

El Camino Comes From Behind To Pounce On Johnson 19-14

Remains Only Undefeated Capital Team

By Larry Lavelle

Scrambling, gambling El Camino last night remained this area's only unbeaten prep football team by scoring a come from behind 19 to 14 Metropolitan League football victory over Hiram Johnson.

The game, stout hearted Eagles struck through the air with seven minutes left on a 25 yard touchdown pass from quarterback Gary Shupe to halfback Ernie Peters.

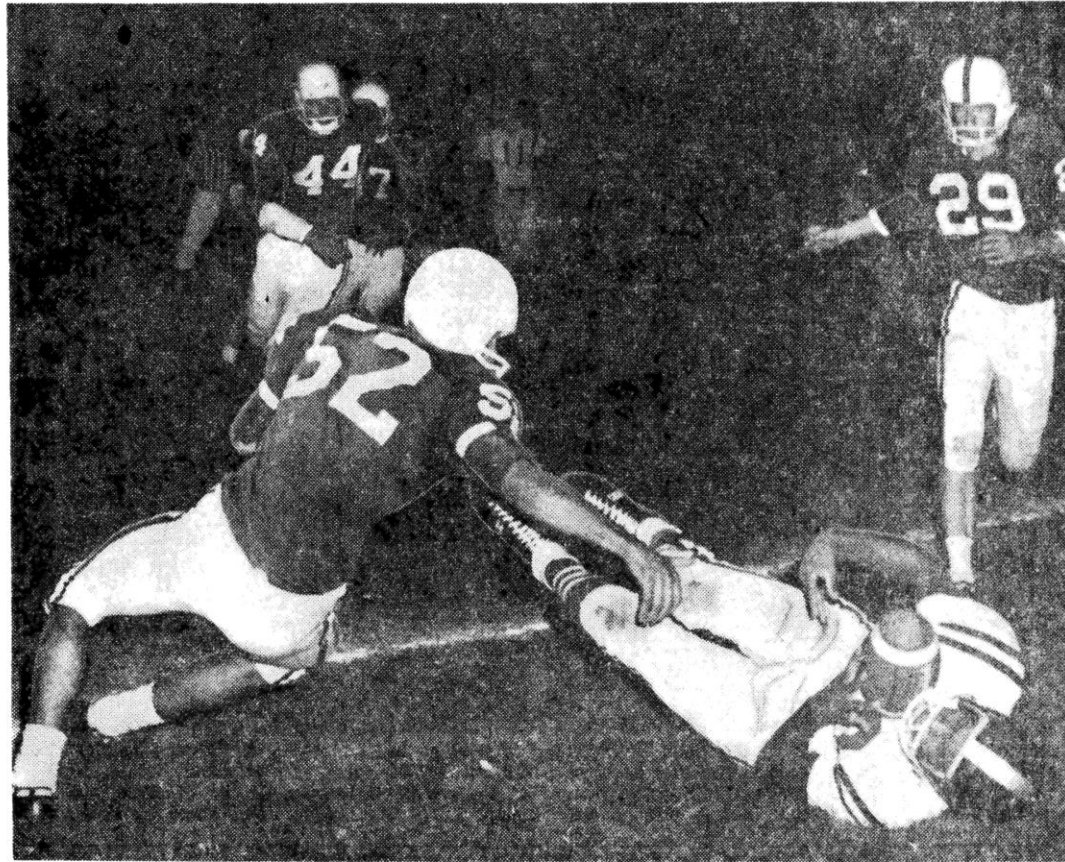
It was a stirring win for Coach Don Robards' cripples, with which 3,000 El Camino Stadium fans will agree.

Warriors Numbd

Not everybody left happy, though, inasmuch as Johnson adherents were numbed by a Warrior touchdown which was not a touchdown.

It came late in the third quarter on a six yard end sweep by Gene Browning. But the official explanation is that the score did not count because a Johnson player was guilty of a personal foul for illegal use of hands against an Eagle while the play was in progress and before Browning had crossed the goal line.

Had Browning made the end zone before the foul, the TD would have counted. Johnson would have led by 20 or 21 to 12 and the Warriors would have kicked off from



El Camino fans thought this pass play should have been ruled incomplete, but Johnson and the officials thought otherwise. Here the fallen Jim Smith of the Warriors cradles the ball with three fingers and his face guard for a nine yard gainer during Johnson's first touchdown

drive. A split second later the ball squirted loose. The alert Eagle is end Dan McGrew, No. 52. Closing in on the action are Doug Stark, guard and linebacker, No. 44, and end Tom Pettigrew, No. 29. El Camino won 19 to 14.

