

Varsity set to railroad Pioneers

Gridders discuss T-Day prospects

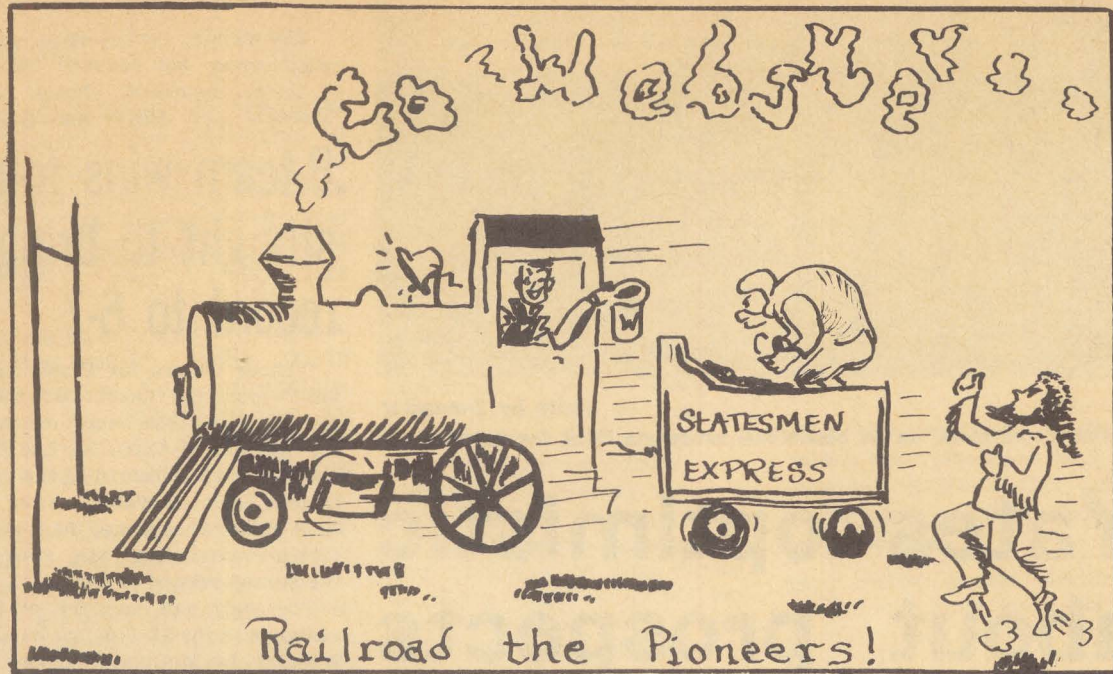
Webster coaches and players agree that the Turkey Day game tomorrow will probably be close. They also believe that to win, the Statesmen must contain Kirkwood's Bernie Kemple, a veteran runner and passer.

On the other hand, Kirkwood coach Bill Lenich says that the Pioneers will concentrate on stopping the passing of "that new fella" (Clarence Thornhill) and the running of Walt Smallwood.

Statesmen head coach, Ray Moss, feels that "there'll be pretty much scoring. We'll try to run, but I expect we'll have to throw." Although backfield coach Robert Hoffmann doesn't look for a high scoring battle, he admits that "both teams pass, and you never know."

Webster players feel that they can keep the Frisco bell this year. Injured lineman Ron Mautz thinks the graders have a fine chance with "the passing looking good and full-back Dave Cloud starting to run better." Reflecting on the Webster defense, Mautz said, "If we stop Kemple's sweeps, we can beat 'em."

John Stocke, defensive back, sees the contest as a tossup. He remarked, "Kemple will complete his share of passes, but we hope to stop the long bomb."



Meet the first string

Starters hope to lead team on to victory

by Jim Hopson

The fan in the stands usually knows no more about the players on the field than what he reads in the program: the players' names, weights, and positions. Mere statistics cannot indicate the caliber of the players they represent. In an interview, head football coach Ray Moss evaluated his eleven

starters.

Linemen

Coach Moss rated senior left end Ken Penrod, who was out last season with a broken ankle, as a good blocker and a fine pass receiver. The aggressiveness and agility of junior tackle Jim Anderson has been a "pleasant surprise" to

Moss. The coach called senior left guard Randy Scott "fast, a good blocker, and an experienced lineman." Coach Moss feels that Steve Preston, a senior who was converted from tackle to center this year, has done a good job and has shown steady improvement over last year.

