

# Riders shut out Warren in a wet one

BY STEVE SMITH JR.  
"We're very fortunate to be so versatile on offense," has been a phrase Coach Mo Tipton has used repeatedly this season.

And last week's playoff game against Warren JFK was no exception. On a wet and rainy Friday night, Orrville unleashed another of its spectacular players, James Bradley.

Using his great speed and the ability to break the long one, Bradley, with an 84-yard punt return for a touchdown, helped lift the Riders to a 21-0 victory over Warren JFK.

"At the beginning of the game, Coach (Kandy) Yates told us a punt return could make or break the game," said a happy Bradley after the game.

"When I caught the ball and started running, the line opened it all up. They had some great blocks, especially Brad Booth, who really opened it up," Bradley said.

Coach Mo Tipton said he thought the punt return could have been the turning point in the game.

"The punt return was the icing on the cake. That was the finish. It gave us some breathing room," Tipton said.

"James Bradley is a typical sophomore, with a lot of talent. He's had some great plays this season and has had some good games. He's had games that he's played like a sophomore, too," Tipton said.

"He's like a yo-yo, you know, up and down. One of these days we hope he'll be a great player all the time, but he's not there yet. We're hoping to get him to level out," Tipton said.

The JFK Eagles felt Bradley's presence again in the fourth quarter as he caught a seven-yard pass for a touchdown from Tom Bolyard.

With Bolyard's extra point kick, the Riders went up 21-0 and all but shattered JFK's hopes for a comeback win.

"The play was actually to Davidoff, but the line gave Tom enough time to see me. The line did a great job," Bradley said.

The game itself was one of those rain drenched games that has the potential to produce a lot of turnovers, and this game was no exception.

Orrville fumbled five times but only lost three, and JFK fumbled two times, losing both of them.

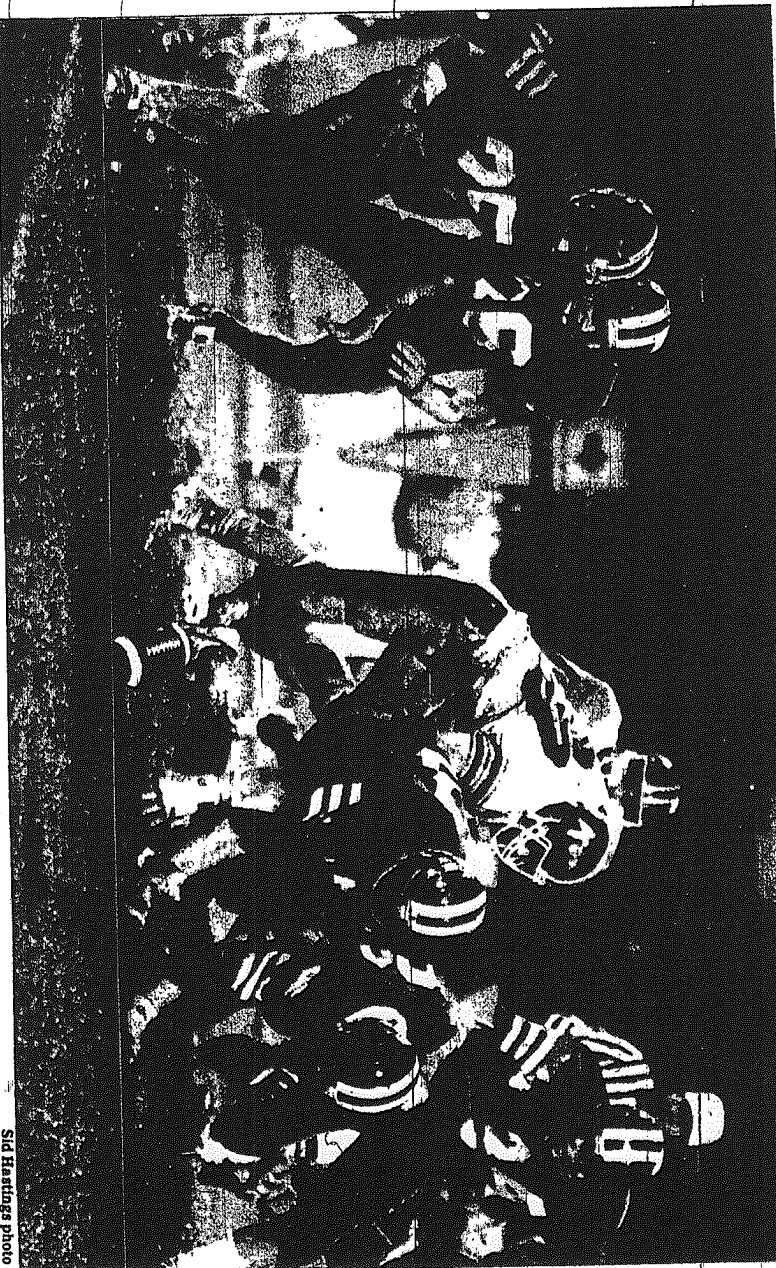
But the big story was interceptions. Bolyard only threw one, but the JFK quarterback threw three.

Roger Davidoff snagged two of them and Brian Williams one. Davidoff's first interception set up the Riders' first score, a 27-yard touchdown reception by Keith Amstutz with 3:09 remaining in the first quarter.

"We had mistakes, like a young man blowing an assignment on Orrville's first touchdown," said JFK Coach Dennis Zolciak.

"We can't make mistakes like that and expect to win," Zolciak said. "We had our chances but we just couldn't capitalize on them."

"Our defense played super, especially up front," Tipton



Several Riders close in on a fumble by a Warren JFK running back during their 21-0 win last week. The Orrville defense forced five turnovers by the Eagles.

Sid Hastings photo

said. "Defensive end Mark Auble played great, but he's been playing like that all year. Our linemen also played great."

Tipton's defensive unit held JFK to 135 total yards.

"Our experience was an unknown quality," Tipton said. "(But) it was obvious to the kids that we were going to win that game. We came into the locker room leading 7-0, but there was

no question in anybody's minds that we were going to win. "The weather put us into a different type of black-and-blue offense, but the game had everything," Tipton said.

"You must give credit to JFK, they have a good team," Tipton said. "This was a stiffer game and a great win, but we can only enjoy this victory for about 12 hours."

## Coaches' Corner

### Stiff competition ahead

We thought this week we would give you a little insight and information on the other three teams left in the Division III playoffs vying for the state championship. Our next opponent has a long history of success on the football field. Elyria Catholic is making its fourth straight trip to the playoffs and is the defending Division III state champion. Elyria Catholic's nickname is the Panthers and its colors are