Bee Photo by Bill Piggott

their own 25.

While Johnson fans were understandably perturbed, so were El Camino rooters when the officials okehed a debatable one handed pass catch by Jim Smith as the Warriors were en route to a second quarter touchdown.

Eagles Go Ahead

But enough of that. The Eagles, after Browning's "touchdown" run, stormed 80 yards in 16 plays over and through their bigger opponents to go ahead 18 to 14. Twice they gambled on fourth down situations.

On the next to last play of the third quarter, on fourth and inches at their 30, the Eagles got life as big Barry McFadden punched out to the 31.

Then on fourth and two at the Johnson 47, the Eagles shifted into a punt formation with John Sabo back. Instead Shupe took the ball and gave off to Keith Fife, who packed it all the way to the Warriors' 39.

A third and five pass play from Shupe to Peters put the Eagles at the 26. Two downs later El Camino went into a spread or punt formation and Shupe right armed a pitch down the middle to Peters, who got behind defenders Bob McKusick and Smith for the six points.

El Camino Toughens

Johnson was not through and the Warriors, with Frank Latona rocking the middle and Browning sweeping the ends, smashed to the El Camino 24. Then the doughty Eagles toughened. Smith ran into Gary Kagel at the 22. Browning was belted by the opposite end, Dan McGrew, for a three yard setback and then Kagel plastered quarterback Bob Quintella for a 14 yard loss which all but wrapped up the Eagles' fifth straight triumph.

El Camino took a 12 to 0 lead in the first half with Sabo capping a 55 yard drive on a one yard plunge and Shupe rolling out and throwing to Jim Ashcraft, who made a nice catch at knee level to go in for the other TD on a 10 yard play.

Johnson Scores

Johnson subsequently scored, going 56 yards on seven plays with Quintella hitting Smith and Jim Trice for big gainers. Smith made the touchdown on a two yard burst.

The Warriors went 61 yards in eight plays to start the second half, taking a 13 to 12 edge on Quintella's 20 yard pass to Smith.

Linebacker Doug Stark and Kagel at end were particularly brilliant on defense for the winners and the tackling of halfback Ashcraft cannot be overlooked. Quintella hit on six of six passes, including a conversion for the Warriors.

Johnson won the sophomore preliminary 7 to 0.

The score by periods:

The score by quarters:					
Johnson	0	7	7	0	14
El Camino	0	6	0	0	6

Individual scoring:	
Johnson — Smith, 2 yard run (Smith, pass from Quintella); Smith, 20 yard pass from Quintella (Browning, run).	
El Camino — Sabo, 1 yard run (kick wide); Ashcraft, 10 yard pass from Shupe (kick blocked); Peters, 25 yard pass from Shupe (Kagel, pass from Shupe).	

JOHNSON	EL CAMINO
10 First downs rushing	3
4 First downs passing	6
0 First downs penalties	1
14 Total first downs	10
155 Net yards rushing	88
96 Net yards passing	96
251 Total net yardage	184
1 Lost ball on fumbles	1
10 Yards penalized	45

JOHNSON	EL CAMINO
Rushing	
Smith	15 65 0 65 4.3
McKusick	3 10 0 10 3.3
Rodriguez	1 3 0 3 3.0
Latona	12 68 0 68 5.7
Quintella	6 16 41 -25 -4.2
Browning	7 39 5 34 4.9
Fife	12 40 0 40 3.3
Sabo	5 11 0 11 2.2
Peters	8 2 6 2.2
McFadden	9 32 0 32 3.6
Shupe	0 0 0 0 0.0

JOHNSON	EL CAMINO
Passing	
Quintella, HJ	6 6 0 96 1
Shupe, EC	0 0 0 0 0

JOHNSON	EL CAMINO
Pass Receptions	
Smith, HJ	5 64 1
Trice, HJ	3 49 1
Peters, EC	1 19 1
Ashcraft, EC	1 17 0
McGrew, EC	2 11 0
Fife, EC	1 6 0

JOHNSON	EL CAMINO
Punting	
Smith, HJ	3 77 0 23.7
Shupe, EC	4 148 0 37.0