Oilers shut out Charlestown Townies, 49-0

By Bill Griffin Mariner correspondent

With starting quarterback Bobby Witt likely out for the season with a knee injury, the Randolph Ollers needed to establish two things. They needed a solld, mistake-free effort from backup

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the loss against Middleboro and likely won't play again this year. Pina stepped in and did a fine job, completing four of eight passes, no interceptions, no sacks, no fumbles, no mistakes.

"John is a veteran in this league and he doesn't make many mistakes," said O'Kane. "He has a lot of confidence and he's an emotional leader on the field."

The main reason for the successful running game was the blocking of Jay Clark, Norm Eliason, Ed Penn. Frank Brack, John Boughner, and Lance Olberding as the offensive line cleared gaping holes for the backs.

"We had an advantage in size on them up front and we used it well with our blocking," said O'Kane.

Tailbacks Jay McGee (11 carries, 83 yards) and Greg Martello (five carries, 89 yards) were the leading rushers for the winners who featured a balanced attack with seven different players scoring touchdowns. McGee is the Oilers' top rusher and Martello is a former Brockton High dash star.

"Greg didn't even play football in high school," said O'Kane. "We used him the past few years as a receiver and kick returner. We moved him to the backfield to take advantage of his speed."

The defense posted its second shutout in three games as Charlestown never got within field goal range. The Oilers permitted only 60 yards on the ground and three pass completions.

"They have a fine quarterback, so our pass defense was the key for us," said O'Kane. "Lano Selman, Sean Frazler, John Epps and Tracy Manter all played good games."

The Oilers scored twice in the first period. Mike Waithe set up the first score with a 50-yard kickoff return. Pina then connected with Ricky Witt for a 44-yard score. "Ricky outleaped the defender, reversed his field and out ran them to the end zone," said O'Kane.

After a 55-yard punt return by Mark Harding was nullified for clipping, Mike Tosone blocked a punt and recovered at the Townies' 10. McGee scored from there and Ray Almeida, who converted after all seven touchdowns, kicked the extra point for a 14-0 lead.

Pina hit Witt for a 23-yard gain to set up a one-yard scoring run by Waithe. Pina then hit Harding for a 19-yard touchdown and a 28-0 halftime lead.

Former Brown University captain Brian Heffernan, who had 41 yards in seven carries, scored on a four-yard run in the third for a 35-0 lead.

Martello, who had a 23-yard in the drive, scored on a 34-yard gallop in the fourth. Kevin Trundley went in from the 14 in the fourth to finish the scoring.

"We were able to use a lot of people and they played well," said O'Kane.

The Ollers host the Ocean State Buccaneers Friday at 7:30 at the high school field. The Bucs are led by quarterback Bob Jean, a former star at UNH.

Coaches, send us writeups of your youth games. Give your players the credit they deserve!