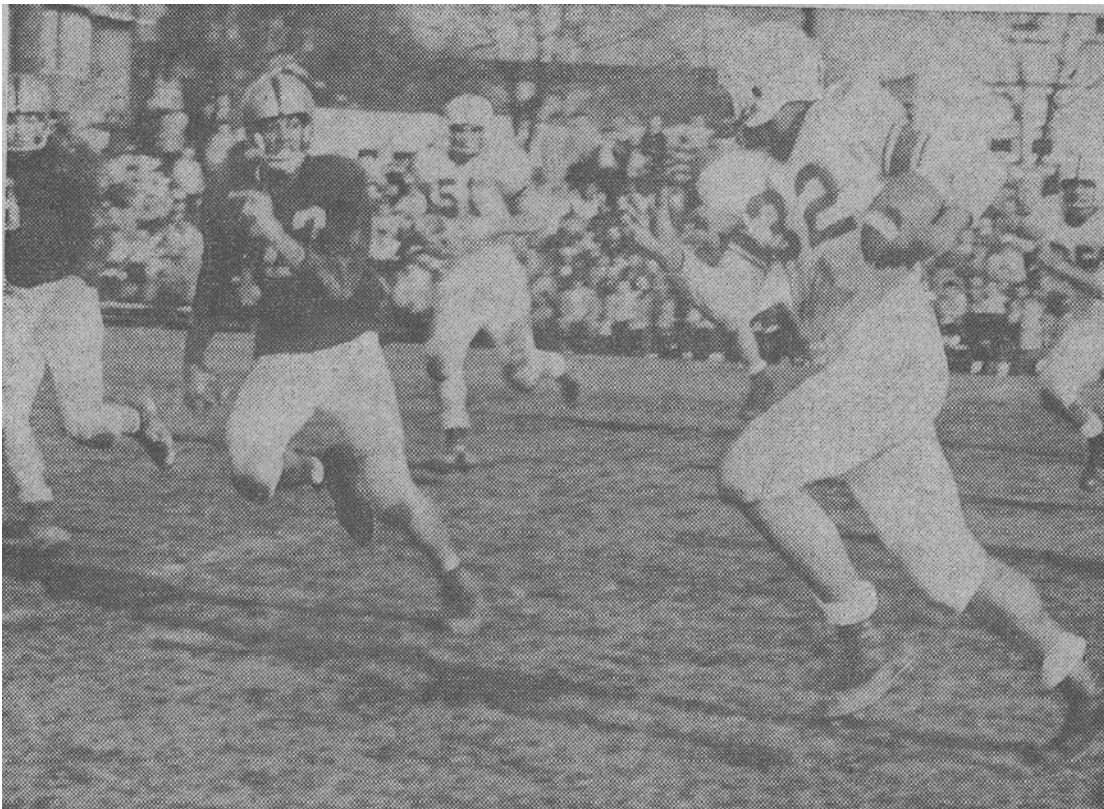


NHS WINS 33-7 FOR PERFECT SEASON



NORRISTOWN THANKSGIVING—'HOLMES, SWEET HOLMES' — Big Charlie Holmes (32), NHS fullback, barrels for one of his numerous gains yesterday at Roosevelt Field. Upper Merion's Moses Scott (22) and Robert Lacy (3.) move in to cut down the flying Eagle, while Phil Knerr (51) hustles to give Charlie that blocking assistance he might need. (*Times Herald Photo*)

Shower and Gifts For Eagle Coaches

It was a wet but pleasant Thanksgiving Day for the Norristown High School football coaching staff. Head mentor Roy Kent and assistants, Paul Zdanowicz, Irv Hess and Leon Martz received the cold shower treatment—fully clothed—from the players.

But shortly after they had emerged, soaking wet, Capt. Bob Eastwood gathered the players together and, on behalf of the team, presented each coach with a pen and pencil set. Taped to the bottom of each gift box was a silver dollar.

Holmes Rushes For 226 Yards Pacing Eagles Over Upper Merion Before Crowd of 10,000; Suber Scores Pair

In the 34 years since 1923 there has been many a winning football season at Norristown High, there has been many a thrilling conquest, but yesterday's 1957 windup victory, 33-7, over Upper Merion, before approximately 10,000 fans at Roosevelt Field, capped the most successful of those 34 campaigns.

