

IN A surprising upset, an underdog Rayen triumphed over the South High Warriors by the lopsided score of 25-7 in the twentieth renewal of their annual classic. This game was played at Rayen Stadium and marked the return of the contest to Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1932. It was the first victory for the Orange and Black since 1923 and the second since 1916. The score was the second highest tallied by either team since the rivalry started in 1911, the 48-0 tally in favor of South High in 1917 still being the highest.

The weatherman also figured in a sort of upset—most of the fans had come prepared for the usual Rayen-South

weather but instead were greeted by a warm sun which remained until the game was about over. The playing field was suitable for fast football, and that was what the fans were treated to.

Accounts of the game estimate the crowd at about 15,000, double the number of fans attending the 1931 game played on a Saturday afternoon—more proof that fans wanted their Rayen-South game on Thanksgiving Day.

South went to work early in the first quarter. After an exchange of punts, two by each team, South came up with the ball on its 13-yard line, where the drive for the first touchdown started. Lehman Tomlin dashed around end for seventeen yards and then, on a fake punt, took a pass from Jimmy Lottier good for thirty yards. A couple of line plays followed and then on a double pass he ran to the Rayen 1-yard line. On the next play Lobinger went over for the tally. Humphrey's kick for the extra point was good and South led 7-0.

After the ensuing kickoff Rayen found itself on the South 48-yard line following Lottier's punt that went out of bounds. Now Paul Birkholtz went to work. After gaining five yards through tackle, he caught Dornstetter downfield with a beautiful pass good for thirty yards to the South 15-yard line. On a lateral from Johnson, "Birky" went to the South 1-yard line and waltzed over the first Rayen score. A pass play for the extra point failed and South still led 7-6.

The prettiest play of the game occurred on the next kickoff when Jimmy Lottier took the ball on his 15-yard line and sped upfield eighty-five yards for a South touchdown. It was the first kickoff return for a touchdown in the twenty games played thus far. No one laid a hand on the shifty Lottier. Unfortunately for South, Chris Lobinger was detected holding, and the beautiful run was nullified. This seemed to take something out of the Warriors; from then on they lacked their earlier zip.

The second period was only minutes old when Birkholtz

got away one of his booming punts that was downed by Dornstetter on the South 2-yard line. Lottier of South went behind his goal line to kick out of danger. The kick was blocked, but a South player recovered on the 3-yard line. After a short conference the officials gave the ball to Rayen on the South 4-yard line (the ruling: since the ball did not cross the line of scrimmage it was Rayen's). On the third play, Johnson went over from two yards out, and repeated for the extra point, and Rayen took the lead, 13-7.

The second-half lineup was the same as the starting lineup. After seesawing up and down the field, Birkholtz returned Lottier's punt ten yards to the South 48-yard line. After a pass failure, Birkholtz hit Johnson with a completed toss good for fifteen yards. Then, with a beautiful fake pass that took the South secondary out of position, Birkholtz stormed around end thirty-three yards for the touchdown. It was splendidly executed and caught South by surprise. A short forward pass for the extra point was good, but was ruled out on a penalty. Rayen led at this point, 19-7.

In the fourth quarter Rayen worked the ball down to South's 1-foot line, but the Warriors held and South took over on downs. But the Orange and Black were not to be denied. With Lottier of South back to punt, the kick was partially blocked and Rayen recovered on the South High 2-yard line. Two assaults by Johnson gained a yard and the South suffered an off-side penalty, half the distance to the goal line, where Birkholtz smashed over for the score, the third touchdown of the game. When the try for point failed via a lateral pass, the Rayenites led 25-7, the score when hostilities ended.

The clue to this comeback victory (South scored first and led at the end of the first quarter) is just three words: "Too much Birkholtz." Paul gave one of the greatest offensive exhibitions ever seen in this annual classic. He definitely sparked the Orange and Black with his all-around play. In

The Twenty-First Game — 1933

THE RAYEN TIGERS defeated the South High Warriors 6-0 in one of the most dramatic finishes recorded in this great rivalry. This was the twenty-first in the series and was played at South Field on Saturday afternoon, November 25, 1933. The usual holiday crowd was missing for this Saturday afternoon encounter, and as the game neared the end the fans were willing to settle for a scoreless tie. Most of the game was played between the 20-yard lines, and plenty of punting took place. South threatened in the first quarter when Price got loose for seventeen yards; the only man between was the Rayen safety man, but he saved the day by nailing Price. The second quarter was as devoid of thrills as the first and the half ended in a 0-0 deadlock.

With the start of the second half both teams seemed to have benefited by the rest, but the game soon settled into the pattern of the first half. Playing time passing quickly, both teams tried hard to unknot the deadlock, throwing caution to the winds. Gene Ryan, who had replaced Price for South, intercepted James' pass and returned it to the Rayen 44. Jimmy Lottier gained thirteen yards on a quarterback sneak and Ryan went back for another pass. As he was pedaling backward, looking for a receiver, Rayen tackle Klucaric hit Ryan, and the ball left his hand. Big Tom Robinson, Rayen end, was Johnny-on-the-spot; he caught the ball and headed for the South goal fifty yards away. Players on both teams were stunned at the turn of events, and the South players were a long time getting started in pursuit of the flying Robinson. The chase proved hopeless, as Robinson crossed the goal line while pandemonium reigned. Dom Rosselli's kick for the point was wide, but the 6-0 lead was enough when time ran out as the bewildered South team tried to get back in the game.

This was the second straight victory for Rayen over South and its eighth in the series.

With this game the Rayen-South rivalry came of age. Besides being the twenty-first game, it marked the first time a second generation entered this great spectacle—Tom Robinson, hero of this game, was the son of Clarence Robinson who captained the 1911 Rayen team, the first to start the series against South High.