



Defensive tackle Joel Holger pursues a Mounds View ball carrier in the Ram-Mustang clash.

PHOTO Bob Christensen

# Wealth of football talent found in 1969

by Jeff Johnson  
Blueprint Staff Writer

It was a "trial" season for the Rams; a season that uncovered a wealth of new talent. Yet this football season also had it's heartbreaking and bitter losses.

"We've shown much improvement in every game," said coach Lars Overskel. "Quite a few things did not go our way during the season. Among these were injuries to key offensive and defensive players, such as Joe Garry and Dan Johnson, who were both out for two games and are still not back in full form."

On the brighter side, many new discoveries were made. Among numerous outstanding players were juniors Dave Kath, Carl Brandt, Jim Heller, and Doug Pahl, and seniors Steve

Sigstad, Jim Cox, Dale Wessel, and Ron Clark, who has been accredited to be the Rams' most improved senior.

A lot of good personnel and their ever willingness to win made it very exciting season.

## Ramsley vs. Irondale

For 46 minutes on a cold and rainy afternoon, Ramsley dominated the game. But the last two minutes led to defeat as Irondale squeezed by Ramsley 8-7.

Knight quarterback Rick Anderson drove his team 70 yards, and, with only two seconds to play he scored on a 4-yard run. Then, with no time showing on the clock, he took the ball again, and when appeared to be stopped short of the goal line, dove over for the winning two points.

When asked to comment on the game, Coach Overskel replied, "We played a real strong game and the boys took the loss hard. It was a real heartbreaker to lose. Again, penalties hurt us."

Ramsley scored on a 6-yard gallop by quarterback Dave Kath in the opening period following a long pass from Kath to Steve Sigstad and a fine run to the 6-yard line by Joe Garry.

## Super Bowl

On November 6, two very good football teams will clash at St. Thomas for the Suburban Conference championship. Kellogg, who won their first football title ever by pulling off victories over Mounds View (18-14) and unbeaten Anoka (13-7) meets White Bear, whose record stands at 6-1, after sustaining their only loss since midway in 1967, to Moorhead 35-30.

Coaches outlooks are: Brad Hustad, Kellogg coach: "White Bear has a tremendous and well-balanced team. One thing we'll be working on is their passing attack and on stopping their effective I-formation."

DuWayne Deitz, WBL Coach: "We won't be looking for anything new in Kellogg's play since we've already scouted a few of their games. However, we'll be out to iron out our wrinkles and make it a real good game."

## WITH STRONG FINISH

# Rams end season

By the time this issue is out the soccer season will be over and the title will be decided.

The only weak point this season according to Coach Marc Brottem, has been that it takes the Rams a half a game to get going. The strong points of this season have been a good combination of halfback and fullback play and a good penetrating offense.

Brottem also feels that the defense has done an outstanding job this season. Not only has the regular team done well but Brottem feels he has a good bench to back them up.

Also, there have been no serious injuries this season, but there were some minor knee and ankle problems.

With a strong showing in the second half, Ramsley defeated Kellogg for the second time,

**P. J.** Comes through with a hit

by Paul Johnson  
Blueprint Sports Editor

## Can this be for real?

One third of the thriving metropolis of Belton, Missouri turned out for the basketball game. On this cold, mid-January night these one thousand cheering fans witnessed an incredible and totally unpredicted feat. Belton won! The final score Belton 39, Fort Osage 37

Belton is located about 17 miles south of Kansas City. It was in this 1890-style cow town that I made my home for two years.

It was also the home of the valiant Belton Pirates. Watching any kind of competition there was like watching Charlie Browns All Stars and 1962 New York Mets play a baseball game. The name of the conference was the Suburban Seven. To me, after being a Ramsey and Suburban Conference fan for several years before I lived in Belton, it was known by another name: Bush.

## ★ Bush City basketball ★

After seeing only the score, the average fan would say, "Boy, that's what I call defensive basketball."

Hooley! It was just a poor imitation of race horse basketball, where none of the teams even hit forty percent of their shots.

Don't get me wrong here. A lot of the guys on the team

were good friends of mine. But basketball players they weren't. Most of the team couldn't have made Fairview's ninth grade "B" squad, and they would have made Ramsey's team look like the Harlem Globetrotters by comparison.

The Belton Pirates—strictly "Bush City."

## ★ "Way to go, Clyde!" ★

One classic move during that big game that I'll always remember was in the second quarter. One of local aces drove in for a beautiful layup. All was fine until after he jumped when he lost the ball, grabbed onto the hoop and, in turn, shattered the backboard into a hundred or so pieces. I would have rolled onto the court in laughter had it not been for one thoughtful spectator who kindly

stuck his foot out to stop me.

To help illustrate their quality of basketball, I will mention that I almost made the team at one time. Now, anybody who knows me, knows I'm no basketball player either. Out of forty nine intramural b-ballers last year, I'm the not-proud holder of the low scoring honors, with zero points in twenty games.

## ★ The moral ★

The victory of that joyous night brought their record to 1-10 in the first of one of their last ditch attempts to dig themselves out of the cellars.

But I think I learned something from those two wonderful years, cheering for a team that almost never won. If I

ever see a Ramsey team losing, I can always look back and remind myself: Things could be worse. A lot worse.

Only in Belton did I ever come close to seeing a shut-out in basketball.

★★★

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