

Dover tops Phila, 7-0

Run by Rufener does it

By REA TAICLET
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It was one time the players shouldn't have listened to what the coach said.

"It'll come down to whichever team makes the fewest mistakes... it always does," Jim Roman said earlier this week.

And it did.

His Quakers made three — two of them stopping drives deep in Dover territory in the fourth quarter, and one that turned a draw play into a 71-yard touchdown run just before halftime and a 7-0 lead that the Tornadoes protected to win the 73rd Dover-New Philadelphia football classic before 6800 fans in Dover's Crater Stadium Friday night.

THOSE THREE PLAYS, in Roman's mind, made the difference. But then, anybody might feel that way if their team was penalized only six times for 45 yards and two of them were normally insignificant five-yarders that wiped out 43 minutes of hard work.

There was more to it, of course. All year, the talk was of New Philadelphia's defense, and it did another masterful job. But turnabout is fair play, and now everybody's talking about Dover's "D," too.

Part of the Tornadoes' success can be attributed to New Philadelphia's limited offense. "We felt we could stop their running game," Dover Coach Tom Redman said later, "because it's so basic. It went about the way we thought it would."

The Quakers abandoned the I-formation in favor of the Ohio State fullhouse T-formation of the 1950s four weeks ago. Junior fullback Ed Wilson quickly established himself as a legitimate running threat in the ground-oriented offense, and the Red and Black started scoring touchdowns, something they hadn't done up to that point.

Wilson was the workhorse again Friday, carrying the ball 24 times for 89 yards — on several occasions bulling his way to extra yardage against a stacked deck.

Dover made its defensive intentions known immediately by concen-

See TORNADOES... C-2



Cold night, warm feeling

Dover cheerleader Kathy Strimel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Strimel of RD 2, saw her sideline efforts pay off when her Tornadoes defeated visiting New Philadelphia 7-0 in the 73rd

meeting of the state's second-oldest high school football rivalry. More pictures and stories appear in today's sports section. (Photo by Bob Lauriha)

Tornado draw kills Phila

trating its basic, but "gaming" 5-2 alignment on the Quakers' up-the-middle tendencies.

The strategy worked. The visitors gained just 60 yards in 19 running plays and three first downs in the first half. The Quakers did not earn their first first down until the 6:18 mark of the second quarter.

NEW PHILADELPHIA made "a few small blocking adjustments, nothing that much," according to Roman, at halftime, and the same offense ground out 113 yards in 28 second-half tries.

Wilson gained all but 24 yards of his total after intermission, and all of it came despite a heavily-taped and extremely-sore knee that he injured during punt blocking drills Wednesday.

The Quakers' first serious threat came on its first possession of the third quarter after Bill Hicks returned a Mark Caswell punt from the 28 to his own 34.

Wilson carried eight of the drive's 10 plays, but the assault folded with one yard to go when Dover's Steve Winkler and Zach Space buried Brett Harris and Wilson on successive plays for no gain at the Tornado 30.

However, the game's two crucial penetrations (and miscues) followed at the outset of the fourth frame.

STARTING AT their own 31 following another Dover punt, the Quakers used Wilson's legs to march to the hosts' 20. An overthrown pass and a six-yard gain off left tackle by halfback Kevin Spittle left the visitors with a third-and-four.

Dover's safety blitz, another tactic to bewilder blockers, finally got to the offensive line, and an offside and the resulting five-yard penalty made it third-and-nine.

Wilson recaptured four of those yards to the 15, but Space and Jim Gordon ran quarterback Tom Bates out of bounds on the next play, leaving New Philadelphia five yards shy of a first down with 4:55 to play.

The possibility of a field goal attempt at that juncture, instead of the attempted pass and scramble, arose during a post-game talk with Roman, but the Phila boss, who stands 0-2-1 in

three tries against Dover, said three points was not even considered at that time.

A 32-yard field goal would not have been out of Chuck Albaugh's reach with a 20-mile-an-hour wind at his back, and if good, it might have altered the outcome.

DOVER HAD TO relinquish possession after three plays. Caswell's punt soared high into the wind, bounced backward, and was downed at the Dover 34.

The Quakers gained 12 yards in three thrusts, but time was ticking away and they got anxious. On a first-down play at the 22, illegal motion was detected, pushing them into a first-and-15 passing situation at the 27.

Mark Limbach picked off his second enemy aerial of the season, giving Dover possession at its 30 with 1:24 remaining.

The Tornadoes advanced for one first down to keep the clock moving and both sides stood and watched the final 10 seconds disappear.

New Philadelphia won the pre-game coin toss, but instead of receiving the kickoff, elected to try and take advantage of the steady wind out of the west. "We wanted to take the wind, stop them, then drive," Roman said. "We didn't do any of that."

Indeed, the decision almost immediately took the form of a tactical error. As one pressbox pundit was to say, "It's only a matter of time."

SENIOR QUARTERBACK Ted Eigner engineered a 60-yard drive that consumed the first five minutes. Harris stopped the drive by catching Ken Rufener in the backfield for a four-yard loss on a fourth-and-one at the New Philadelphia 25.

But Phila couldn't get untracked and Steve Swihart deflected a Rich Huston punt out of bounds at the Dover 31 near the end of the first period.

Eigner's running and passing on the ensuing series helped move Dover to the New Philadelphia 17-yardline, where Rufener was stopped again for no gain on another fourth-and-one.

Eigner suffered torn muscles around the knee on the seventh play of the set when he was tackled on the sideline by Kevin Sherer. He was patched up after being carried to the locker room at halftime, but he never returned to the action.

Any misgivings Dover fans might have had concerning the absence of the season-long starting quarterback were quickly extinguished.

The Quakers were stopped in nine plays and sophomore runback artist Jamie DeVore, who also snared an interception, fielded a Huston punt at the Dover 30.

Jeff Mamarella, Eigner's junior replacement under center, was pressed into service and without a warmup, overthrew wingback Eric Redman at the Phila 40. There wasn't a defender within two miles of him.

But two earlier Eigner completions and that scare was the weapon the Tornadoes needed. Mamarella came right back with a straight pass drop, slipping the ball to Rufener.

The Cardinal Conference's leading rusher, who went over 1000 yards last night, took a step toward the middle, where the play was designed to go.

WHEN HE SAW it jamming up, he veered to his right, broke a tackle near the line of scrimmage, then used two good downfield blocks to go the distance.

The last man with a chance to pin him was Jeff Welsh. "I had the angle," the senior safety said, "but I couldn't get my cleats down solid. He cut back inside and was gone. He's a good runner — smart."

Redman said the draw was called when the air-conscious linebackers were caught "dropping off fast" to cover the pass. "We just didn't expect a touchdown on it," said Redman, who completed his eighth season at Dover with a 5-2-1 mark against Phila.

"We maybe should have put the ball in the air a little more, but Mamarella didn't practice all week. He's a good quarterback. It's just that there were some things he wasn't able to do because he didn't have time to work on them."

New Philadelphia has not won this

classic that has spanned 82 years and is second-oldest only to the Canton McKinley-Massillon rivalry since 1974. Dover won 17-8 in 1975 and last year they tied 7-7.

Dover and New Philadelphia went into Friday night's tilt as two different teams — an offensive one and a defensive one — with near-equal records. (Dover was 4-4-1, Phila 4-3-2).

They took a little bit from each other, but three plays, and a seven-point lead at halftime made the difference in an otherwise even game.



Quaker tight end Rich Huston and Tornado defensive back Jamie DeVore battle for Tom Bates' pass. Huston caught it, then dropped it for an incompletion.