It was the climax of an undefeated and untied season, nine straight victories this year for Coach Roy Kent's club, 11 in a row starting with the semi-final game of 1956. It was the ultimate result of coaching, player talent, hard work, great team play and desire.

And in yesterday's finale it was the tremendous effort put forth by a senior full-back making his last game his best game. Big Charlie Holmes, tossing his 210-pound, 6-foot-2 frame around Roosevelt Field with reckless abandon, smashed and slashed his way for 226 yards rushing.

Charlie carried 23 times from scrimmage, and his 226 total gave him an average just shy of 10 yards per carry. His best was a 47-yard bolt up the middle, longest run of the game. He added runs of 29-16-15-14, four of 11 yards and three of 9 yards in his morning's work.

His efforts paced the Eagles to a 22-10 margin in first downs.

Twice the gritty and game Upper Merionites held Holmes to one yard, once they stopped him with a half-yard.

With it all, Charlie scored one touchdown—a nine-yarder in the second quarter that regained the lead for NHS at 13-7.

Willie Suber, whose patented outside romps to the right were well-scouted and well-defended by Upper Merion, moved into scoring territory for two touchdowns.

Willie tabbed the first TD of the game in the second period breaking loose for a 29-yard tally on a screen pass from Stew Percy. In the third period he scored the third touchdown on a 25-yard romp on a pitchout after Percy had cleverly faked the opposition.

Bobby Lee, lone returnee next year from this starting backfield, got into the scoring act with a great catch of a Percy aerial just aside the end zone boundary.

The final TD of the day was executed by two lads who have had to fill the unsung role of secondary defensive players all year—both solid defensive men, incidentally. It was a 19-yard pass play from Frank Bishop to Bob Melnick.

Gene Bishop wound up his career, converting three of five: extra point placement boots.

Coach Ogie Martella's Upper Merion boys gave it the supreme effort all the way. The Spartans had glittering stars—Steve Bednar, Frank Janoski, Ellas Sabre, Carl

Hassinger, Moses Scott and others. But they faced a Norristown eleven that wouldn't be denied the school's finest season in 34 years.

Upper Merion scored the most sparkling touchdown of the day, a 43-yard score in which Bednar broke through for 28 yards, then zipped a lateral to Scott, who went the remaining 15. It put the visitors ahead, 7-6, at the time.

The first quarter was a constant exchange of fumbles. The field wasn't wet, the ball wasn't slippery and the tackling wasn't that hard. It was just a case of mere over anxiousness on both sides. There were six bobbles in that initial canto.

The most damaging miscue came at the Upper Merion 11. Roger Adelman pounced on a Bednar fumble at that point, giving NHS a big Opportunity. But two plays later Suber fumbled at the 4 and Scott grabbed it out of the air and scooted back to the 10.

Norristown's first touchdown drive started as the first period was coining to an end, Bednar had punted to Frank Bishop at the NHS 34. Eight plays and 66 yards later Norristown scored.

Holmes was the big man of the drive. Charlie started it with two successive 11-yard bolts. Suber lost five to the right, but Lee pranced for 19 around the left and a first down at the 30. Holmes banged for three and four, but a personal foul pushed the Eagles back to the 39. Suber picked up 10 on a reverse, Percy to Lee to Suber.

With fourth down coming up, and 29 yards out, Percy called for the screen pass, faded, lobbed the ball to Suber who took it the distance for a 29-yard TD. Gene Bishop's extra point boot was wide. NHS led, 6-0.

Upper Merion lost no time coining back to score—and did it with a nifty 'heads-up' punch. Six plays after the kickoff the Spartans had their tally. It carried 63 yards, with the touchdown play going 43 yards.

Putting the kickoff in play at its 37, Upper Merion got the momentum on the ball carrying of Janoski. After three carries by

Janoski, and one by Scott, had taken the ball to the NHS 43, Bednar broke through the middle, eluded several tacklers, and got into the clear.

NHS defenders were converging on Steve around the 20. At the 15 he flipped a lateral to Scott, and Moses went the rest of the way with Bednar covering on the block. When Dave Anselm booted the extra point, Upper Merion led 7-6.

