

Wilson Scores Four, Alton Romps, 32-6



Don Plarski
Sports Editor

Football, Schmoottball

The silly season is here just as it was in April when the major league baseball races got under way.

The silly season is the pro football season when guys in my business find themselves with little to do on the eve of the first Sunday of the National Football League campaign.

The first night of the high school season is over and somehow we've managed to put it all together in black on white as you'll read in today's sports section.

People around our neck of the woods have been exposed to the NFL for so long, some don't much care what happens over in that other league.

That little else to do is predicting the outcome of the NFL races. Silly? Sure, but it sparks the imagination.

Like picking the Cardinals to win their division and the Bears in theirs. (Same to you, buddy!)

CENTURY DIVISION

Okay, let's get right into the meat of it. The Cardinals. Why not? Cleveland isn't a world beater in the Century Division. It might be a solid club, but it can be had.

The Cardinals did a facelift job that's keeping right in stride with A. J. Corvantes' brainstorms. Don't believe all that bunk you've heard or read about the racial issue disrupting the team. Could be they'll be a better team because of it.

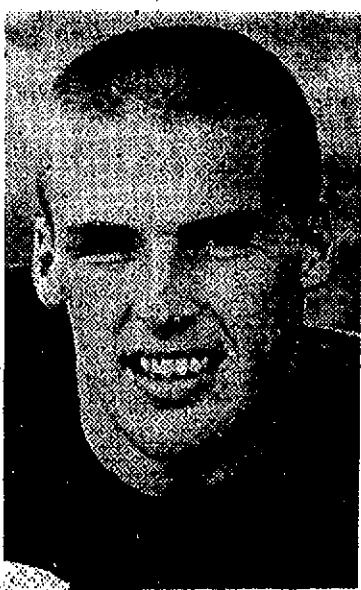
I'm banking my prediction on the Cards' offense to offset any holes in the defense. The Cards' offensive line is as good as any and young Mr. Hart at quarterback has as good a trio of receivers in Dave Williams, Jackie Smith and Bobby Joe Conrad as any in the league.

The once-sturdy defensive corps has been depleted by trades and retirements, but they'll still have enough to outlast Cleveland, which has a tough first half schedule. Cleveland's schedule, plus the meeting of the two clubs in St. Louis in the last regularly scheduled games, gives more reason why the Cards are picked.

Cleveland will finish second in the division with Pittsburgh third and New Orleans fourth.

Some people are high on the Steelers' chances. If their quarterbacking is any indication, Pittsburgh will be lucky to beat out New Orleans.

Finish: St. Louis, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, New Orleans.



DAVE WILLIAMS

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CENTRAL DIVISION

Cecil Turner to be rookie-of-the-year, Gale Sayers to lead the league in rushing, Jim Dooley to be coach-of-the-year and the Bears to win the Central Division.

The Bears are ready to take over supremacy of the Central teams. Green Bay is getting a little gray around the temples even though Bart Starr will still throw the bomb on a third-and-one from his death bed.

Paper Bear was a nice guy, but it's about time he moved over to give the modern day gents their chance at doing something about a team that has always had the horses but never got out of the gate.

Now, Dooley, a former Bear, has given the Bears a new face. He's got 'em lining up everywhere on offense to take the pressure off Sayers and give the guy more room. Could be you'll see Sayers catching more passes this year.

Never bet against the Packers. Used to be the same way with the Yankees and Celtics. I'm not a rich man but a buck gets you another one if you're a Packer backer.

Minnesota could be the surprise in this division. The Vikings have a spunky offense and the Canadian castoff at quarterback, Joe Kapp, may have found himself.

If Turner doesn't make a rookie-of-the-year, Earl McCulloch of Detroit could. He and new quarterback Bill Munson could form a potent pass package. Mel Farr, last year's best rookie, is a fine traffic-evader from his running back slot and gives the Lions punch. The offensive line is a sound one.

Finish: Chicago, Green Bay, Minnesota, Detroit.

CAPITOL DIVISION

Dallas here. No ifs, ands or buts. The Cowboys have got it. Speed, defense and offense. They could take the whole bundle this year in the playoffs. Don Meredith and Bob Hayes. Nuff said.

The Giants picked up Sam Siles from the Cards. He'll no doubt help but not enough. Alie Sherman is still in the rebuilding stage though Fran Tarkenton gives everybody fits. Plus, he's got some of the best receivers.

