

Pete Ashbaugh, son of South High coach "Busty," played quarterback the entire game for the Red and Blue and performed well. It seemed only a while back young Ashbaugh was the South High mascot, just a mite of a lad, trotting out of the dressing quarters with the squad and taking part in the pre-game workouts. Then suddenly he was one of the players, a "chip off the old block." Time marches on.

### *The Twenty-Sixth Game — 1938*

ON A FIELD more suitable for ice hockey than football, Rayen and South slipped, slithered and battled to a scoreless tie in their twenty-sixth game of the series at South Field, Saturday afternoon, November 26, 1938, with 7500 rabid fans looking on. The game was postponed from Thanksgiving Day because of a blinding snowstorm. It was the first postponement since the series started in 1911, and the third deadlock of the twenty-six games played. Considering the field condition, the tie score was complimentary to both teams. Most of the players wore rubber-soled shoes, but even this helped ground-gaining little.

South led in the statistics, for Rayen was within South's 30-yard line only twice and lacked the power to advance farther. The only spectacular offensive play occurred when Flauto of Rayen went from his 32-yard line to the South 17-yard line, where he was nailed from behind by Bob Dove. It was a game-saving deed by Dove, who had been taken out of play once. It was a fine setup for a Rayen score, but the defensive work of Dove, Ashbaugh and Dailey ended that.

In the third period Rayen's hopes were lifted again for a moment, but to no avail. Flauto threw a pass intended for Ashton. The ball was over the goal line but Ashbaugh,

defending on the play, leaped into the air and caught it. Rayen rooters went wild; they thought it was a safety for Rayen and two points for their school. However, the referee ruled the play a touchback, and South took over on its 20-yard line. This play caused quite a stir; some thought Ashbaugh pulled a boner in catching the ball. After the game Referee Gross gave Ashbaugh credit for a bit of football strategy, since the pass was thrown on second down and had Ashbaugh batted it down Rayen would still have possession. As it turned out, the catch was a game-saver for South.

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For Rayen, Nespecca, Ashton, Lyden and Antonucci were outstanding, and Bob Dove of South was sparkling on defense, with Dailey, Ashbaugh, Jack Cramb, Bill Moore and Ray Chubb close behind. Dick Dailey was a terror in backing up the line for South. Near the close of the contest he got mixed up in a slight altercation but cooler heads on both teams prevailed and nothing came of it.

The Red and Blue Warriors led by Captain Cy James had a decided edge in the statistics. They led in first downs 8-3, net yards gained 194-97. Rayen, with Nespecca punting, ruled in this department. Rayen punted twelve times for a 35.4 average while South kicked thirteen times for an average of 28.7 yards. South was penalized five times for a total of 55 yards. Rayen drew 30 yards on four infractions.

Although it was not known at the time, this was "Busty" Ashbaugh's final game as South High coach. For health conditions "Busty" was satisfied to call it quits, after twenty-four years at the helm of the South squad, though he remained as a teacher at South High.

