."

### **Foster Booms Punts**

Another big plus for the Pioneers was the punting of Foster, who boomed tow 53-yard kicks and a 35-yard kick from scrimmage. Foster's punt that Barrett recovered for Conestoga's second touchdown traveled over 50-yards in the air.

# Conestoga Nips Radnor, 22-16

## Young, Anderson Star; Thorne Scores Twice

*Daily Local News*  
October 11, 1969

"I was sure glad to see that clock run out," said Bill Paolantonio after his sputtering Conestoga offense had exploded for 307 yards, and then had to depend on two underclass defensive ends to protect a 22-16 victory over a revitalized Radnor eleven yesterday afternoon at Radnor.

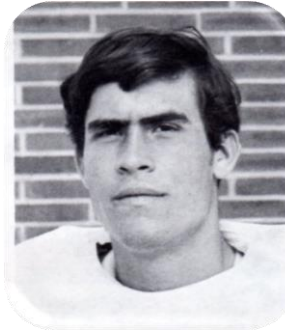


**HALFBACK JEFF THORNE**, who scampered for 125 of the Pioneers' 253 yards gained rushing, actually *fumbled* his way around right end and took off on a 60-yard touchdown sprint, then swept 15 yards around left end for another second-quarter TD. Conestoga, which dominated the first half with a 9-2 advantage in first downs and a 207-39 bulge in total yardage, also earned a first-period safety to take a 15-0 halftime lead.

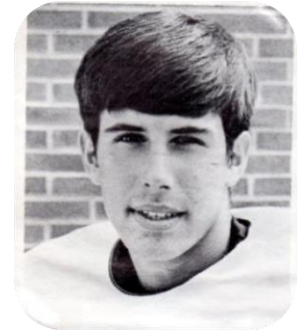
Radnor scored late in the third period. Still leading, 15-8, with 3:40 left in the third period, Conestoga took Radnor's onside kick at the midfield strip and marched in for another six-pointer. Thorne hit the right side of the Radnor line for seven and four yards and a first down at the 40. With a second and 11 at the 41 – due to an illegal procedure penalty, quarterback Corky Foster completed a pass to tight end Tim Barrett for a 23-yard advance to the Radnor 18. Barrett made a great catch on the play sprinting to the right sideline.

1969 Conestoga High School Football Highlights

### Increase Lead



**Glenn Capriola**



**Frank Marcantonio**

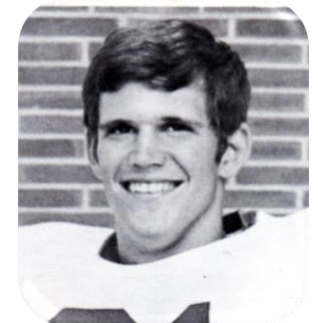
Two plays later, sophomore running back Glenn Capriola dashed around the Raider defense on a 15-yard touchdown jaunt with two seconds left in the third period. Frank Marcantonio booted his second of three extra points to give Conestoga a 22-8 advantage.

Radnor scored again to cut their deficit to 22-16 with 3:32 left in the fourth period. Conestoga could not move after the onside kick, and they punted. Radnor returned the ball to their 38, and in three plays, they moved the ball to the Conestoga 38.

### End Radnor Rally



**Dave Anderson**



**Mike Young**

That was as far as Radnor moved. Defensive ends Dave Anderson, a junior, and Mike Young, a sophomore, took charge to save Conestoga's second Central Conference victory. Young tripped up the Raider fullback Kevin Baker for a yard loss as he skirted left end. Anderson rushed the Raider QB Mike Jackman and hung on with one hand to pull him off-balance. Jackman then fired a screen pass on third down, but Young tackled the Baker and hung on as he tried unsuccessfully to break free. Conestoga took over on downs. Foster, Throne and Carter then helped run the ball for three first downs to runout the clock.

### Conestoga's Scoring

Conestoga scored first on a first-period safety as QB Jackman was smothered by six Pioneers. They

scored their first touchdown in the second period after receiving a punt at their own 40. On the next play, Thorne fumbled with a Foster pitch, chased it to the right sideline, found the corner open and scampered down the sidelines on a 60-yard scoring sprint. Marcantonio added the PAT for a 9-0 lead.

Conestoga drove 58 yards for the second TD behind a 31-yard halfback pass, which Thorne lobbed to

flanker Rick Stratton for a first down at the Radnor 22. On third down, Thorne turned the left end behind a great block by Carter and flipped into the end zone.

Thorne was the Pioneers' leading rusher with 125 yards gained on 11 carries, while Foster, Capriola and Carter all ran well. Carter gained 40 yards on nine carries, Capriola had 39 yards on nine attempts, and Foster added 34 yards on 10 rushes.

## **Conestoga Falls to Ridley, 20-0**

*Daily Local News*  
October 20, 1969

Ridley captured their fourth straight Central Conference game with a 20-0 victory over a stubborn Conestoga eleven on Saturday afternoon at Ridley. Ridley outgained Conestoga, 391-196 in total yardage. The Pioneer passing game faltered as Corky Foster only completed four passes for 47 yards. The rushing attack held up better with 149 yards, led by Foster's 40 yards on 12 carries. Rick Stratton carried four times for 30 yards, Rich Carter carried eight times for 25 yards, and Jeff Thorne added 18 yards on 10 carries.

Trailing 6-0 late in the first half, Conestoga moved deep into Green Raiders territory twice, but they were unable to score. Conestoga threatened again in the fourth period, but could not penetrate inside the Raiders' 10-yard line.

