

The Third Game — 1913

THE THIRD game between Rayen and South was played on Thanksgiving Day, 1913, at Wright Field. Rayen was the victor again, by a score of 20-6. The first half was largely a story of forward passing and the combination of Swanton and Butchy on several completions. A pass, Butchy to Swanton, the latter running twenty-five yards, resulted in the first score for Rayen. Swanton also kicked the point after touchdown to give the Orange and Black a 7 to 0 lead at the end of the first quarter. A few minutes after the opening of the second period, a pass by Swanton to Butchy netted Rayen sixty yards and was followed by another pass, Butchy to Swanton, for the second Rayen touchdown. Clarence Ashbaugh was good on his try for point, and Rayen led at the close of the first half, 14-0.

Shortly after the third period opened, Butchy was forced out of the fray with an ankle injury. He was replaced by Fox, and the Orange and Black moved to South's 15-yard line on passes and end runs. Once again Swanton went over for the score, but missed on the try for point; but Rayen led 20-0. The flashy Claudie Johnson of South ran back the next kickoff twenty yards through a broken field.

A series of end runs and forward passes, sparked by Johnson, moved the game to the Rayen 12-yard line where Claudie went over for the touchdown, but missed the try for conversion. The final score was Rayen 20, South 6.

↑ ↑

This game did not command the enthusiasm of the two previous encounters, since both teams had mediocre seasons; each school had lost valuable material. Rayen's 1913 record was three games won, four lost, and one tie. South had won

only two games, lost five, with a single tie. However, the lack of enthusiasm was made up by the hard work and clean play by both squads.

The Fourth Game — 1914

ON THANKSGIVING DAY, 1914, at Wright Field, the fourth annual Rayen-South contest was played before a crowd estimated at 6500. This colorful spectacle was beginning to take shape as the sporting event of the year, and the increase in attendance clearly indicated that a larger seating capacity would soon be needed.

Rayen emerged victorious in this hard-fought struggle by a score of 14-6. Both teams displayed more zest and determination than was exhibited in earlier events. This was the fourth year of this sectional rivalry, and with the city title hinging on the outcome, plus the growing importance of the game, the teams seemed to present more snap than usual.

The first quarter was scoreless, both teams battling between the 25-yard lines with no advantage for either. On the first kickoff Butchy of Rayen and Williams and Blystone of South were laid low, not necessarily from dirty play or fouling.

In the second quarter the Orange and Black began to declare themselves, abandoning the passing attack and going all-out for ground assaults. South High came up with the ball on its own 22-yard line and, after gaining only three yards, lost the ball on a fumble. It was here that the Rayen Tigers started to move. With Lee Pelen and Big Millie Warner alternating at smashing the line the Northsiders were soon on the South 3-yard line with Pelen plunging the remain-

ing distance for the touchdown. "Punch" Gaskeen kicked the goal and Rayen led 7-0. The second Rayen score was almost a repetition of the first, except that a few passes were completed until Rayen was well within scoring distance. Warner then went through the line to score easily. Gaskeen again was right on the conversion, and the Rayenites led 14-0.

South High's lone score was probably more thrilling than either of the Rayen scores. A field-goal attempt by Tony Butchy of Rayen went awry and the ball was grabbed by Harold "Specs" Dellmin, the South end, who sped almost the length of the field to tally for the Red and Blue Warriors in the longest run for a touchdown so far in the series. Dellmin, however, missed the try for point and the game ended with Rayen victorious, 14-6.

/ /

Millie Warner, the big Rayen fullback, finally came into his own in this contest. This was his third Rayen-South game and his line plunging was sensational. His death shortly before his high-school career was finished came as a shock to Youngstown fans. He was also a pitcher on the Orange and Black baseball team. His athletic record at the North Side school will live on.

Both schools introduced new coaches this year. Phil Edwards succeeded Hugh Smith at Rayen and Russell G. "Busty" Ashbaugh took over from Perle Denman at South High. Ashbaugh was a local boy, a star athlete at Rayen, who had captained the 1907 Rayen football team through an undefeated season. He was an All-American end and captain at Brown University in 1912, his senior year, and came to South after a year of coaching in Rhode Island.

The Fifth Game — 1915

THE DISTINCTION of the fifth Rayen-South game was that it was played on a local high-school gridiron, the new South High field, located at the rear of the school. The need for such a field was evident since the series started and the turnout for this 1915 titular clash proved conclusively that those who had a hand in establishing this recreation ground were not wrong. The only blot on an otherwise enjoyable afternoon, particularly for the South High adherents, was Rayen's victory, 6-0. It was the fourth victory in a row for the Orange and Black, but the margin was not as generous as in other years and the South gridders were getting closer to that much-coveted victory.

The play in the first quarter was fairly even, with South having a slight edge, but in the second period the Rayenites caught fire. Starting at midfield, the Northsiders opened a drive through the line and around the ends that finally wound up with halfback Lee Pelen going over for the initial touchdown. "Punch" Gaskeen missed the conversion, but Rayen took the lead, 6-0.

South rallied in the second half's earlier moments. "Specs" Dellmin, who had started at the quarterback post for the Warriors, moved to left end in place of Paul Shanks, and Selby Jacobs took over the signal-calling duties and immediately sparked the Red and Blue with a 25-yard pass completion on the first play. But this rally was nipped in the bud by the Rayen machine and South High was again faced with the arduous task of penetrating a line that would not yield an inch of ground. To add to the woes of the Warriors, each time Rayen obtained possession in its own territory the pigskin would be sent booming downfield with a punt to a point of safety.