Sonny Jurgensen? That's just what he is—a question mark. If his arm is sound, Washington will have an offense. The defense? That's something else.

Whatever happened to the Philadelphia Eagles? Finish: Dallas, New York, Washington, Philadelphia.

COASTAL DIVISION

Johnny Unitas and a great defense. A combination that could lead them to better things than the Coastal crown. Running game is weak, but the hunch here is the Colts over Los Angeles.

With tongue in cheek, the Rams are picked for second. Not so much because of Baltimore, but because of one player—Unitas. He makes any team a threat. He's one to Baltimore.

The Rams have a furious front four on defense with end Deacon Jones the best in the business. They've got it all, but still the Colts are the pick.

Can't tell about San Francisco under new coach Dick Nolan and his system of complex plays. The 49ers did give the Rams all they could handle last weekend.

Atlanta still doesn't have it to move out of fourth place in the division. Tommy Nobis is a superstar.

Finish: Baltimore, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta.

Beban Out for Season

WASHINGTON (AP) — Heisman Trophy winner Gary Beban has been placed on the injured list by the Washington Redskins in their final preseason cut.

The All-American rookie from UCLA, who ranked only No. 4 among Redskins quarterbacks, is unlikely to be reactivated this season.

Beban, who received an estimate \$200,000 on a three-year contract with Washington, has pulled a muscle, permitting the Redskins to place him in the injured category rather than the rival teams a shot at him through waivers.

The Redskins kept former taxi squad member Harry Theofiles and veteran Jim Ninowski to back up quarterback Sonny Jurgensen, still subpar as a result of an off-season elbow operation.

Wilson, who won his 18th

By **DON PLARSKI**
Telegraph Sports Editor

QUINCY — Alton High School got three long home runs and a couple other extra base hits here Friday night as the Redbirds opened their football season with a deceptive 32-6 win over Quincy.

Little 5-8, 155-pound Gerry Wilson, the Dal Maxwell of the Redbirds, was the biggest slugger of them all. He totaled four touchdowns after his running mate at the other half, Larry Bosaw got the Redbirds rolling with a right flat touchdown toss from quarterback Mike Jeffries.

Wilson, who made a habit of going all the way with punts last year, did it again Friday night. Two of his touchdowns came on punt returns. The other two were from scrimmage.

The little speedster, nicknamed Scooter by the coaches, had scoring gallops of 19,

20, 27 and 32 yards. In all, he accounted for 222 yards via rushes, punt returns and one pass. His average for eight carries was 8.3 yards, this after getting caught for losses his first four of five assignments.

Alton built a 20-0 lead at the end of the first half before Quincy, a sputtering club on offense, was able to score.

Just when it appeared the Blue Devils might catch fire, Wilson's two last quarter touchdowns snuffed out their hopes.

"It's always nice when you win and I guess you have to say I'm happy about it," said Alton coach Ed Youkus as he walked across the field that hadn't seen a grass mower in more than a month. "But, I told you we needed work on offense. Tonight proved it. We still got a lot of work to do."

Youkus, who took a brief fling as a pitcher in the White Sox

organization once, compared the game to that of baseball.

"We got the home runs to night," he said, "but I'd like to be more consistent on offense. We need to grind out those yards. We didn't do it. We gotta get four and five yards a clip. One of these nights we're going to come up against a tough pitcher."

While Alton's offense showed it wasn't polished yet, the defense flashed some brightness at times. Line coach Gary Brandt was so-so in his praise.

"We did pretty well, but we spent too much time blocking," he said. "The pursuit was great, though."

One disheartening note came out of the game. Bosaw sustained an injury to his ribs late in the game and it's feared he may have cracked one of them. A diagnosis will be made today. If it is cracked, there's a possibility he may miss the

East St. Louis game two Friday days away. If not, he'll probably play next week against city rival Marquette.

It was Bosaw who took a pass in the right flat and went in from 21 yards early in the first quarter to put the Redbirds on the scoreboard.

It was 6-0 after the first quarter.

Wilson had a terrible time getting untracked. He carried the ball three times in the first quarter and didn't gain an inch. He lost 21 yards.

He caught a screen pass from Jeffries in the second quarter and got 17 yards before he was hit and fumbled over to Quincy.