## **Pioneers Bow to Fords, 35-8**

*Daily Local News*  
October 25, 1969

Haverford High's quarterback Steve Joachim, who was a pre-season pick by Kickoff Magazine for *Schoolboy All-American*, completed 19 of 30 passes for 197 yards including three touchdown passes. It was Haverford's fifth straight win of the season.

Conestoga outrushed Haverford, 138-136, but it was out gained in first downs and in total yards. Sophomore Glenn Capriola was the Pioneers' leading rusher with 53 yards gained on 11 carries, while Rick Stratton ran five times for 47 yards. QB Corky Foster carried eight times for 38 yards, and he completed three passes for 33 yards. Foster intercepted a Joachim pass, and he returned it 85 yards for the Pioneer's only score.

## **Conestoga vs. Lower Merion**

Saturday, November 1, 1969  
**Conestoga Victory,  
36-19**

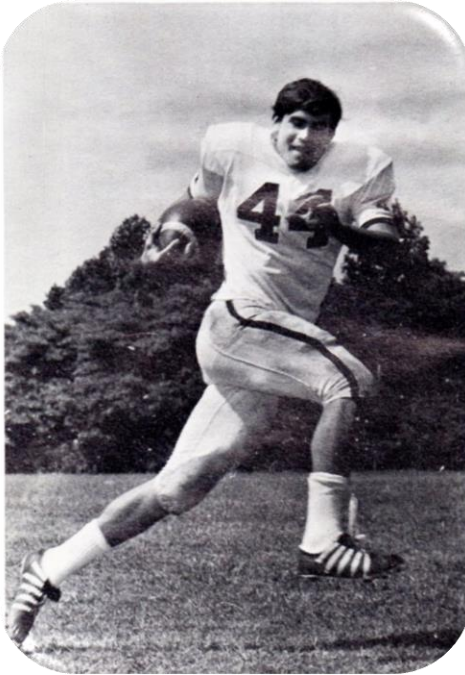
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## **Capriola Scores Two TD's**

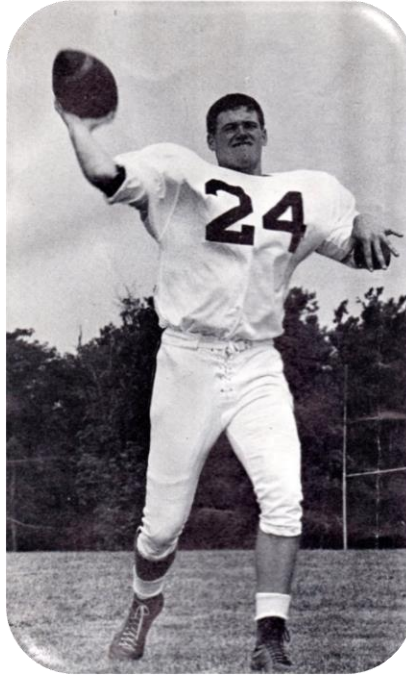
# **Conestoga Rally Clips Springfield, 13-12**

*Daily Local News*  
November 10, 1969

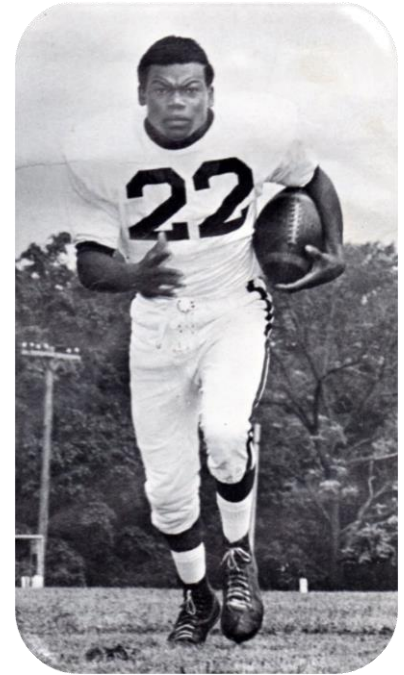
Conestoga sophomore Glenn Capriola scored two touchdowns in the fourth quarter following key interceptions by Corky Foster and Rich Carter to win a 13-12 squeaker in Saturday's contest at Springfield. The victory elevated coach Bill Paolantonio's Pioneers (4-2) into a third-place tie with Central League rival Upper Darby (4-2).



**Running Back Glenn Capriola**



**Quarterback "Corky" Foster**



**Running Back Rich Carter**

### **Springfield Leads**

Springfield dominated Conestoga with a 16-8 edge in first downs and a convincing 287-143 margin in total yards gained for the first three periods. The Cougars held a 12-0 half time lead.

### **Foster Interception Sets Up Capriola Scores**

Trying to move his Cougars in the fourth period, the Cougar QB threw a down-and-out pass. Foster intercepted it at midfield, and he returned the ball to the Springfield 40. Conestoga started its second

deep penetration into Springfield territory when Capriola broke through a hole at the right guard and bolted for 17 yards to the Springfield four. Capriola then used the same hole over right guard for a touchdown on the next play. Frank Marcantonio kicked the point after to provide Conestoga with a winning opportunity, 12-7.

### **Carter Interception Sets Up Capriola's Second Score**

Springfield put the ensuing kickoff in play at the 20, and they began a march that moved across

midfield. Looking for the clinching touchdown, the Cougar QB threw a long pass, but Carter intercepted at the eight-yard line and returned the ball to the 36. Capriola circled right end for 18 yards, and Foster rolled out around left end for 11 more yards as Conestoga drove to the Springfield three-yard line. With four minutes left, Capriola drove off right tackle for the winning touchdown.

Capriola had 13 carries for 79 yards. Carter had six carries for 25 yards.



