

Malvern runs over GA, 21-6

By Lou Costello
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

MALVERN — The three shellacking Malvern Prep took from three Chestnut League football teams last month — East, Henderson and Downingtown — paid off when the Friars whipped Germantown Academy, 21-6, Saturday afternoon in the Inter-Ac League opener for both teams.

The Friars lost by a combined score of 130-28 to the three non-league opponents. But it did help them prepare for the league games.

"The Inter-Ac is another season for us," Malvern Prep coach Gump Pellegrini said. "And we got killed three weeks in a row by the Chestnut League schools, but it toughened us up. It helps to play Downingtown, East and Henderson if you can come out of the games without any serious injuries."

The Friars were led by junior halfback Chris Downs, who rushed for 232 yards on 18 carries and scored a touchdown. Downs is making a habit of doing well against the Patriots. In last season's win, as the Friars were on their way to a second straight league title, Downs gained more than 100 yards.

Germantown Academy entered hostile surroundings on Saturday. It was Malvern's Homecoming Day, and Malvern had suffered three resounding defeats. Patriots coach Bill Cann expected the Friars to come out with a little chip on their shoulder.

"They were fighting for their lives," he said. "They've had a tough year and this was our first big game in three years. Even for our seniors."

The Friars (2-3 overall, 1-0 league) led, 21-0, at halftime. They went 64 yards in three plays on the first score with fullback Dan Bonner going in from the 3-yard line with 11 minutes, 10 seconds left in the first quarter.

Quarterback Shaun Gallagher ran 5 yards for a touchdown with 9:03 left in the half for a 14-0 lead. And Downs went 74 yards for a touchdown with 28 seconds left until intermission.

The Patriots (5-1, 0-1) scored when Rob Helienski threw a 5-yard touchdown pass to tight end Kevin Mallon with 6:28 left in the third period. They threatened to score twice in the fourth period, but were stopped on downs at the Malvern 21 early in the quarter and on downs at the Malvern 15 late in the game.

Germantown Academy	0	0	0	—	0	
Malvern Prep	7	14	0	0	—	21

MP: Bonner 3 run (Wiegarter kick)
MP: Gallagher 5 run (Wiegarter kick)
MP: Downs 74 run (Wiegarter kick)
GA: Mallon 5 pass from Helienski (kick failed)

1996 MP 21 GA 6 article and box score

Clipped By:



wmills9354
Fri, Apr 23, 2021