

from these depths to the topmost spot in two years was little short of phenomenal.

The Forty-Third Game — 1955

BEFORE THE smallest crowd that ever witnessed a Rayen-South game, the South High Warriors nosed out the Rayen Tigers by 7-0 at South High Stadium. Less than 1000 fans were in the stands Friday night, November 4. It was cold and damp, with low visibility, conditions which played a big part in lowering attendance at the oldest rivalry in the area. The lone touchdown of the game was scored by South quarterback John Viggiano about midway in the second period. It was a "squeaker" at best for South High, for the Northsiders were on the 1-yard line when time ran out.

After a scoreless first quarter with neither team threatening, South started a drive, taking a Davis punt on the Rayen 47-yard line. Viggiano's pass was incomplete, but Lou Floyd scooted around right end for eighteen yards to the 29. After two line plays failed, Mervin Spencer took a screen pass from Viggiano and went ten yards for first down. Floyd got five yards on another end run. The Tigers seemed to stem the tide when they held Spencer to a 1-yard gain and nailed Floyd for a loss of three yards. But South was not to be denied. With fourth and goal to go, Viggiano faked to his right as if to pass, and instead galloped into the end zone for the touchdown. Jack Pauley's placement was good and South led 7-0. This was the only sustained drive of the game for the Red and Blue but it was all it needed.

Rayen took the following kickoff and drove upfield 61 yards, Jim Frost leading the way with 46 yards of the 61, 24 of them on a screen pass from Amato Dominic. With a first

and ten on the Warrior's 16, Frost was thrown for a six-yard loss. Then the ever-present Spencer intercepted Dominic's second-down pass in the end zone and ran it all the way out to the 40-yard line as the first half ended.

Neither team threatened in the third quarter, but the Tigers made a determined bid to deadlock the battle in the final quarter. The Orange and Black took a South punt on its 43 and went forty-nine yards to the South 8-yard line. It was Frost again who led the way, picking up thirty-three yards in the drive.

With a first-and-ten situation on the South 15, Frost went for a yard and then seven more in two plays. Duane Brown hit for one yard but on fourth down Dominic was spilled for a yard loss as South took the ball on downs. South got as far as the 20 with the aid of an offside penalty, but was forced to punt, and the Rayenites were on the move again from their 44-yard line.

With sophomore Bill Bretz in the game and throwing, Rayen went all out in the few remaining moments of the game. Bretz, out with injuries most of the season, showed accuracy when he caught Frost for twenty-six yards on a screen pass and then hit end Homer Green for twelve yards. End Dick Schneider nabbed one on the 6-yard line with only twenty-six seconds remaining. Moving fifty yards on three pass plays, the Tigers went to the ground; Jackson Pruitt got one yard and Brown picked up four more to get within one yard of pay dirt, but time ran out with South High the victor, 7-0.

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Rayen had a big margin in the statistics—252 yards gained to South's 111; in first downs fifteen to a mere three for the Red and Blue.

The Tigers, with Jim Frost leading the parade, could not be stopped; within scoring range, however, they seemed lost. On the other hand, the South High Warriors had a grand march and it paid off; all they had to do was protect this lead.