## Seeks Third Place

# Conestoga Visits Marple-Newtown

*Daily Local News*  
November 14, 1969

Conestoga has a definite inside track on Penncrest and Upper Darby for third place in the Central League. A Garnet and Gray victory over Marple-Newtown tomorrow would give the Pioneers outside hopes of catching second-place Haverford.

Conestoga has put together a two-game winning streak: The Pioneers downed Lower Merion, 36-19, two weeks ago, then escaped with a 13-12 squeaker against

Springfield last week as sophomore running back Glenn Capriola scored two fourth quarter touchdowns following interceptions by Corky Foster and Rich Carter.

### **Leading Rusher**

The 5-11, 170-pound Capriola has been the Pioneer's leading ball carrier in the past three games with 226 yards gained in 37 attempts for a 6.1 average. The sophomore back also scored a touchdown in the Lower Merion game besides picking up 94 yards rushing.

Seniors Carter and Jeff Thorne will be the other two running backs who will alternate in Paolantonio's pro-offense backfield with Foster at quarterback and Rick Stratton alternating at the flanker spot with Thorne.

### **Carter Is Other Threat**

Carter was the other effective Conestoga runner in last week's Springfield game with 25 yards on six carries. Carter gained 56 yards on 10 tries and scored on a 10-yard run against Lower Merion.

## Conestoga Wins, 26-12

# Foster's 85-yard Kickoff Return Jolts M-N

## *Third Place in League*

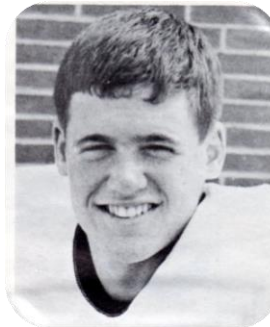
### **Standings**

*Daily Local News*  
November 17, 1969

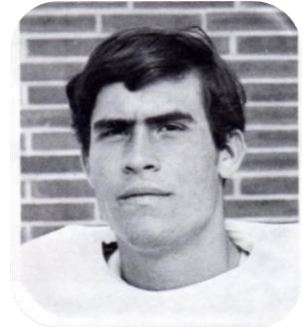
Quarterback Corky Foster returned a kickoff 85 yards for a first-quarter touchdown that sparked Conestoga to a 26-12 victory over Marple-Newtown Saturday at Newtown Square. The Pioneers (5-2) took sole possession of third place in the Central League.

Marple-Newtown had just tied the score at 6-6 in the first period when Foster burst down the right sidelines for 85 yards with the ensuing kickoff for the touchdown that broke the game open. Sophomore halfback Glenn Capriola scored his second touchdown of the game in the second period to provide coach Bill Paolantonio's team with a 20-6 halftime advantage.

Marple-Newtown scored their second touchdown of the game following the second half kickoff to narrow the Pioneers' margin to 20-12. But senior halfback Rich Carter broke free for a 22-yard scoring run later in the same quarter for the clinching touchdown.



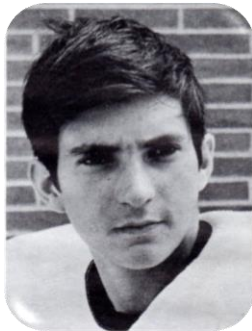
**Quarterback**  
**CORKY FOSTER**



**Running Back**  
**GLENN CAPRIOLA**

M-N did not get far with the opening kickoff and punted to the Conestoga 44. Foster, who found left end Tom Bucci on a down-and-out pattern for a 26-yard gain, fueled a 56-yard drive. Capriola plunged the final three yards for the touchdown, giving the Pioneers a 6-0 lead.

M-N returned the kickoff to their 49-yard line. And they scored on a 51-yard drive to tie the score.



**Junior End  
TOM BUCCI**



**Senior Guard  
JIM PETTIA**

**Foster's 85-yard Return**

Marple's Bob Martin kicked off, and Foster took the kick at his own 15. The Conestoga QB broke between two tacklers at the 30-yard line, then scampered untouched along the right sidelines as the Pioneers set up an extremely effective blocking wall. Marcantonio added the PAT to give Conestoga a 13-6 lead after the first period.

M-N put Conestoga's kickoff in play at the 30, but their QB fumbled, and Jim Pettia recovered at the 23-yard line. Carter carried four consecutive times for 17 yards, and then Capriola added another yard before busting over right guard for the touchdown and a Conestoga halftime lead 19-6.

**Marple-Newtown Rallies**

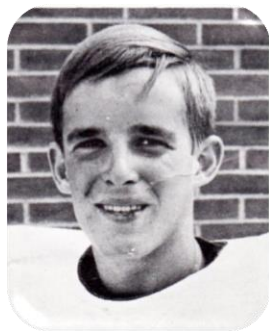
Martin took Conestoga's second-half kickoff and raced 55 yards to the Pioneer 30-yard line. In two plays, Marple scored.

**Punting Game**

Jeff Thorne returned Martin's short kickoff, but the Pioneers couldn't move the ball, and they punted to the M-N 30. M-N couldn't move the football either, and they booted it back to Conestoga's 37. Conestoga moved into Marple-Newtown territory, but then Foster punted to the home teams' five-yard line. The Pioneers held M-N, and then threw a tremendous fourth down rush at the punter Martin. His kick only traveled 17 yards. On the first play from scrimmage, Carter swept left end and scored the insurance touchdown. Final score 26-12.



