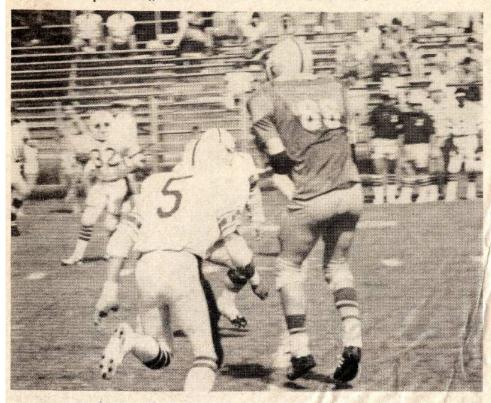
Oilers give Taunton its first EFL win

TAUNTON — It was a gift they really didn't want to hand out.

The Randolph Oilers gave the Taun-

ton Raiders something no one else will ever give them: their first Eastern Football League victory.



READY FOR CONTACT — The Randolph Oilers' Steve Venckus catches the ball and prepares for the hit by Middleboro's Rick Lapham in a recent Eastern Football League game. (Randolph Herald Photo by Mike O'Leary)

The Oilers fell to the expansion team, 19-6, Friday night at Tiger Stadium, Taunton.

The record dropped Randolph's record to 2-2, while Taunton boosted itself to 1-3.

Randolph now is third in its fourteam National Conference in the EFL. Hyde Park leads the division with a 4-0 record, followed by Warren, R.I. (3-1), Randolph, and Cape God (0-4).

The Oiler offense really couldn't get going during the game. The lone Randolph touchdown was set up when the defense recovered a fumble deep within Taunton territory.

One of the key plays of the game occured in the second half. Quarterback Fred Beissner connected with Steve Roan for a seven-yard touchown to cut the Tiger lead to 12-6.

But Taunton began to drive the ball downfield. The Tigers gambled and went for the first on a fourth down from the Randolph 11-yard line.

The Oilers snuffed out the play, but a late hit call gave Taunton new life, the ball, and, quickly, another touchdown.

That gave the Tigers a 19-6 bulge as the defensive units took control for the rest of the game. Another penalty hurt the Oilers earlier in the game. Randolph was charged with a roughing the kicker violation to keep a Taunton drive alive in the second quarter.

The Tigers went on to score the game's first touchdown during the drive when quarterback Ron Silva found Dave Moitoso from seven yards out.

With Taunton leading 6-0, the Tigers called out the big play for the next score before the half.

Carl Fisher caught a 40-yard Silva toss. He then lateralled to Fred Lapointe on the 15, and he sprinted into endzone from there.

The Oilers tried to come back from that 12-0 halftime deficit in the third quarter.

Defensive tackle Lorne Beane, one of the league's top fumble recoverers, demonstrated his speciality when he found the ball at the Taunton 12-yard line.

The Beissner to Roan hook-up a couple of plays later cut Taunton's lead to 12-6.

But the big late hit call and Tiger touchdown put an end to Randolph victory plans.

The Oilers next travel south to play Warren, R.I. Friday at 8:30 p.m.