Fortunately, the Blue Devils couldn't take advantage.

Wilson tried it once more when Alton got the ball again. He lost three more yards.

The only thing he lost the rest of the night were Blue Devils.

After Wilson's three-yard reversal, Bosaw went 52 yards on a perfectly executed inside reverse to the Quincy 13.

Jeffries passed on first down, the ball hit intended receiver Gary Hagen and deflected into Randy Bailey's hands for a first down on the 19.

Wilson, impatient by now, went around right end unimpeded for the score.

Quincy couldn't move and Bruce Ator's bouncing punt was picked up by Wilson at his own 40. Three good blocks broke him loose and he went 60 yards for his second touchdown.

Alton had a touchdown nullified as the first half ended. The Redbirds moved from their own 41 to the Quincy with two seconds left.

Their timeouts exhausted, the Redbirds hurriedly lined up and Jeffries pitched to Hagen for an apparent touchdown. But, one of the Alton backs failed to

get set and the score was not allowed.

Quincy perked up in the third quarter. Taking the second half kickoff, the Blue Devils moved to the Alton 19 from where Richard Hickman, his team's best runner and the workhorse, swept left end, cut back and went in standing up.

Wilson drove in another run early in the fourth period. Using sheer speed, he circled left end and raced 57 yards for his third touchdown and a 26-6 bulge.

Quincy made the mistake of punting to the little guy late in the game. He fielded the ball on his own 35, faked to his left twice as the wall formed and went down the right sideline for 65 yards and another score.

The Redbirds had one last shot when Quincy reached the Devils 24 as the game ended.

Statistics were as one-sided as the score. Alton piled up

| ALTON | QUINCY |
|----------------|--------|
| First Downs | 267 |
| Yards Rushing | 87 |
| Yards Passing | 354 |
| Total Yards | 441 |
| Passes | 6-11 |
| Passes Int. By | 1 |
| Fumbles Lost | 2 |
| Penalties | 3-65 |

Maroons Won't Miss Jack King

Southwestern Conference high school football teams broke even against outside competition in Friday night's opening contests, winning three, losing as many and having another result in a tie.

Alton's Redbirds, co-champions of the conference last year, blistered Quincy, 32-6; Wood River's Oilers blanked Civic Memorial, 27-0; and Belleville West, also co-champ of the league in 1967, thumped Mount Vernon, 33-0.

Soldan of St. Louis stopped the East St. Louis Flyers, 20-13; Belleville East belted Edwardsville 38-6; and Cahokia upended Collinsville, 25-6.

The tie resulted between Granite City and Belleville Althoff, 13-13.

The Maroons of Coach Bob Samples have apparently come up with a quarterback who can more than adequately fill the shoes of graduated Jack King, now a Missouri freshman hopeful.

Junior signal-caller John Bunch zeroed in on 11 of 12 pass attempts, covering a distance of 180 yards, and included two touchdown targets.

He hit Brett Domesick for 14 yards and a TD, followed that by throwing to Ed Merten in the end zone on a 35-yard toss. On top of that, he scored on a one-yard plunge.

