



NEWTON

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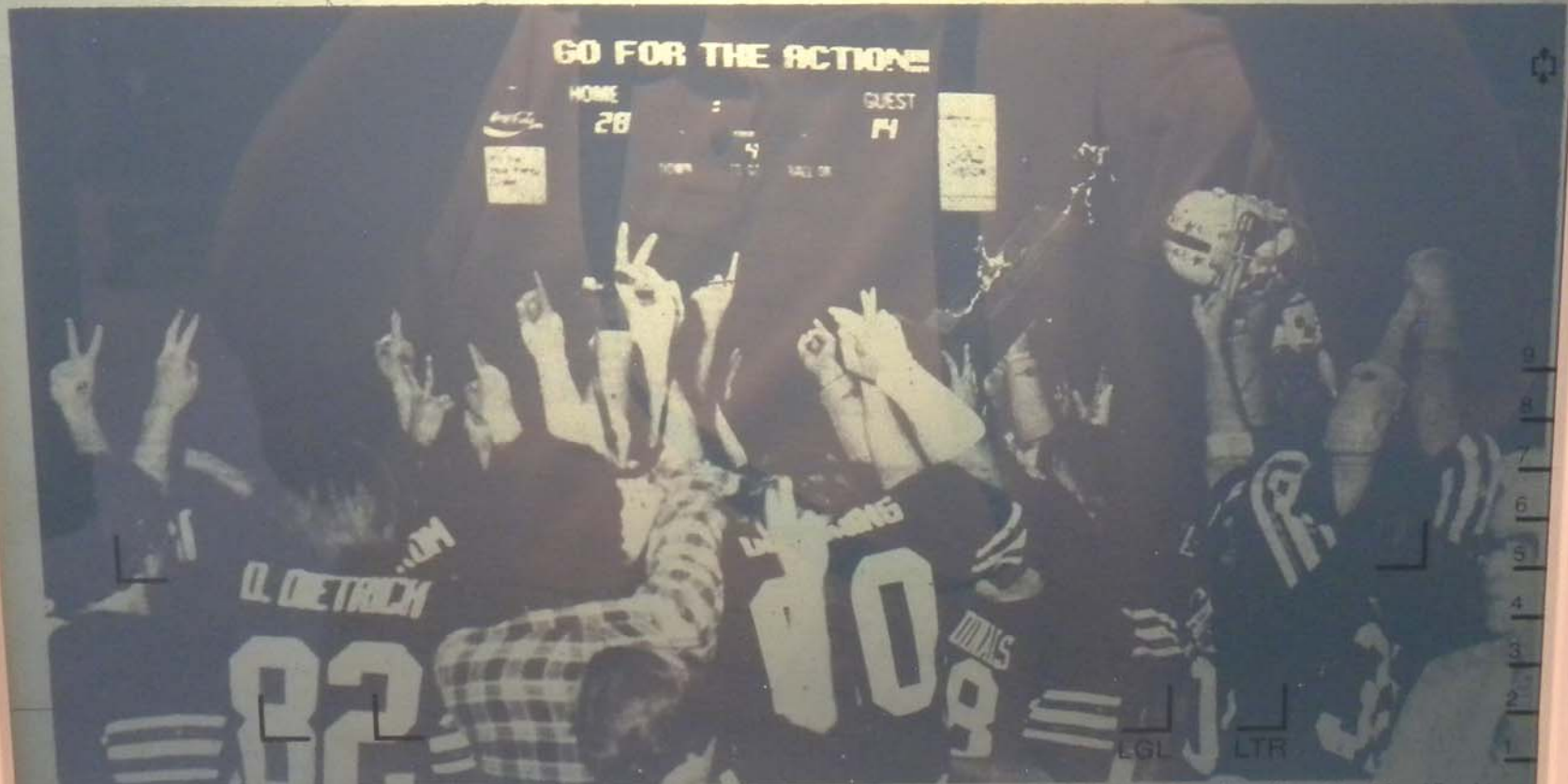
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Newton 28, Bettendorf 14 at UNI-Dome

CARDINALS TAKE IT ALL!



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Newton, a bridesmaid in 1977, today reigned as Iowa's class AAAA high school football capital.

The Cardinals, sweeping into a 21-0 first half lead, conquered previously undefeated and top-ranked Bettendorf 28-14 Friday evening before a record-shattering crowd in the University of Northern Iowa's UNI-Dome in the class AAAA playoff championship game.

The victory, the 12th of the season for Coach Frank Gilson's unbeaten Cardinals, was an appropriate and fitting conclusion to the most successful season in the 78 years of Cardinal gridiron history.

