

MIDWOOD, BAYSIDE GAIN P.S.A.L. SEMIFINALS



Nov. 8, 1981



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Bayside and Midwood took steps toward toward their third straight Public Schools Athletic League championships yesterday. The Commodores, winners of the Bronx-Queens A division, beat Lafayette, the wildcard team from Brooklyn, 20-0, and Midwood, the Brooklyn B champion, won from Adlai Stevenson, the Bronx-Manhattan B runner-up, 23-6.

In other A division playoff games, Abraham Lincoln, the Brooklyn A champion, had a tough time ousting Susan Wagner, the Staten Island wildcard entry, 19-16. Jefferson, the Brooklyn runner-up, eliminated Tottenville, the Staten Island runner-up, 18-8, and Port Richmond, the Staten Island champion, beat John Adams, the Bronx-Queens runnerup, 16-14.

Next week Port Richmond plays Lincoln, and Bayside and Jefferson, the dominating forces in the A division in the last 10 years, meet in the other semifinal. Bayside has won five of the 10 P.S.A.L. championships since formal play was instituted in 1971, and Jefferson has won three times.

August Martin, the Queens II second-place finisher, beat previously undefeated George Washington, the Bronx-Manhattan champion, by 20-14 in overtime. Undefeated Canarsie, the Brooklyn I champion and ranked eighth in New York City over all, moved into the semifinal round of the playoffs with a 28-0 shutout of John Jay. Springfield Gardens, the Queens I champion, ousted Truman, the Bronx Manhattan wildcard entry, 20-12. Next week Martin plays Canarsie and Midwood plays Springfield Gardens in the B-division semifinals.

Kevin Harmon, Bayside's junior quarterback who had missed the previous game, had a cast removed from his right thumb on Wednesday. Harmon completed 5 of 8 passes for 120 yards and played a role in all three of Bayside's touchdowns, passing for two and running for one.

Kevin connected with his brother Ronnie on scoring passes of 30 and 36 yards in the first period and ran the ball in from 2 yards out in the third.

"I feel really happy about the game," said Coach Tony Yacavone of Bayside. "I was concerned about injuries, but I felt we could win. I wanted them to play and feel confident. The important thing now is that everybody is healthy"

Midwood had to overcome a 6-0 first-period deficit against Stevenson. Robert Burton, the Stevenson quarterback, managed to complete 7 of 17 passes for 156 yards in the treacherous winds, including a 51-yard completion to Willie Gomez that set up Burton's 10-yard run for the Ambassadors' only scoring drive of the game.

A 3-yard run by Keith Waterbury capped Midwood's first scoring drive of 40 yards, which was set up by a poor Stevenson punt in the second period. Scott Arbuse's extra-point kick put the Hornets up by 7-6. The Midwood defense had two fumble recoveries, two interceptions and three quarterback sacks.

Lincoln, 7-1-1 but undefeated against P.S.A.L. competition, got another fine performance from Clive Harding. Harding, a fullback on offense and a linebacker on defense, finished the day with 80 yards rushing on eight carries, 15 tackles, and two touchdowns - one on a fumble recovery and a second on a kickoff return. He also had an extra-point kick.

George Washington, tied by Stevenson during the regular season, was looking for its first undefeated season since 1935 before it was beaten by August Martin in overtime. Turnovers did the Trojans in, as they fumbled the ball away seven times. August Martin finally won when Sean Norris, the Falcon quarterback, plunged in from the 1-yard line with 4:35 left in overtime.

Alvaro Tatakawa, a senior halfback, sent the game into overtime by scoring on a 12-yard run with 4:20 left in regulation for George Washington. But the Falcons stopped William Green on the 1-yard line when he was attempting to run in the 2 extra points that would have put Washington ahead, 16-14. Willie Wilson, a safety who had 10 tackles and six assists, and Allen Tongue, a linebacker who had 10 tackles and two assists, combined on the game-saving stop for August Martin. Wilson, a tight end, also contributed a 53-yard pass reception in the final Martin drive that set up the overtime score.

Jefferson scored once in each of the first three periods before Tottenville could get going. Brook Redding, a junior quarterback, capped the opening 80-yard march with a 28-yard run. Then Anthony Simpson, a senior inside linebacker, got his second big-yardage interception of the year for a touchdown, this time for 55 yards. He had a 50-yard return against Lafayette earlier in the season. Israel Brown capped the final Orange Wave march with a 10-yard run in the third period. All of the Jefferson pass attempts for extra points failed.

Canarsie (8-0) remained the only other undefeated team in the P.S.A.L. with its rout of John Jay. Ron McLaughlin, a senior, led the offense as he has done all year with 186 yards rushing on 20 carries and three of the four Canarsie touchdowns. He scored on runs of 59 and 2 yards in the second period and a 45-yard run off tackle in the third period. McLaughlin now has 1,065 yards in eight games.



Curtis Morgan had 157 yards rushing plus two touchdowns runs of 1 and 5 yards, and the quarterback Lou Chibbara had a 5-yard run for another in the Springfield Gardens victory over Truman. Anthony Lee had 90 yards rushing for Springfield Gardens (5-1-1), and Mike Southwood had two interceptions.

A pair of 2-point conversion passes - Michael Garcia to Roscoe Harris and Garcia to Jesus Andujar - in the second half provided the winning margin for Port Richmond over John Adams. Garcia scored the first touchdown on a 1-yard sneak in the third period, and Anthony Taorimina ran 35 yards with the other score in the final period for Port Richmond (7-1).

James Madison, which barely missed out on the playoffs, beat Curtis by 22-0 in a non-playoff game. Paul Collica rushed for 63 yards on nine carries, scored one touchdown and ran in 2 extra points for the Golden Knights. Mike Foreman scored one of the other Madison touchdowns on a 30-yard end-around play.

A version of this article appears in print on Nov. 8, 1981, Section 5, Page 12 of the National edition with the headline: MIDWOOD, BAYSIDE GAIN P.S.A.L. SEMIFINALS. [Order Reprints](#) | [Today's Paper](#) | [Subscribe](#)

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