**PETE STRONG**  
5-9, 160  
Running Back



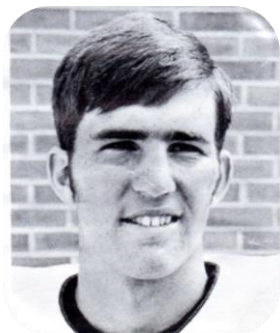
**BOB CHANDLER**  
5-8, 155  
Quarterback



**RICK STRATTON**  
5-9, 155  
Running Back



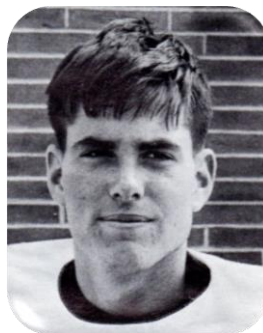
**CARL HULING**  
5-9, 165  
Guard



**BRUCE UPPER**  
6-3, 205  
Center



**DAVE WELLS**  
6-2, 210  
Tackle



**SCOTT DITTMORE**  
6-2, 190  
Tackle



**GUY CALLOWAY**  
5-11, 190  
Guard

# Penncrest Stuns Conestoga, 27-12

**Daily Local News**  
**November 24, 1969**

Halfback Bob Hoopes scored three touchdowns as Penncrest blasted Conestoga, 27-12, Saturday on a muddy Penncrest field. The Lions tied the visiting Pioneers for third place in the Central League standings.

The Lions scored two TD's before Conestoga's Glenn Capriola scored on a one-yard dive in the first period. The Pioneers pulled to a 14-12 score with 3:07 left in the game as Capriola again scored on a short run. But Penncrest exploded for two quick touchdowns to make the final 27-12.

Capriola gained 55 yards on 16 carries. Rich Carter had 40 yards on eight tries, and quarterback

Corky Foster added 28 yards on 12 carries. Foster connected on five of 13 passes for 112 yards.

## **Conestoga's First TD**

Foster returned the Penncrest kickoff 27 yard to the Penncrest 45, and the Pioneers drove the rest of the way in nine plays. Foster dropped back to pass with third-and-six at the Lion 30, and then he scrambled up the middle for 17 yards to keep the drive alive. Capriola went off tackle for seven yards, and Foster sneaked for a first down at the three. Capriola scored two plays later over left guard.

## **Conestoga's Second TD**

A short punt by Penncrest gave the Pioneers the ball at the Lions' 37. Capriola carried four times for 22 yards in the drive, scoring on a

three-yard run around right end. The Pioneers used the same sweep to seek a tie, but the Lions' defensive halfbacks protected the 14-12 lead. The Lions recovered Conestoga's inside kick, and they scored two plays later to make the score 21-12.

## **Pioneers Attempt Come Back**

Foster rifled a 17-yard pass to Rick Stratton, and then he threw a 26-yard bomb to Carter to move to the Penncrest 17 before a fourth-down pass went incomplete with 46 seconds left. The Lions QB immediately hit for a quick look-in pass and surprised the Conestoga defense, which was looking for a running play. Final score 27-12.



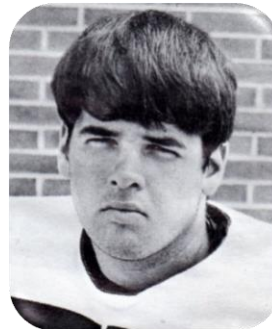
**PETE MELCHIORRE**

5-8, 170  
Guard



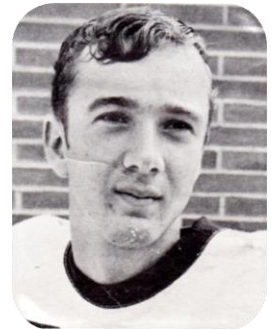
**JIM SPINELLI**

5-9, 170  
Tackle



**DAVE FILLIPPO**

5-11, 220  
Tackle



**CHARLES HABLE**

6-2, 160  
End

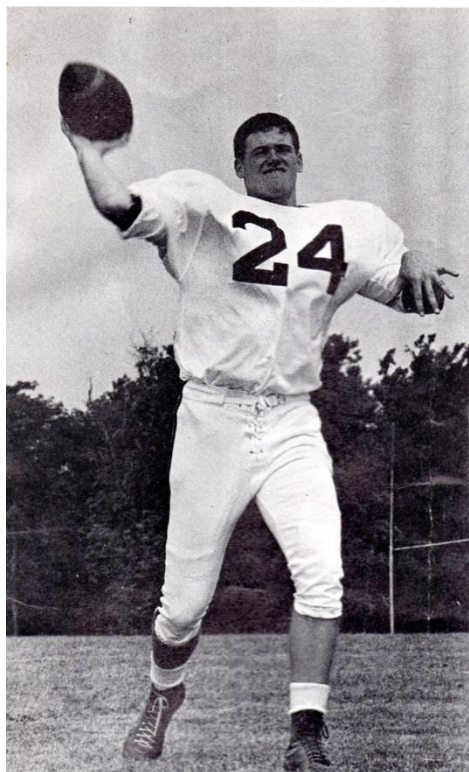
# Foster Returns, Piloted Conestoga to 1968 Win

## Conestoga Seeks Eighth Win of Decade

By ERIC WORTH

(Of the Local News Sports Staff)

November 26, 1969



West Chester players will recognize one familiar face at Conestoga's Teamer Field tomorrow morning or at least the Warriors will remember the number 24 he displays on his jersey. *And it won't be because 24 is an unusual number for a quarterback.*

Last year, Corky Foster ran for one touchdown, passed for two others, and then set up another score with a pass interception as Conestoga dumped West Chester, 27-7, at Dicks Stadium. It was a particularly tough loss to take since a West Chester victory would have tied up the 63-game series at 29 wins and five ties apiece.

Conestoga now holds 30-28-5 edge in the traditional Thanksgiving Day appetite-builder and hopes to conclude the most successful decade the Pioneers have had in the competition, which goes back to 1903. A victory tomorrow would give Conestoga a 8-1-1 record for the 1960s which would top the Pioneers' previous high of seven wins and two losses during the 1910s. (There was no game in 1911).