Now it was Norristown's turn. Holmes returned the kickoff 10 yards to his 30. Then Charlie broke through for 29 yards, hauled down at the Spartan 41. Upper Merion stopped Suber and Lee with one yard each. Percy went back to pass, couldn't find a receiver, then crazy-legged nine yards for a first down at the 30.

Lee got three yards, Holmes, 11 and Percy one before Suber—got to the 1-yard mark. A penalty, however, put the Eagles back to the 9. Holmes slashed through his left side for nine yards and the TD.

Gene Bishop's extra point boot just got over the crossbar and NHS had regained the lead, 13-7. It was that way when the half ended shortly thereafter—but not before Upper Merion picked up two first downs on a 37-yard march halted by the whistle.

Norristown moved for two first downs with the second half kickoff, but Frank Bishop finally had to punt and Upper Merion put it in play on its 10. Janoski bulled for six, two and one before Bednar punted out to the NHS 43.

Holmes went to work again—a two-yard plunge and a 16-yard bulldozer job to the 25. A beautiful execution got the TD on the next play. Percy faked to Lee and Holmes, then pitched out to Suber. Willie went to the 25 yards for the score, with Mike Branca throwing the key block.

Gene Bishop booted high and straight for a 20-7 Norristown advantage.

Came the fourth quarter and Holmes continued the rampage. Upper Merion had been driving down field on the strength of Bednar passes. When two NHS

defenders deflected an aerial at the 19, Scott grabbed the rebound for a Spartan first down on the 19.

But on the next play Eastwood batted a Bednar throw and this time Phil Knerr recovered for the Eagles on their 5. Seven plays ate up 95 yards for the TD.

Holmes hit for three and Suber a like amount. Then big Charlie blasted through again, steaming 47 yards up the middle before Bednar brought him down from behind on the UM 42,

Lee went six to the left and Holmes nine up the middle for a first at the 27. A jump pass, Percy to Roger Adelman, moved it 13 yards to the 14. Percy then faded and flipped long to Lee in the end zone. Bobby had to leap to get it just within the outside boundary, Gene Bishop booted and it was 27-7.

The final touchdown—an. Holmes had nothing to do with it—came in the closing minute with Kent's shock troops in action

Frank Bishop at quarterback, fumbled at the Upper Merion 20 and Mike Barnoski recovered for the Spartans.

Bednar was trapped on an attempted

pass, retreated to his end zone, then came whistling out to the 3 where he was hit hard and Bishop recovered.

Bednar was injured and left the game, getting a big hand from the crowd for his great play.

A Bishop to Shells pass was, good for nine yards, and Dick, Detwiler smashed for a first on the 19. On the next play Frank Bishop tossed to Melnick for the score. Gene Bishop's kick was wide, but Norristown had it salted, away, 33-7.

The first undefeated and un-tied team in 34 years, Coach Kent and Holmes were carte, off the field on shoulders of the players—Kent and assistants, Paul Zdanowicz, Irv Hess and Leon Martz, were given the shower treatment—fully clothed.

NORRISTOWN

Ends—Adelman, Bono, Shells, Lawson
Tackles—Eastwood, Duckworth, Glacier, Kohler
Guards—Spence, Lippy, Hopple, Avery
Phillips, Branca
Center—Knerr
Bucks—Percy, Lee, Holmes, Suber. F.
Bishop, Melnick, Johnson, Bishop
Daddona, Detwiler

UPPER MERION

Ends—Hassingier, Pasquale, Schofield, Wilson

Tackles—Denick, Fishier, Denick,

Roscos

Guards-- Profera, Barnoski, Shine

Centers—Bachetti, Anselm,

Backs—Becnar, Arbogast, Scott, Sabre, Janoski, Lacy, Stone.

Norristown 0 13 7 13—33

Upper Merion 0 7 0 0----7

Norristown scoring touchdowns Suber 29 (yd pass)—Suber (25 yd run), Melnick (19 yd pass), Holmes (9 yds), Lee (4 yd pass) Points after touchdown 0. G.

Bishop, 3 (placement) UPPER

MERION SCORING — Touchdown: Scoot (43-yard lateral -run :from Bednar).

Point after touchdown: Anselm (placement).

Referee: Cliff Calvert. Umpire: Ralph Miller. Head Linesman: Richard Wright, Field Judge: Edward Cave.