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Friars Win for Fallen Teammate

By TED SILARY

Decals comprising the uniform number of Kevin Fitzpatrick were attached to the helmets of every Malvern Prep player and the game ball now rests in the home of his parents.

Back in mid-summer, no one planned it like that.

Then again, no one ever expected that Kevin Fitzpatrick would be killed at the South Jersey shore in a boating accident, Aug. 10 to be exact.

BUT WHEN that happened, the Friars set plans in motion not only to honor their former teammate, a talented two-way tackle, but also his parents, who had shown such courage through the entire ordeal.

With that much established, the question was not "How do we do it?" as much as "When do we do it?"

Malvern had sashayed to victory in four consecutive games prior to yesterday's Inter-Ac opener, yet schools like St. John Neumann, Delhaas, Marple-Newton and St. Mark's do not tickle the innards of Friar faithful like Germantown Academy, which was the last non-Malvern champion in 1973.

If the Patriots had not entered the would-be showdown with a 4-0 record, Coach Gaspare "Gamp" Pellegri might have begged the sporting goods store to pump up an expensive football, paint the panels with blue and gray and stencil words of thanks and best wishes to Jim and Christine Fitzpatrick, Kevin's parents.

INSTEAD, PELLEGRINI discussed the matter only with his captains and waited for the 257 win to become official before allowing the full plan to blossom.

The players nearly popped with excitement as Mr. and Mrs. Fitzpatrick were led into the locker room and when Steve Sullivan, a two-way lineman, presented them the ball, the clapping was loud enough to display feelings, yet soft enough for the tender nature of the occasion.

Mr. Fitzpatrick expressed his thanks that Sullivan handed him the ball instead of throwing it, "because I probably would have dropped it."

Mrs. Fitzpatrick, a pillar of composure throughout, expressed a warm thank you.

"Even beforehand," noted Pellegrini, "we thought about dedicating this game to the Fitzpatricks. But it did not seem right to put that kind of pressure on the kids. I talked it over with my four captains, so it was sort of planned, but we didn't want to turn it into a team-wide project.

didn't get wind of it. You know how that goes."

What we'd really like to know is how Pellegrini and staff have replenished the offensive line, which was completely stripped by graduation and the Fitzpatrick tragedy.

Following a mediocre performance in the first quarter, center Mike Ciesielski, guards Sullivan and Kevin Bradley, tackles Brian Wall and Vince Freidel and end Joe Maguire established superiority.

They did it not by steaming straight ahead, a Friar trademark, but by making a path for David Orr (19 carries, 145 yards) and Jim "Omar" Marino (10-54) on end sweep after end sweep.

Orr scored the first and third touchdowns on runs of 14 and 23 yards while his 39-yard halfback pass to Bob McEvoy set up the second, a one-yard run over left guard by quarterback Mike Burke. The clincher came with 1:45 remaining as Burke froze the linebackers with a play-action fake and hit McEvoy from 25 yards.

WHEN THE interview session started, Pellegrini and reporters appeared to be on different wave lengths because he was praising G.A.'s line play and the scribes were raising their eyebrows.

Later, he admitted that his guys had worn down the other guys.

"Last year," said The Gampster, "the first four or five times they got hold of the football, it was bang, bang, bang — all passes. Jack (Turner) probably felt they weren't that strong and they had to surprise us and go up top to beat us."

"This year, I was told his team was rougher and tougher and Jack probably felt he could come in here and handle us by playing a regular game, that he wouldn't have to trash-can his running game."

In the game's first 22 minutes, the G.A. running game yielded no scores and 53 yards on 20 carries with four

passes mixed in. The 21st carry brought about the demise of quarterback Walt Norley, who lowered his left shoulder to conclude an 11-yard gain and was sandwiched-squashed by three defenders, suffering a broken collarbone in the process.

"**WE WERE** up by two TDs at the time," said Pellegrini, "so I'd like to think we would have won the game even if Norley had not have gotten hurt. It is really a shame. The kid is a good athlete."

Speaking of good athletes, Malvern is well-stocked, although height and weight are not in as much abundance.

"Our offensive line got wiped out from end to end," noted Bradley, also a star at defensive end. "Kevin would have led us and it was a huge shock to all of us when he died. It took us longer to come together without Kevin."

"**NONE OF** us were really, say, in the trenches. We played in spots. That's all. We were all kind of shaky, especially when the scrimmages came and we had to go up against guys that were much bigger. We had to blend and pull for each other. Kevin wasn't around to take us through the rough spots. But we made mistakes as one, then we did well as one. Each game we have shown improvement."

Bradley and Sullivan are joined on the five-man defensive front by Jay McNeil, Ron Sheridan and Rich Chakejian. The secondary is buoyed by Barkley Sample, who returned two interceptions for 33 yards and also recovered a fumble.

Malvern lost its shutout with 5:15 remaining when Gary Hufnagle (16-64) dashed four yards to cap a drive that covered 70 yards and 13 plays. John Fountain, in a difficult role, passed 5-for-8 for 61 yards as Norley's replacement.

For Jim and Christine Fitzpatrick, there is no replacing their son. But people remember and care and will continue to pour out their love.



Gamp Pellegrini: rebuilt line

2 TD Runs Give Bartram Victory

Craig Bowler and Tom Conn each ran for short touchdowns and the defense posted four interceptions — by Ralph Howard, Andre McMear, Mark Benson, Dwayne Boone — as John Bartram edged West Philadelphia, 12-6, in Public West.

"West Philly kept us out of the playoffs last year," noted Coach Frank Conway, "so our kids really wanted to beat them. We're a senior team and the kids don't want to miss out."

Bobby Miller gained 62 yards on 15 carries for the Maroon Wave. He earned nine yards on one carry and three on the next before Conn scored the winning TD from the 6. That score was set up by Howard's interception and 20-yard return to the West 18.

Linebacker Kevin Bethel paced Bartram with 12 tackles.

ELSEWHERE: A 25-yard throw from Emil Lozada to William Carter was really all Overbrook needed to muffle University City, 14-0. ... Frank Strati's run and Jim Orem's 2-point pass with 1:00 remaining lifted Southern over Benjamin Franklin, 14-12. ... John Marzano raced for two TDs as Central defeated William Penn, 26-6. ... Olney's Nate Johnson and Jules Mastbaum Tech's Tony Wright traded scores in a 6-6 tie. ... Robert Lewis found Steve Duncan for one TD and Leonard Lee found a loose ball in the end zone for another for Germantown in a 15-6 win over Simon Gratz.

INTER-AC: Jamie Auch ran for four first-half scores as Episcopal Academy got the best of Penn Charter, 38-28.

CATHOLIC NORTH: Steve Kettelberger (18-154) notched three as Archbishop Wood topped Bishop Kenrick, 26-14.

NON-LEAGUE: A one-yard run by QB Mark Hobbs helped Edward Bok Tech over Martin Luther King. ... Haverford School fell to Radnor, 28-0. — Ted Silary

1980 MP 27 GA 7 article and recognition of Kevin Fitzpatrick

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