### Has 11-3-1 Record

Coach Bill Paolantonio, who has an 11-3-1 Thanksgiving Day record since taking over as the Pioneers' head coach in 1955, will start Foster and nine other seniors in their final game for the Garnet and Gray. Besides Foster, there will be halfback Rich Carter, alternating flankers Jeff Thorne and Rich Stratton, center Bruce Upper, guard Carl Huling, tackle Jim Pettia, defensive halfbacks Pete Strong and Bob Chandler and place kicker Frank Marcantonio. Also making their final appearance for the Garnet and Gray will be Dave Wells, Guy Calloway, Pete Melchiorre, Jim Spinelli, Dave Fillippo and Charlie Hable.

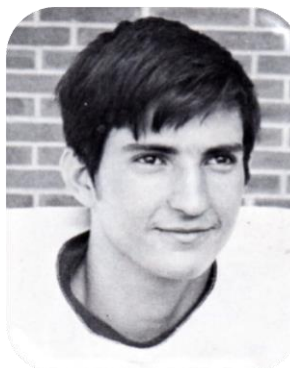
### One-man Show

Last year, Foster started the Conestoga romp by faking a punt at the West Chester 44 and circling right end for a 44-yard touchdown run. The 5-10, 170-pound quarterback followed with a 21-yard touchdown pass to end Tom Bucci and a 12-yard TD aerial to end Bob Berke as the Pioneers built up a 20-0 advantage after three periods. Foster then intercepted a West Chester pass in the fourth quarter and returned it to the Warrior six to set up Conestoga's final touchdown.

### Important In Wins

Foster is again a triple threat in Conestoga's offense with his running, passing and punting. He is able to throw the long pass, and he has achieved a good average gain per carry. Foster has been instrumental in giving Conestoga five wins in nine games. He threw a 19-yard pass, and then a 25-yard TD pass both to Thorne late in the first half to begin a 14-0 win over Upper Darby. He threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score as the Pioneers whipped Lower Merion, 36-19. Foster also sparked a 26-12 win over Marple-Newtown with an 85-yard kickoff return for a TD.

In the Pioneer tradition, the ground game is the bulwark of Conestoga's offense. Carter and sophomore Glenn Capriola are two hard-running halfbacks who can run both inside with power and outside with good speed.



Tom Bucci



Bob Berke

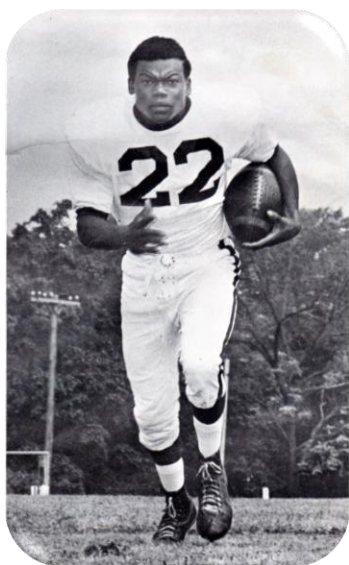
## Thanksgiving Day Preview Continued

### Plagued By Injuries

The 5-9, 160-pound Carter has been plagued by injuries h season, but he has gained some valuable yardage for the Pioneers. He produced 95 yards on 17 carries in a 26-12 victory over Marple-Newtown two weeks ago, and he contributed 56 yards on only 10 running attempts in the victory over Lower Merion. Carter is also good on kickoff returns, and he can play well if needed in the defensive secondary.

### Capriola Pleasant Surprise

Capriola has been a pleasant surprise for Paolantonio. He has led Conestoga's rushing attack six times in nine games. The 5-11, 170-pound sophomore gained 53 yards in 11 carries against a strong Haverford defense, produced 94 yards in 13 carries in the Lower Merion win, scored two touchdowns in a 13-12 triumph over Springfield and carried 16 times for 55 yards in last week's defensive battle with Penncrest. Capriola also backed up Carter's performance against Marple-Newtown with 88 yards rushing on 19 attempts.



**Rich Carter**

### Pass Catching Threat

The 5-6, 140-pound Thorne has been slowed by an injury in recent weeks, but still is a threat on the end of Foster's long passes. Thorne caught those two passes before halftime for 44 yards and a touchdown to help beat Upper Darby, and then he rushed for 125 yards on 11 carries including touchdown runs of 60 and 15 yards to help beat Radnor, 22-16.

### Stratton Strong Runner

The 5-9, 155-pound Stratton has produced some strong running. He gained 30 yards on just four carries and 47 yards in five carries in back-to-back games against Central League powerhouses Ridley and Haverford. He has been especially effective as a pass receiver and on the flanker sweep around end.



**Jeff Thorne**



**Rick Stratton**

## Thanksgiving Day Preview Continued



**Bruce Upper**

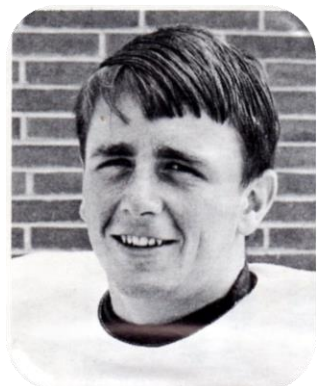


**Carl Huling**  
**Three-year Starter**

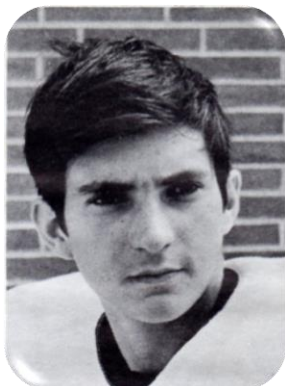


**Jim Pettia**

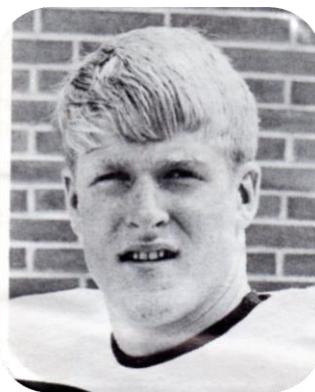
Upper (6-3, 205) is a three-year starter for Paolantonio who is a good blocker on both running and passing plays. Also playing their final game with Upper are Huling and Pettia. Huling is a two-year starter who plays both ways at guard, while Pettia is now performing at both offensive and defensive tackle after returning from an early season knee injury.