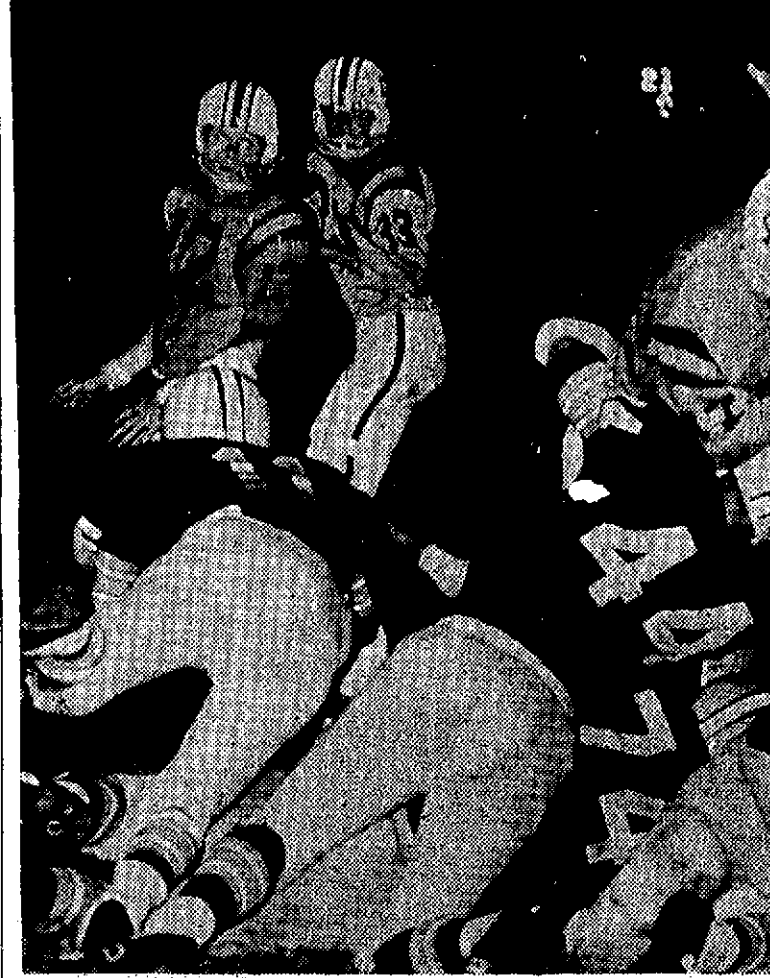
Belleville East's Lancers, launching their third year of football, put Edwardsville in hot water right off the bat, returning the opening kick-off 50 yards.

Three plays later they were over for a touchdown with Dave Chapman doing the four-yard running honors.

Tom Lang, after failing to convert the point, ran 43 yards for East's second TD. Lang kicked the extra point.

Jeff Green of the Lancers returned an Edwardsville punt for 68 yards for a third touchdown of the opening period.

In the second period, Bruce



CLOSE BUT NO CIGAR — Halfback Horald Moran of Civic Memorial, trying to ram over from the one-yard line, ran into disaster in the form of Wood River's 188-pound Greg Burk, who hit Moran so hard

the ball squirted from the latter's hands. Jim Clapsaddle of Wood River recovered on the one, foiling Civic Memorial's only scoring threat of the game, won by Wood River, 27-0.

Reeder picked up a Tiger fumble and dashed 27 yards for Belleville East's fourth touchdown.

Edwardsville got its only TD of the game in the second quarter when Pat Peterson went over after receiving a five-yard aerial from Bob Meintrup.

After a scoreless first quarter, the Lancers struck twice in the close-out stanza, Lang racing 17 yards for a TD, followed by Dave Chapman's 20-yard touchdown junket.

Quarterback John Walker of Cahokia connected on 10 of 13 passes to spell Collinsville's doom. Charley Robinson caught six of Walker's aeriels, scoring twice, first on a 15-yard pass and then a second of 11 yards. Irvin Cozart of the Comanches also sparkled on a 68-yard punt return touchdown gallop.

Granite City yielded 13 points to Belleville Althoff in the first period, then threw up a stone-wall defense, scoring twice thereafter to salvage a tie.

George Brown of Althoff galloped 68 yards for his team's first TD early in the period, then Tim Roth scored on a seven-yard trip.

Jim Greenwood of the Warriors scored on a two-yard run in the same period, and then plunged over in the third period to tie up the game.

The Crusaders averted a defeat by blocking the Warrior's extra point.

AT EDWARDSVILLE

| Belleville East | 19 | 6 | 0 | 13-28 |
|--|----|---|---|-------|
| Edwardsville | 10 | 6 | 0 | 6-36 |
| BE—Chapman 4 run (kick failed) | | | | |
| BE—Lang 43 run (Lang kick) | | | | |
| BE—Gunn 68 punt return (kick failed) | | | | |
| BE—Reeder 27 fumble recovery (kick failed) | | | | |
| BE—Peterson 5 pass from Meintrup (kick failed) | | | | |
| BE—Lang 17 run (Lang kick) | | | | |
| BE—Chapman 20 run (Brewer kick) | | | | |

| STATISTICS | BE | E |
|----------------|-----|------|
| First Downs | 15 | 10 |
| Yards Rushing | 271 | 174 |
| Yards Passing | 8 | 20 |
| Total Yards | 279 | 194 |
| Passes Int. By | 1-3 | 2-12 |
| Fumbles Lost | 3 | 3 |
| Penalties | 7-0 | 3-30 |

Magic Number: 5 for Detroit

By **HAL BOCK**
Associated Press Sports Writer

The Do Not Disturb sign has been hanging in the Detroit bullpen for 10 days now and as the Tigers inch closer to the American League pennant their only problem seems to be remembering to invite the relief pitchers to the celebration.