"It was unreal," Cardinal Coach Frank Gilson declared, after the two Newton team buses had been escorted from Marshalltown, first by Marshalltown and later by Newton police to a greeting by a band of partisans at the Lynn Field dressing room.

"It was a great team effort."

The Cardinals whirled through nine Central Iowa Conference opponents, pinned West Des Moines Dowling and Sioux City East in playoff games before meeting the Bulldogs, unbeaten in 11 games and ranked first in both major wire service polls in the championship game.

"Dowling was our toughest playoff opponent," Coach Gilson declared. "But then we made it tough on ourselves, too."

"We did not really play well in our game with Dowling nor the following week in our game with East."

"Against East we had the big play, in fact four big plays, but otherwise did not perform exceptionally well."

"Perhaps the playoffs indicated that the Central Iowa Conference teams were stronger than we might have thought."

"Both Boone and Grinnell gave us tough games."

The victory against Bettendorf and the four-foot high trophy which was presented to the Cardinals before more than 8,000 of their spectators, was vindication for the Coach Gilson and the Cardinals, who lost in the 1977 playoff championship game.

But the circumstances were different.

"We had only three days to prepare after our semifinal round victory over Sioux City Heelan and we had some players injured," Coach Gilson reminded.

"But then again we had some injuries in the playoffs this season and we overcame them."

Jeff Dietrich, starting halfback and linebacker, was lost in the Dowling game and Todd Rose was limited to ball holding duties after injuring an ankle against East.

Even before the first half was completed Friday evening, all-conference center David Beals went to the sidelines with an ankle injury.

The Cardinals won Friday's game by taking full advantage of opportunities, opportunities which they themselves forged.

"Interceptions set up two of our three first half touchdowns and a fumble recovery set up the other," Coach Gilson reminded.

"Our pass defense, that's what won the game."

"Not only did we intercept three passes but Bettendorf lost yards attempting to pass and gained little on some completions."

The Cardinals drove 30 yards to score after a first quarter fumble recovery, Treye Jackson charging two yards for the touchdown.

Newton, following the first of three pass interceptions, marched 69 yards for its second touchdown with Steve Morris hammering across from the one yard line early in the second quarter.

Another pass theft, this one 14 yards from the Bulldog goalline, set the stage for third Cardinal touchdown of the first half, Craig Trotter went over from the one yard line.

"The real big offensive play of the game for us was Brian Shipley's kickoff return to near midfield after Bettendorf had scored in the third quarter," Coach Gilson said.

The Cardinals then marched 57 yards for their final touchdown, with Jackson

circling end for the score.

Bettendorf added a touchdown early in the final quarter but never challenged again as the Cardinals controlled the football much of the final 10 minutes.

"The key to the victory was keeping control of the football," Coach Gilson remarked.

Although Jackson did not break the long run as he did three times against Sioux City East, he was never more efficient as a runner.

"The way he ran tonight I'm certain some college coaches who considered using him as a defensive back or a flanker must have second thoughts," Coach Gilson said.

Jackson rushed for 111 yards as the Cardinals gained 272 rushing compared with 158 for Bettendorf.

The Bulldogs logged 85 yards passing while the Cardinals attempted only one pass.

Defensively the Cardinals were led by Tom Sharp with 11 tackles, Trai Ehler with eight, Brian Shipley with seven, Mike Dahlem and Joe Mc Dermott with six each, Jackson and Morris, five each, and Scott Ratchiff with four.

Newton kicked off and surrendered two first downs as Jeff Stelk, second team all-state quarterback, completed a 17-yard pass to Tom Roberts, an all-state end, and a 21-yard aerial to Todd Uhde, who reached the Newton 49 yard line.

But Stelk, rolling out to pass, was overwhelmed by the Cardinal rush and the ball rolled free, Ratchiff making the recovery on the Bettendorf 30 yard line.

"Our pass rush was effective at times, at other times we gave them plenty of time to throw," Coach Gilson said.

Newton capitalized on the fumble, driving 30 yards in seven plays with Jackson scoring from the two yard line with 4:26 remaining in the quarter.

Jackson ripped off eight and seven yard gains and Trotter, who gained 40 yards on the evening, bit off six yards.

Tom Sharp kicked the first of his four extra points.

History was to stage a rerun minutes later. The Bulldogs, after the kickoff,

moved from their 27 to the Newton 37 yard line mainly on a 16-yard run by Joe Ledvina and a 13-yard Stelk to Roberts pass.

Two plays later Jackson deflected Stelk's pass and Ed Ergenbright intercepted, returning the ball 13 yards to the Newton 31.

The Cardinals then inaugurated a 69-yard, nine-play drive. Morris, who pounded for 44 yards during the game, shook loose on a 16-yard dash to the Bettendorf 40 and Jackson raced 18 yards to the 21.