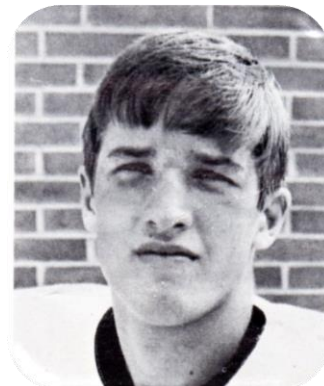
**Tim Barrett**



**Tom Bucci**



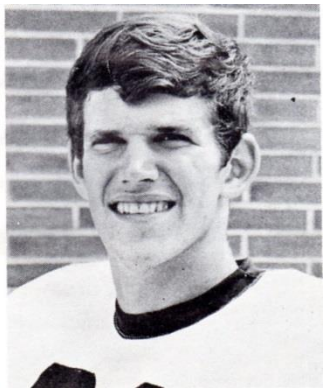
**Pete Ingersoll**



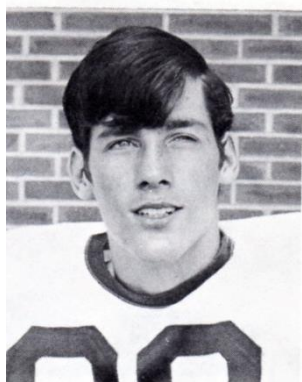
**Steve Schindler**

Rounding out Conestoga's offensive lineup will be junior ends Tim Barrett (5-10, 180) and Bucci (5-11, 170), junior tackle Pete Ingersoll (5-11, 200), and sophomore guard Steve Schindler (6-1, 180).

## Thanksgiving Day Preview Continued



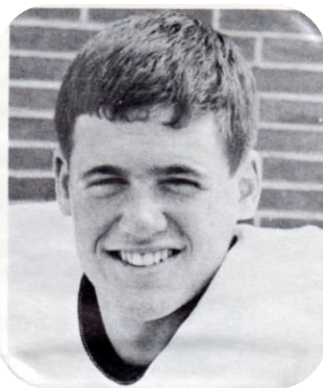
**Mike Young**



**Dave Anderson**



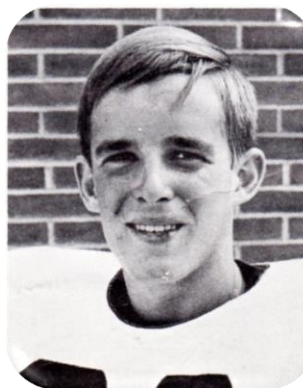
**Mark Pace**



**Corky Foster**



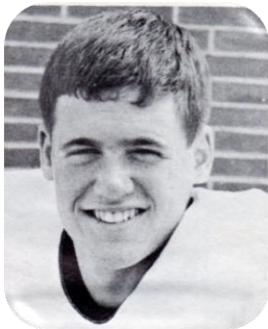
**Pete Strong**



**Bob Chandler**

Huling, Pettia, Schindler and Ingersoll will also start on the Pioneer's defensive line with sophomore end Mike Young (5-10, 150) and junior end Dave Anderson (6-1, 175). Mark Pace, a 5-8, 150-pound junior will be at one linebacker spot beside Barrett, while seniors Foster, Strong and Chandler will man the defensive secondary.

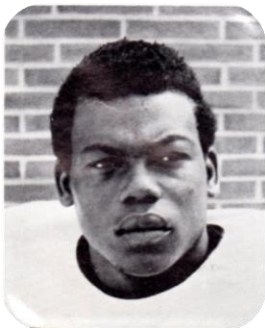
# Pioneers Trounce Warriors, 32-6



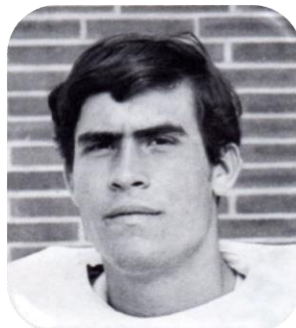
**Bob Foster**



**Coach Paolantonio**



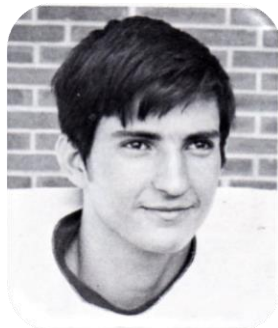
**Rich Carter**



**Glenn Capriola**



**Tim Barrett**



**Tom Bucci**

## ***Conestoga QB Scores One, Tosses for 2 TD's***

By **GEORGE HEASLIP**  
(*Local News Sports Editor*)  
November 28, 1969

Bob Foster only stands [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

5-10, but to Conestoga grid followers, he was ten fee tall yesterday as he led Bill Paolantonio's Pioneers to a convincing 32-6 win over West Chester in the 64<sup>th</sup> revival of the annual Thanksgiving Day classic before a packed house at Teamer Field

The Conestoga captain started the morning on the right foot when he called the coin toss right and kept right on going. He wound up running 30 yards for the first Pioneer score, threw two long touchdown passes and keyed the rugged Conestoga defense by intercepting two West Chester aerials to halt scoring drives. All in all, he carried the ball eight times for 60 yards and hit on five of nine passes for 119 more yards as the Pioneers piled up a total of 346 yards, 228 on the ground to the losers' total of 239.

