

# Martinelli says, 'Ashland should have won'

By BARNEY KOSAR

Ashland College invaded Wittenberg Stadium Saturday, hoping to prevent the undefeated Wittenberg University Tigers from completing their second consecutive perfect season. Wittenberg came into the game trying for its 20th consecutive victory in a three year span.

The fine Tiger offense had scored 346 points this season, while the defense had only allowed 29 points by opponents. Thirty-one of the Tigers' last 87 opponents have been held scoreless.

Ashland's overall record coming into the game was a very deceptive 3-5, as the Eagles challenged some of the strongest College Division teams in the midwest and the nation. Coach Dave Maurer of Wittenberg commented, "Ashland has certainly played a more competitive

schedule. The team has played some excellent football, but has lost games it should have won."

Ashland was the first and only team to score against Wittenberg in the first quarter during the 1970 season.

Ashland led 6-0 until, with 6:06 left in the first half, Herring ran five yards for the first Wittenberg touchdown. Brick's extra point was good, and Wittenberg led 7-6.

The Ashland Eagles were playing a good game, as shown by the half-time statistics. Although Wittenberg led in first downs 7-5, the Eagles had the edge in rushing yardage 136-120. Ron Slater had attempted

one pass and completed it to Jim Parker for seven yards. Jim Ferguson punted three times for a 27 yard average while Wittenberg punted twice for a 16 yard average. Larry Johnson racked up 92 yards in seven carries and Frank Thomas drove 56 yards in 13 carries. Tiger quarterback Rocky Alt completed only one pass in six attempts for 11 yards.

Early in the fourth quarter, Ferguson had a nine-yard punt against the wind. The Eagle defense held Wittenberg for a fourth down and one yard situation on the Ashland 38-yard line. The Tigers went for the first down but quarterback Rocky Alt missed the handoff

to his fullback, found himself alone in the backfield, and scrambled 38 yards for a touchdown. Bick's extra point was good, and with 10:37 to play, the score stood 14-6 in Wittenberg's favor.

The teams exchanged the ball and the Eagles found themselves on their own ten-yard line with 5:30 left to play. Quarterback Ron Slater passed to Bob Rosati for 19 yards and another first down. Slater was rushed and forced to throw the ball to Bob Rosati, for a three-yard loss. Slater again completed a pass, this time to Mark Gulling for six yards. The ball was placed on the Wittenberg 28-yard line, where the Ashland drive collapsed.

With less than two minutes left and Ashland down by eight, Slater was racked for a 13-yard loss. Then Slater went to the air, but Freeland of Wittenberg intercepted the pass and ended the Eagles' last hope of scoring. The final score stood: Wittenberg 14, Ashland 6.

Head Coach Dave Maurer of Wittenberg was impressed by the Ashland defense, "Ashland had the toughest defense of any team I've seen all year. They did a good job today against our offense."

Although the Eagles had the

low score on the board, Coach Fred Martinelli was somewhat pleased with his teams' performance. "We didn't do all right, but we stayed in there. Teddy Bear stayed right in there. It's really amazing, but our kids just keep coming back every week. Ron Slater made the team go today, but there are some things we still have to work on. We should be a better football team next week than we were today."

Ashland's Eagles have played some excellent football, but have lost some games they should have won, probably including the 1970 Wittenberg game.



AC gridiron man, Crevier, shows his concern during last Saturday's defeat.

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