

Scoring Records and Individual Bests

Best-played, hardest-fought game—the 1919 game, South winning 7-0.

Longest-scoring run from scrimmage—79 yards by Rayen's Tony "Lefty" Tabachino in the 1945 game. Rayen 14, South 7.

Longest punt return—70 yards by Rayen's "Jiggo" Del Quadri in the 1923 encounter. Rayen 19, South 0.

Longest run with fumble or loose ball—82 yards by South's Harold "Specs" Dellmin in the 1914 game. Rayen 14, South 6.

Longest forward pass play—79 yards from Rayen's quarterback John Buggs to halfback Jack Bisso in the 1952 game. South 39, Rayen 19.

Longest pass and lateral play—67 yards in the 1936 game: Fortunato to Naples, who lateraled to Charles Robinson of Rayen, who ran fifty-five yards for the touchdown. Rayen 13, South 0.

Longest return with intercepted pass—67 yards by Rayen's Sam Kasparian in the 1950 game. Rayen 19, South 0.

Longest punt—77 yards by South's Mervin Spencer in the 1956 game. South 14, Rayen 0.

Biggest upset—the 1912 game, which Rayen won 5-0. Pre-game dope had South winning by at least forty points, but Rayen refused to believe this and went on to take the game.

Most dramatic finish—the 1945 game. With the fans filing out of South Field, only seconds remaining and the score tied at 7, "Lefty" Tabachino got loose for his record-breaking run to give the Rayenites a 14-7 victory.

Only kickoff runback for a touchdown—After Rayen scored its first touchdown in the 1932 game, South's Jimmy Lottier took the kickoff on the 15-yard line and ran eighty-five yards through the Rayen team for an apparent touchdown; this was nullified by a holding penalty. Rayen 25, South 7.

Most controversial figure—Rayen's Harry "Hy" Manushak's age eligibility was questioned by South each year of his varsity career. The metal protection for his injured knee in the 1924 game was also a controversial issue.

The most unforgettable personality—the late Coach Russell G. "Busty" Ashbaugh, Mr. Football himself. "Busty" coached at South High for twenty-four years. One of the few to have played against the immortal Jim Thorpe, both as a college player and as a professional, he possessed a wealth of football stories. "Busty" was one of the first coaches to blueprint his coaching methods. He devised the "Monday-evening-quarterback" sessions. Every Monday night during the football season South High key players would meet at his home; there the mistakes of previous games and the strategy for forthcoming games would be gone over. The blueprint would be conspicuous—the reason why South teams under Ashbaugh were smart and tricky. Year after year South High was reasonably sure of a brainy quarterback calling the plays.

For years Ashbaugh was the only mentor at the South Side school, where he coached all sports, many of the football seasons working without an assistant. But "Busty" did have a very able assistant in the person of his wife, "Ted" Ashbaugh, the former Thelma Ross. She was quite an athlete at South High, a star player and captain of the 1914 girls' basketball team. During the latter years of "Busty's" coaching she was the "Mother" to the South football players, never missing a game.

Ashbaugh's coaching record began to fade in the early 1930s when he was overtaken by illness. His main forte was

his ability to don a uniform and show the boys how it was done. Though his physician ordered this stopped, Ashbaugh continued as he had always done; but after being hospitalized, his final years were spent coaching by direction. He decided to stick it out until young "Pete," his son Russell, Jr., completed his gridiron career at South. Young Ashbaugh went on to Notre Dame, where he starred as halfback for the Irish in 1942-43, the sixth Ashbaugh-coached player to star at the South Bend school (the others being Harvey Brown, Ray "Bucky" Dahman, Mike Koken, Fred Munde and Bob Dove). These boys and many others tutored by "Busty" received All-American mention.

The best all-around play—the following, rated equally:

(1) Rayen's Bill Swanton's 1913 scoring of three touchdowns and one point kicked after touchdown for 19 points for Rayen's 20-6 victory. (2) The "best" series game of 1919, featuring the phenomenal work of South's Ray "Curly" Johnson, who from his center position in just a few moments turned a scoreless tie into a 7-0 victory with four thrilling plays. (3) Rayen's Paul Birkholtz's 1932 galloping-gazelle runs for three touchdowns and pass for a fourth to spark his team to a 25-7 win over a favored South team.

The greatest display of forward passing—The 1952 Rayen team completing thirteen of thirty-four passes for 328 yards. Quarterbacks John Buggs and Bob Timlin spearheaded this attack, Buggs completing eleven of twenty-six throws, two resulting in touchdowns. (These weren't enough, however, as South won 39-19.)

The greatest player personality—the late Raymond L. Johnson of South High, better known as "Curly." Many boys who played in Rayen-South contests went on to greater football glory than "Curly," but he was the only hero in two successive Rayen-South contests. In 1919 and 1920 he was the outstanding player on the field, though he was at a different position in each game. Center in 1919, he was the dominating factor in four quick plays that gave South High

a hard-fought 7-0 victory. In 1920, when Coach Ashbaugh was in dire need of ball-carriers he shifted "Curly" from center to halfback in midseason, and he proved equally at home in both positions. The big smiling captain's ball-carrying in the 1920 game was sensational. "Curly" was a football natural; he had an uncanny sixth sense for diagnosing the enemy's plays.

The football field was not the only place where Johnson distinguished himself; he was a letter man in three major sports—football, basketball and track. He was a three-year man in football and basketball, captained the 1920 South eleven and was one of the organizers and the first president of the Four Square Club, a youth organization, with Mr. H. K. Rayen as adviser. This club is still functioning. He was also the president of his senior class, and his spare time was spent at the desk in the Boys' Division of the Central Y.M.C.A. If he had a second home it was the Y.M.C.A. in downtown Youngstown. On many an occasion, after strenuous football practice on South Field, "Curly" would hie down to the "Y" to work an hour or two with his boys.

In the South High annual for June 1921, along with the usual picture and "Curly's" list of activities, appeared these words:

*On thy cheeks the flush of youth,
On thy lips the smile of truth.*

After the 1920 Rayen-South game, the local press commented on Johnson's outstanding play in that contest:

Johnson is truly a football find and the college that picks him up will certainly have a real phenomenon. In the last Rayen-South affair, "Curly" was the whole thing. His line-plunges and off-tackle slants were easily the most brilliant ever taking place in a Rayen-South conflict.

Johnson is young and he is big and strong. He is as hard as steel, takes the best care of himself and is