

sports



CANTON'S TIM MUELLERY (center) and Jim Casler battle it out with a Catholic Central opponent

during the Chiefs 3-0 loss Friday. (Crier photo by Chris Boyd)

CC dumps Canton from playoffs

BY DAVID PIERINI

Catholic Central coach Paul Scicluna isn't one to say, "I told you so."

But after being shunned as a team that couldn't hack it in any other league, then beating Western Lakes champions Canton 3-0 in the regional quarter-finals, Scicluna might make an exception.

"It's life," said Scicluna. "Some people underestimate you, so you have to say you proved something. We didn't prove anything, all we proved is that we can play soccer."

He didn't have to say anything; his players did the talking for him. The Shamrocks played 80 minutes of aggressive but patient soccer, neutralizing the Chiefs with size and depth and leaving Canton coach Mike Morgan perplexed.

said Morgan. "I don't understand it really because usually a good fast man will beat a slower big man."

"We couldn't get our through passes in and we had difficulty keeping our foot on the ball."

C.C. also proved that they're not just a one man team. Canton shut out 61 goal scorer Andy Rama. But double-teaming Rama, at center, was only half effective as C.C. utilized their wingers.

"As you saw, anybody who plugs my middle, I got the outside and if they plug up my outside, I've got my halfbacks," said Scicluna. "We are a complete team."

The Shamrocks didn't have to sell themselves on Morgan. "I'll tell you, they've got more than a one man team," he said.

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Ebon Nash, Flower score two each Rock kickers rout Huron in playoff

BY BRIAN LYSAGHT

Salem overcame both strong winds and aggressive opponents Friday to beat Ann Arbor Huron 4-1 in a pre-regional soccer match.

The winds favored neither team and made passing difficult for both. Salem got two goals each from senior Mark Flower and junior Ebon Nash.

"The wind was very difficult," said Rock coach Ken Johnson. "We couldn't work much of our passing game."

Salem, now 11-4-1, will face Catholic Central in the regional semi-finals. The Rocks shut out Farmington High 4-0 in league action Thursday.

The Salem-Huron game was closer than the score indicates. "It was an even game," Johnson said. "It could have gone either way. The Huron coach told me they've had trouble putting the ball in the net all season and they did today."

Salem led 1-0 at the end of the half. Nash scored on a header with an assist from senior back Andy Ward. Both teams came out roaring and play in much of the game, especially the first half, was rough and tumble.

"A league game is one thing but in a tournament everyone is fired up a bit," Johnson said.

In the second half, Salem fired up its offense. Senior Kevin Sultana, Flower and Nash combined to make the Huron goalie's afternoon difficult.

After Sultana was tripped up on a breakaway, Salem was awarded a penalty kick. Flower faked the goalie and kicked the ball into the goal's open side.

Huron came back with a goal making it 2-1 but Salem answered with two more. Flower took a pass from senior back Steve Moran and lofted a kick past the Huron goalie. Nash scored again, this time on a rebound to put the game out of reach for

the Huron, now 7-8-1.

Rock goalie Joe Knoerl could testify to the fact Huron had a persistent offense. Knoerl played tough though and earned praise from Johnson. "He (Knoerl) played a fine game."

Harrison, Miller, clobber Canton gridgers

BY DAVID PIERINI

Many teams have bowed out on Harrison's Butler Field and Rich Barr could have given pre-game rights before the Chief's 40-7 massacre.

John Miller performed his burial ritual on the Chiefs as the All-American tailback rushed for 190 yds. including three touchdowns.

Miller, with pigskin and shovel in hand, set the Canton tombstone early as he had 10 carries for 57 yds. for the first Hawk TD.

After the kickoff, Canton played that old familiar favorite, fumble, as they gave up the ball on their own 37. With little effort, Hawk quarterback Vince Enright dropped back and lofted a pass to receiver Brian Smolinski.

Miller opened up the second quarter with 54 yd. TD sprint. "There was a couple of plays where we didn't even touch Miller, so I was disappointed with that," said Barr.

Barr shouldn't feel too bad because Miller is usually untouchable. It was Miller time for one last play as he went on to score on a 12 yd. draw play to close the second half. By the time, Bill Wood

got done kicking, the Hawks were leading 27-0.

The future may look good for the Chiefs. Though the Hawks activated their second string, Canton performed well on the defense. Sophomore Stevie Genyk, who

was called up from the J.V. due to a Tony Aiken wrist injury, got in on the losing cause at quarterback. Genyk completed two passes in two attempts for 40 yds.

The Chiefs will tangle with Walled Lake Central this Friday in playoff action.

HARRISON-CANTON FOOTBALL GAME AT A GLANCE

1st Quarter

Hawk tailback John Miller goes 57 yds. on 10 carries for the first TD. Bill Wood makes the extra point. Harrison 7 Canton 0.

With 2:15 left, QB Vince Enright capitalizes on a Canton fumble as throws a 37 yd. TD pass to Brian Smolinski. Wood makes the extra point. Harrison 14 Canton 0.

2nd Quarter

John Miller breaks the Chief line and goes 54 yds. for a TD to open the quarter. Wood misses the extra point. Harrison 20 Canton 0. Miller then closes out the half on a 12 yd. draw play for his third TD of the afternoon. Wood makes the extra

point. Harrison 27 Canton 0.

3rd Quarter

With 5:39 remaining Enright hits Jeff Shottroff with a 50 yd. pass. Wood makes the extra point. Harrison 34 Canton 0.

4th Quarter

Canton finally scores after Knapp picked off an Enright pass. Knapp then throws a 20 yd. pass to Matt Flower. Dave Liuzzo makes the extra point. Harrison 34 Canton 7. Harrison scores in the final minutes of the game on a two yard run by Scott Bissell. Final score Harrison 40 Canton 7.

TOTAL YARDS OFFENSE

Harrison 433 Canton 160.