Earl Wilson shut out Oakland 3-0 on 10 hits Friday night and, combined with second-place Baltimore's 10-2 loss to Cleveland, the victory cut Detroit's magic number to five. Any combination of Tiger victories or Oriole losses totaling five wraps it up.

Wilson's shutout was the seventh straight route-going performance for the Detroit pitching staff. The last time manager Mayo Smith had to summon help from the bullpen was Sept. 4.

In other American League games Friday, the streaking New York Yankees swept a doubleheader from Washington 4-2 and 2-1; Boston shut out Minnesota 8-0 and Chicago edged California 2-1.

Wilson, who won his 18th

By **JIM BELL**
Telegraph Sports Writer

WOOD RIVER—If there happened to be no scouts — either high school or college variety — who happened by Memorial Stadium here Friday night, they left with maroon and gold spots before their eyes.

A veteran Wood River Oiler team methodically took apart neighborhood rival Civic Memorial, 27-0, in impressive fashion. And the Oilers left little room for argument.

Except for early in the opening period and a brief flourish at the outset of the second, the Eagles couldn't get an offense going against the hard-nosed host club, which was hitting with the impact of a safe dropped out of a 10-story window.

The Oilers combined that with three long runs and a pass to deliver the knockout punch.

Much of the damage was done by Dan DeGerlia, who was switched from quarterback to a halfback slot, "running from that spot for the first time in his life," according to Coach Wayne Williams.

"And we just switched him last week," DeGerlia's very satisfied coach added.

After a scoreless first period in which Civic Memorial displayed the stubbornness of a mule full of back talk, the Oilers sprung DeGerlia loose on a short trap.

The 182-pound senior left half went straight up the middle and onto touchdown territory 50 yards away with only 3:40 to go before the half.

Mark McCollister, a 182-pound guard, kicked the extra point with Dave Burk doing the holding.

"That touchdown's what killed us," said Coach Ed Hartweger of the Eagles, "and they did it on the very play we'd worked on defending—the short trap.

Quarterback Cappy Prange of

the Eagles then tried to counter-attack through the air without much success and was forced to punt on fourth down.

Wood River took over on its own 39 where, with the help of a five-yard offside penalty assessed against the Eagles, moved to the 44.

At that point quarterback Roy Morris hit wingback Darrel Hayes with a 20-yard heave, moving to CM's 36.

With only 22 seconds to go, Morris immediately followed with another strike, this one going to DeGerlia, who traveled 36 yards for the second Oiler TD.

McCollister again converted at the half ended, 14-0.

And then, with only 3:30 gone in the third period after Civic Memorial was again forced to punt, DeGerlia came back to haunt the Eagles a third time.

The Oilers were sweeping the Eagle ends all night and young Mr. Morris was very much aware of it. So, when on his own 47, he gave the ball to DeGerlia, who swept around his own left side and then tight-roped down the west sidelines for his third TD of the game.

The play covered a 53-yard distance and the Oiler halfback found himself dangerously close to the out-of-bounds chalk a goodly portion of the route.

McCollister again booted the point.

Civic Memorial came within a yard of scoring on the Oilers in the fourth period after Mr. Morris fumbled on a play that started on his own 25.

When the ball was recovered by the end Stan Hawkins of CM it was on Wood River's 15.

A personal foul penalty against the Oilers then marched the ball down to their seven.

Halfback Bob Deist and Prange moved the ball to the five, where Diest went up the middle to the one.

On a first-and-goal situation, Prange handed off to halfback Harold Moran who started over the Oilers' right side where he was met head-on by 188-pound line-backer Greg Burk. Moran fumbled and Jim Clapsaddle recovered, preserving Wood River's shutout.

In five plays, the Oilers moved out to their own 14 where Morris neatly faked a hand-off, but kept the ball and picked some pin-point blocking as well as good downfield blocking to travel 86 yards for the Oilers' final six pointer with 7:00 to go.

This time, however, McCollister's point-after attempt failed.