Though tripped, Jackson maintained his equilibrium on an 11-yard burst to the Bulldog 10 yard line.

Trotter bolted nine yards to the one yard line and Morris bulled across on the next play.

When Sharp converted Newton possessed a 14-0 advantage with 10:11 remaining in the second quarter.

Bettendorf, forced deep into its own territory after the kickoff by two penalties, gave the ball back when Jackson picked off another deflected Stelk pass and returned the ball 43 yards to the Bulldog 14.

An interference penalty against a Bettendorf defender shadowing end Don Moles placed the ball on the five yard line and four plays later Trotter punched across from the one yard line.

Sharp's successful conversion pushed the score to 21-0 with 4:51 remaining in the first half.

Bettendorf made its deepest penetration of Cardinal territory after the ensuing kickoff. The drive which began on the Bulldog 34, included a 12-yard Stelk to Uhde pass and four runs of from six to eight yards, by Ledvina, Stelk and Tudeen.

On first down at the Newton 18, Stelk's pass was blocked and end Trai Ehler intercepted, returning five yards to the Newton 20.

Shipley, who galloped 76 yards, charged 34 yards on the final play of the half.

Early in the second half after receiving the second half kickoff, Newton, rather

than Bettendorf, was guilty of being over generous, surrendering the ball on its own 38 yard line via a fumble.

The Bulldogs, as opportunistic as the Cards had been in the first half, scored in eight plays, Randy Holcomb running the last three yards on a first down play and Roberts converting with 5:36 remaining.

Ken Kystofix rambled 13 yards to initiate the drive and Ledvina raced 10 yards and then seven yards to the Newton seven.

The Cards retaliated less than two minutes later. Shipley ran the kickoff back 22 yards to the Newton 43. Jackson and Morris spanned 15 yards in two rushes before Trotter went 36 yards, Newton's longest gain from scrimmage, to the Bettendorf five yard line.

Sharp converted to send Newton ahead 28-7 with 3:46 left in the third quarter.

Bettendorf chained together a 72 yard, 12-play touchdown drive during which they kept the ball on the ground exclusively. Tudeen raced 27 yards on a pitch for the touchdown with 10:43 remaining in the fourth quarter and Roberts converted.

Bettendorf owned the ball only once more but failed to move out of the shadow of their goal posts and punted.

The Cardinals, in turn, had possession twice in the final 10 minutes, driving from their own 42 to the Bulldog 40 before punting for the first and only time in the game.

The Cardinals took the ball on their own 44 yard line with approximately five minutes left in the game and consumed the final minutes in a drive to the Bulldog 25 yard line.

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Name	at	yds	lt	net
Treye Jackson	18	111	0	111
Brian Shipley	13	76	0	76
Steve Morris	12	49	0	49
Craig Trotter	6	43	3	40
Todd Wheatley	1	9	4	14
Totals	50	279	7	272
Opp T	37	196	38	158

Passing

Name	at	c	i	yds
Todd Wheatley	1	0	0	0
Opp. T.	16	7	3	85

Punting

Name	a	yd	ave.
Tom Sharp	1	29	29.0

Returns

Name	punt	kor	int
Treye Jackson	0-0	0-0	1-13
Ed Ergenbright	0-0	0-0	1-13
Trai Ehler	0-0	0-0	1-15
Craig Trotter	0-0	1-19	0-0
Brian Shipley	0-0	1-0	0-0
Dave Sampson	0-0	1-0	0-0
Totals	0-0	3-42	3-31

Team Statistics

	New	Opp
First Downs	15	16
R-Pa-Pe	14-0-1	10-5-1
Total	279	281
Yd lost	7	38
Net yards	272	243
Rushing	272	158
Passing	0	85
Pass Att	1	16
Comp	0	7
Had Int	0	3
Fumbles	1(1)	1(1)
Penalties	1(5)	8(46½)

Scoring quarters

School	1	2	3	4	T
Newton	7	14	7	0	28
Bettendorf	0	0	7	7	14

Scoring

First quarter: Newton 4:26 Treye Jackson (2 yard run), ex. pt. Tom Sharp (kick)

Second quarter: Newton 10:11 Steve Morris (1 yard run), ex. pt. Tom Sharp (kick)

Second quarter: Newton 4:51 Craig Trotter (1 yard run), ex. pt. Tom Sharp (kick)

Third quarter: Bettendorf 5:36 Randy Haleomb (3 yard run), ex. pt. Tom Roberts (kick)

Third quarter: Newton 3:46 Treye Jackson (5 yard run), ex. pt. Tom Sharp (kick)

Fourth quarter: Bettendorf 10:43 Al Tudeen (27 yard run), ex. pt. Tom Roberts (kick)