

Oilers prevail, 14-7

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BROCKTON — A 19-yard pass completion to split end Randy Horton in the end zone from quarterback Fred Beissner lifted the Brockton Oilers to a 14-7 decision over the Middleboro Cobras of the Eastern Football League Saturday night at the West Junior High School Field here in Brockton.

The win snapped a three-game losing streak for the Oilers, who won their opening game of the season against Albany, 14-7, in overtime.

The Oilers were trailing, 7-6, with 3:30 left in the final period when they scored the go-ahead touchdown.

The Cobras, going into the game with a 1-3 record, identical to the Oilers' EFL seasons record, started long-time quarterback Greg Sabine for the first time this season in an attempt to come up with their second win of the season.

In the first period, Sabine drove the Cobras to the Oilers' 25, spearheaded by a pass to Dave Harrison, but a penalty pushed Middleboro back, stopping the Cobras' only offensive threat of the opening period.

The Oilers had their chances in the second period to pull in front, marching all the way from their own 17 to the Cobras' one-foot line, but failed to score.

The Oilers finally broke the stalemate in the third period when they tacked six points on the scoreboard to take the lead.

The touchdown was set up when defensive back Jim Cotter intercepted a Sabine pass and ran it back 37 yards to the Cobra 20.

After three straight carries by Nelson, Beissner rolled out to his left and scored on a two-yard quarterback keeper. The kick by Cotter, however, was wide of its mark.

The Cobras came on strong with two minutes left in the third period after receiving the kickoff following the Oiler touchdown to score and take a 7-6 lead.

After receiving the kickoff on their own 31, a Sabine pass to Billy Royal, a 12 yard run by Carl Fisher and a 15 yard penalty against the Oilers put the ball on the Brockton 35.

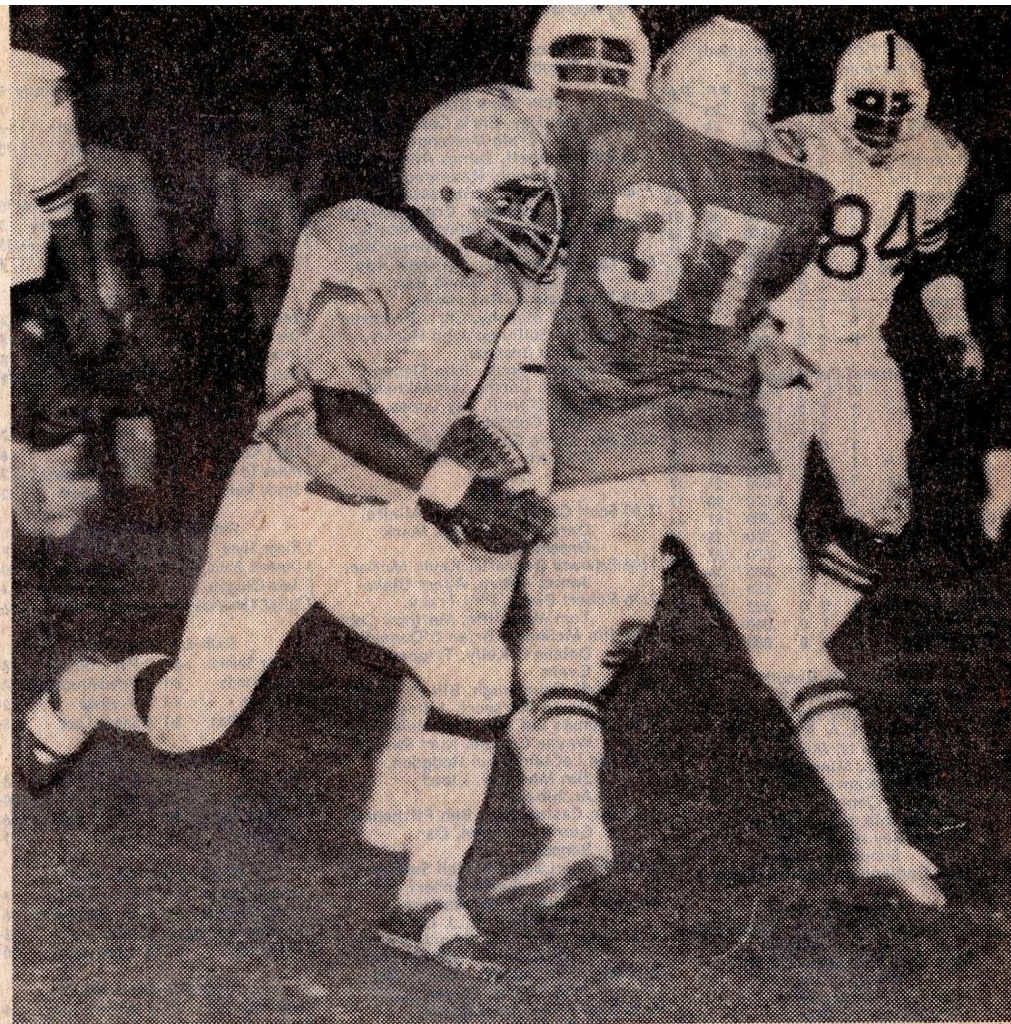
Moving into the fourth period, Dave Harrison picked up 18 yards, and Jeff Rodman, on three straight carries, went to the Oiler 4.

After a penalty set the Cobras back on the nine, Rodman went up the middle, breaking a number of tackles before he crossed the goal line for a touchdown. The conversion kick by Ernie Branco was good to give the Cobras a 7-6 margin.

The Oilers regained the lead when they completed a 70-yard drive to paydirt with 3:30 left in the game.

McGee started things off when he ran a kickoff back to the Oiler 30. Beissner then connected with Horton with a 27 yard pass completion to the Cobra 42.

Nelson, on four straight carries, lugged the ball to the 26, and after Beissner carried to the 19 on a keeper, the Oiler quarterback tossed a game-winning 19-yard pass to Horton in the end zone. Beissner then completed a pass to Kim Langway for the two-point conversion for a 14-7 win.



Brockton Oilers running back Jay McGee picks up yardage against the Middleboro Cobras with a little blocking help from Ed Nelson (37).