Civic Memorial again failed to mount an offense and tried to kick on a fourth-and-27 situation. John Eaves, a sophomore end, couldn't haul down a deflected pass from center and had to run it instead.

The Oilers hauled him down on CM's 20 where, with something like four minutes to go, it appeared Wood River would go into touchdown territory again even though it had a reserve-studded line up.

With 3:25 to go, after Wood River failed to move the ball, McCollister attempted a field goal from the 25 but failed.

Wood River rolled to 304 yards rushing to CM's minus-26 and yielded only 61 to the Eagles in the air.

The Oilers combined their rushing total with 72 by air for an overall total yardage of 376 to CM's meager 35.

DeGerlia was easily the rushing leader. He covered 173 yards in 14 carries. Morris had 94 in five totes, 86 of which he gobbled up in one run.

Next week the Oilers will journey to Roxana, a club that was walloped in its opener against Southwestern, 27-0.

Civic Memorial 0 0 0 0-0
Wood River 80 0 14 7 6-27

STATISTICS

| | WV | CM |
|----------------|------|------|
| First Downs | 26 | 11 |
| Yards Rushing | 279 | 394 |
| Yards Passing | 8 | 20 |
| Total Yards | 287 | 414 |
| Passes Int. By | 7-13 | 4-8 |
| Fumbles Lost | 3 | 3 |
| Penalties | 7-0 | 3-30 |

Oilers Bury Eagles As DeGerlia Sparkles

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Quarterback Cappy Prange of

Football Scores

LOCAL

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Alton 32, Quincy 6 | Wood River 27, Civic Memorial 0 |
| Belleville West 33, Mount Olive 0 | Southwestern 27, Roxana 0 |
| Soldan 29, East St. Louis 13 | Belleville East 38, Edwardsville 6 |
| Belleville Althoff 13, Granite City 13 | Cahokia 25, Collinsville 6 |
| Vandalia 9, Tripp 6 | O'Fallon 27, Madison 0 |
| Winchester 7, Tripp 0 | Greenfield 26, Girard 0 |
| Philadelp 23, North Greene 0 | Carrollton 28, Mount Olive 0 |
| Carrollton 28, Mount Olive 0 | Routt (Jacksonville) 28, Calhoun 8 |

OTHERS

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mt. Carmel 19, Alhion 0 | Eldorado 13, Garlin 13 |
| O'Fallon 27, Madison 0 | Winchester 7, Tripp 0 |
| Greenfield 26, Girard 0 | Philadelp 23, North Greene 0 |
| Carrollton 28, Mount Olive 0 | Routt (Jacksonville) 28, Calhoun 8 |
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| O'Fallon 27, Madison 0 | Winchester 7, Tripp 0 |
| Greenfield 26, Girard 0 | Philadelp 23, North Greene 0 |
| Carrollton 28, Mount Olive 0 | Routt (Jacksonville) 28, Calhoun 8 |

West Chicago
63-7 Winner
In Prep Play

SPRINGFIELD, ILL. (AP) — West Chicago led off the 1968 prep football season by drubbing a hapless Dundee 63 to 7 in Friday night's action.

Down south in the North Egypt conference, favorites Lawrenceville and Bridgeport upended Robinson 33 to 0 and Fairfield 20 to 6 respectively. Last Season Lawrenceville's Indians posted a 7-1 record to take the league championship away from Bridgeport which finished 7-2.

East Chicago edged perennial powerhouse Proviso East 7-0 and Joliet Central beat Waukegan 12-0, an inauspicious start for the Suburban league.

Big Eight Conference early favorite Rockford East went down before La Salle-Peru 10 to 7. Last year East shared Big Eight honors with Rockford Guilford and Boylan Central Catholic.

Vying for the most-modestly award, Bradley tied Bishop McNamara 0-0.

In the final eight raps Joliet Catholic converted to slipp past Joliet East 14-13.

Thurridge beat Thornton 14 to 7 in the South Suburban opener and Arlington Heights clipped Maine West 20 to 0 in a West Suburban opener.

Joliet West beat West Aurora 20 to 6, and it was Glenbard West 7, Wheaton Central 0.

Big Twelve favorite Urbana whipped Rantoul 25 to 0.

Grid Menu

TONIGHT

Jerseyville at Marquette
Jacksonville at Assumption (East St. Louis)