The big win gave Conestoga a three game bulge in the long series as the count mounted to 31-28-5. It also meant a winning season for Paolantonio as both clubs ended things with 6-4 marks.

The story of the game, as it was in 1968, was Foster. The 170-pound Pioneer signal caller wound up his career in a blaze of glory with some big offensive assists from Rich Carter, sophomore fullback Glenn Capriola and a pair of junior ends, Tim Barrett and Tom Bucci.



# Pioneers Trounce Warriors, 32-6

## Defense Tough

While Foster and company [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

were putting points on the scoreboard in bunches, his defensive teammates were doing an equally good job of containing the Warrior offense. Steve Schindler, a sophomore guard who goes 6-1 and 180, teamed up with tackle Pete Ingersoll, a 5-11, 200-pounder, to continually put pressure on the WC QB. Also standing out on defense for the Pioneers were Jim Forrester and Barrett, who went both ways at end.

Joining Foster in the winners' touchdown parade were Capriola, the tough-running 170-pounder who crashed in from three yards out, Carter, who turned the corner and went 30 yards for the second Pioneer score and the glittering pass-catching duo of Barrett and Bucci.

## A Foster Production

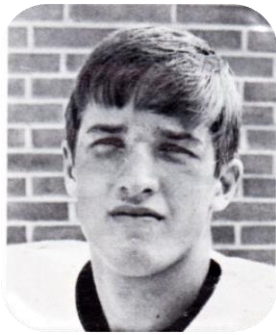
The initial score was practically a Foster production. The standout all-around Conestoga star pounded a beautiful punt out of bounds at the West Chester five yard line, and after the Warriors couldn't move the ball and had to punt, the Pioneers took over on the West Chester 40. Capriola picked up nine plus, and it was second and inches at the 30 when Foster rolled right, picked up a couple of blocks at the line and fled down the sidelines for the score.

The Pioneers upped their margin to 12-0 just 1:34 into the second period when they drove 64 yards in just three plays. Foster moved from his own 36 to the 48 with a nifty run, and then he passed to halfback Rick Stratton who was all alone on the sideline. Stratton went to the 30 for a 22-yard pickup, and on the next

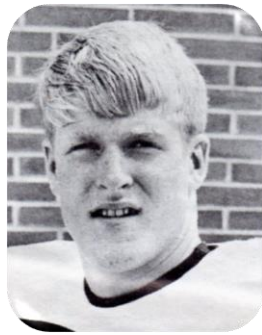
play, Carter turned the corner and out-raced a Warrior defensive back for the end zone.

After that score, the West Chester defense turned tough to make several fine tackles. Seemingly heartened by their defense's play, the Warrior offense also picked up. But, the Pioneer defense stiffened also. Schindler racked up the Warrior QB Curran for a three-yard loss. Curran connected on the next play, but on third down, he missed his target. On a fourth-and-six situation, his pass was completed but the receiver was dropped short of the first down.

Foster and Carter immediately started things moving as the Pioneers drove 72 yards in eight plays. The speedy Carter raced 23 yards on a reverse. In a second-and-16 spot, Foster, with plenty of protection, spotted a wide-open Bucci and hit him with a 42-yarder all the way down to the West Chester 13. It looked as if West Chester was going to halt the drive. However, on third-and-17, Carter swept the left side for 10, and then Foster swung right for a first down at the three. Capriola, who picked up 73 yards on 17 carries during the morning, dove in for the score, and Frank Marcantonio tacked on one of his two PAT kicks. Foster put an end to the first half when he swiped a WC aerial on the final play.



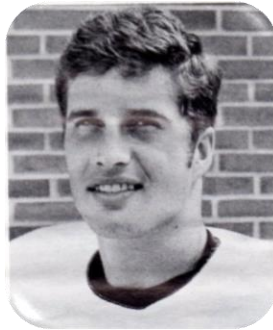
Steve Schindler



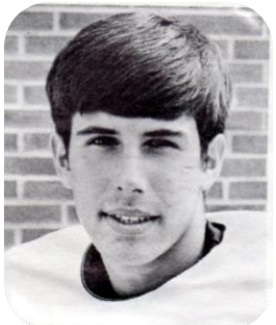
Pete Ingersoll



Jim Forrester



Rick Stratton



Frank Marcantonio



# Pioneers Trounce Warriors, 32-6

## WC Bounces Back

The Warriors temporarily got back in the ball game when they took the second half kickoff and went 78 yards for their score.