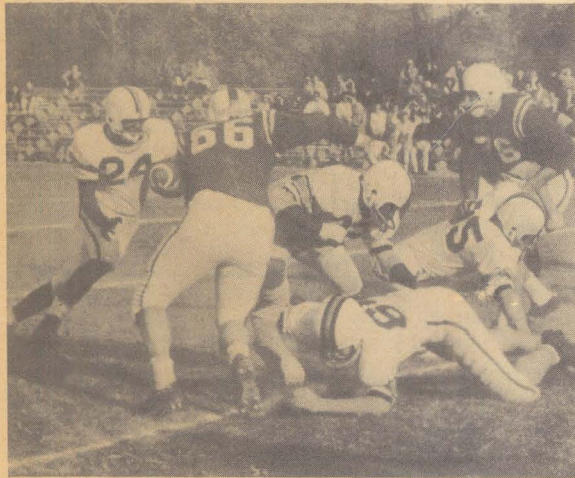
In Moss' opinion, senior right guard Jim Maxwell has done an excellent job replacing the injured Ron Mautz. Moss said that senior Bob Droege, a two-year letterman, has shown "good spirit and hustle" at the right tackle spot. The coach spoke highly of right end, senior Dave Stewart. Stewart, who just came to Webster last winter, has distinguished himself as an excellent pass receiver.

Backfield

Junior halfback Walt Smallwood has dazzled the opposition with his running. Smallwood can run the 100-yard dash in 10.2 seconds, and this speed plus his agility make him an excellent breakaway runner. Moss called senior fullback Dave Cloud "an explosive runner and the best blocker on the team." The coach said that Neal Losse, although hampered by injuries, has done well at pass-receiving; Losse also runs well from the right half-back position.

Coach Moss rated Clarence Thornhill as "potentially great, a fine passer, a good runner, and an aggressive leader on the field." Thornhill, who has secured the position of first string quarterback, is only a sophomore.

The coach added that seniors Tom Stuber, Guy Mellor, John Stocke, and Tom Lanter have all given good performances this season.



Photos by Dempster

Left: Statesmen linemen open a hole for quarterback Clarence Thornhill in the Maplewood game, November 16. Right: Cheerleaders Karen Norris and Marsha Millan ring the Frisco bell after a Statesman touchdown.

Fumbles prove costly to Maplewood; Webster wins 33-14 in fourth victory

A strong wind played havoc with kicks and passes as the Statesmen clobbered the Maplewood-Richmond Heights Blue Devils 33-14 at Memorial Field, November 16.

Webster pulled into the lead in the first minutes of the game when quarterback Clarence Thornhill ran the ball for a touchdown. The kick missed, and in the third quarter Maplewood took the lead 7-6.

The Statesmen came back with three touchdowns in the third period. Maplewood fumbles and poor punts against the wind helped to set up the Webster scores. The touchdowns came on runs by Neal Losse, Walt Smallwood, and Dave Cloud.

The Statesmen scored their final touchdown on a pass from Alan Hatfield to Dave Harrison. Two of the Webster conversions came on kicks by John Dunkman and the third on a run by Thornhill.

Close Ladue contest

The Big Orange met the Ladue Rams at home November 9 and lost 27-26 in the final 40 seconds. The

difference between winning and losing was an extra point in what was probably the most exciting game of the season.

Ladue led 7-0 at the end of the first quarter. In the second period Webster added two touchdowns and led 13-7 at the half. The tallies came on a run by Thornhill and a pass from Thornhill to Smallwood. The Rams tied the score 13-all in the third period.

In a wild fourth quarter the lead changed hands four times. First, Webster went ahead 19-13 on a run by Cloud. Then in the last three minutes of the game, three touchdowns were scored. Ladue went ahead 20-19, but Walt Smallwood ran the kickoff back 90 yards to make it 26-20 in favor of Webster. However, with less than a minute left Ladue scored and made

the conversion to win 27-26 in a real heartbreaker.

Victory over Normandy

In a defensive battle, the Statesmen edged Normandy 7-6 on November 1 there. The game was marked by numerous fumbles and dropped passes. This inability to hold onto the ball was probably due to the low temperature at the Friday night game.

Playing a greatly improved Riverview Gardens team on October 26, the Statesmen were downed 14-0 at Riverview.

Eye on Sports

by Bob Johnson

Even with part of the squad leaning on crutches and canes, the Mossmen have come alive to play great games against Ladue and Maplewood. In their last two home games, the Statesmen have scored 59 points compared to 70 total points for the other seven games this season.

Although the linemen deserve a great deal of credit, the spearhead behind this new drive seem to be sophomore quarterback Clarence Thornhill, junior back Walt Smallwood, and senior back Dave Cloud. If the Statesmen can continue this inspired play tomorrow, they can steam past Kirkwood clanging the Frisco bell.

Many fans are probably still mystified about Webster's final touchdown against Maplewood. The scoreboard clock showed no time remaining, and the public address announcer gave the final score as Webster 26, Maplewood 14. Fans headed toward the exits and players streamed onto the field.

Then the referee cleared the field, saying that Webster was entitled to one more play. A penalty against Maplewood was the cause of the extra down. Statesmen quarterback Alan Hatfield made the gift play worthwhile by throwing a touchdown pass.

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