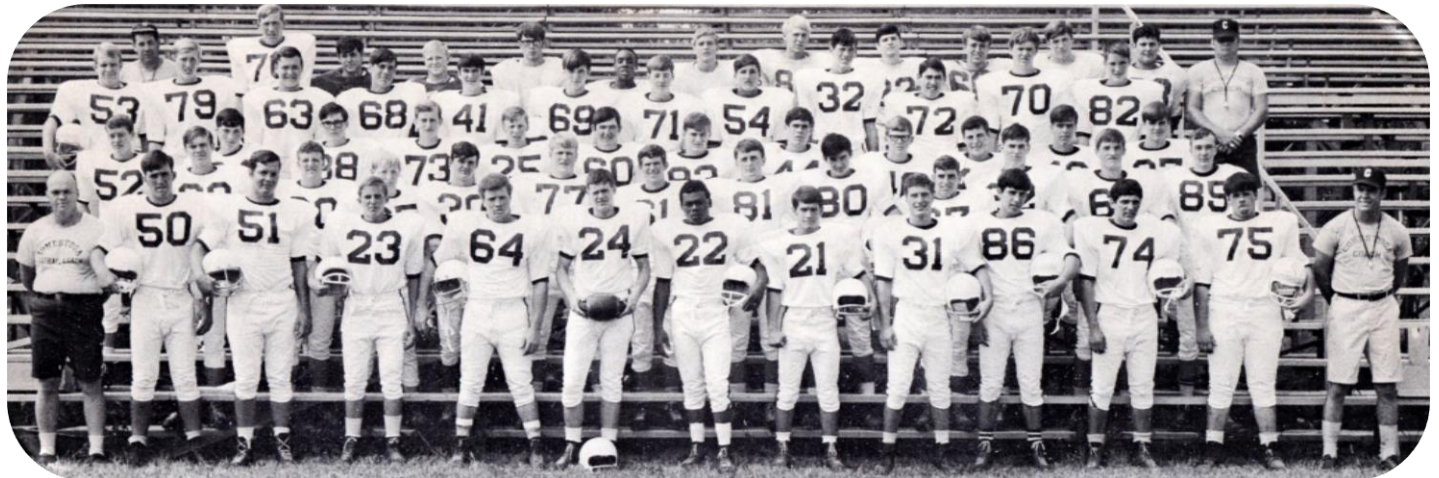
Foster and company weren't through. They marched right back, going 58 yards in 10 plays with Capriola doing much of the heavy work. The hard-running young back ground out 27 yards on four carries in the drive which ended as Foster drilled a beautiful pass to Barrett who caught the ball and went in for the score. The count mounted to 25-6.

Just three plays later, Conestoga put their final points on the scoreboard when they recovered a Warrior fumble. Bucci made a great, leaping grab of a 31-yard Foster aerial in the end zone.

After the ensuing kickoff, the teams exchanged punts. The second time the Warriors had the ball, it looked as if they might score as end Reeve broke to the Pioneer 37 – but he was dragged down by – *who else but Foster*. The Warriors pressed on. However, the Pioneer line smothered QB Curran, and Foster came up with his second interception of the day.

For Paolantonio, the win also meant a winning season, but to Foster it was his day. About the only thing he didn't do was direct the traffic leaving the field after the game. It was a fine way for a young man to wind up an outstanding high school football career.

## 1969 Conestoga High School Football Team



**Front row:** Coach Golden, Bruce Upper, Dave Wells, Bob Chandler, Guy Calloway, Corky Foster, Rich Carter, Rick Stratton, Frank Marcantonio, Jim Spinelli, Dave Fillippo, Coach Culpepper

**Second row:** Rusty Piersons, Pete Strong, Mike Parrish, Bob Sullivan, Pete Ingersoll, Mike Young, Tim Barrett, Tom Bucci, Pete Melchiorre, Scott Dittimore, Steve Schindler, Charles Hable

**Third row:** Mark Pace, Tim Welch, Don Collins, Bob Ford, Earl Smith, Chris Zaro, Mike Hughes, Glenn Capriola, Geoff Osborne, Carl Huling, Ed Battisfore, Mike Lengel

**Fourth row:** Jim Forrester, Chris Edwardson, Jim Pettia, Rick Veley, Jim Dougherty, Bob Schwartz, Ron Capriolo, Tim Gesner, Dave Anderson, Vinnie DiMartini, Rick Bent, Jim Tumilty

**Back row:** Coach Paolantonio, Ken Brown, Steve Rossi, David Chandler, Bruce Gilbert, Craig Deans, Steven Harman, John Beetem, Robbins, Ted Gray, Roger Morehead, Pete Navarro, Coach Keyser

# 1969 Conestoga High School Football Roster

Number	Name	Position	Class	Number	Name	Position	Class
20	Pete Strong	Back	12	63	Jim Pettia	Guard	12
21	Jeff thorne	Back	12	64	Guy Calloway	Guard	12
22	Rich Carter	Back	12	65	Mike Parrish	Guard	11
23	Bob Chandler	Back	12	66	Steve Schindler	Guard	10
24	Bob Foster	Back	12	67	Pete Melchiorre	Guard	12
25	Earl Smith	Back	11	68	Rick Veley	Guard	11
30	Arnie Austin	Back	10	69	Bob Schwartz	Guard	10
31	Rick Stratton	Back	12	71	Ron Capriolo	Guard	10
32	Dave Anderson	End	11	72	Vinnie DiMartini	Tackle	11
33	Rusty Piersons	Back	11	73	Bob Ford	Center	11
34	Tim Welch	Back	10	74	Jim Spinelli	Tackle	12
40	Geoff Osborne	Back	10	75	Dave Fillippo	Tackle	12
41	Jim Dougherty	Back	10	76	Ken Brown	Tackle	10
42	Carl Huling	Guard	12	77	Pete Intersoll	Tackle	11
43	Ed Battsfore	Back	10	79	Chris Edwardson	Tackle	10
44	Glenn Capriola	Back	10	80	Tom Bucci	End	11
50	Bruce Upper	Center	12	81	Tim Barrett	End	11
51	Dave Wells	Tackle	12	82	Jim Tumilty	Back	10
52	Mark Pace	Center	11	83	Mike Hughes	End	11
53	Jim Forrester	Center	11	85	Charles Hable	End	12
54	Tim Gesner	Back	10	86	Frank Marcantonio	End	12
60	Chris Zero	Guard	10	87	Mike Lengel	Tackle	10
61	Mike Young	End	10	88	Don Collins	End	11
62	Scott Ditemore	Tackle	12				