

Finally, Polla goes back to the good old neighbourhood

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
Special to The Champion

Milton District High School halfback Marc Polla visited a place he hadn't seen in almost 11 months last Wednesday; the end-zone.

He liked it so much he made three more trips throughout the afternoon, and paced his junior Mustang football crew to a 33-13 rout of the Oakville Trafalgar Devils.

Polla, who scored both touchdowns in last year's Tier II championship loss to Lord Elgin, rushed for three majors and snagged a 35-yard pass by quarterback Craig O'Neil before running in his fourth.

O'Neil was on the other end of a completion late in the second half when he and back-up QB Jon Sprenger combined for a 60-yard pass and run for MD's final visit to the end-zone.

"Fullback Stu Gilbert rushed for over 100 yards and Mike Leishman made strong punt returns and played well at halfback," added head coach Verne O'Neil, whose 'Stangs were 2-0 heading into yesterday's (Tuesday) home game with M.M. Robinson.

MD built a 33-0 cushion through three-plus quarters of play and then brought in their second stringers. It was during this time the Devils broke the shutout with two meaningless scores in the last eight minutes.

The 'Stangs first-string defensive unit worked wonders for the majority of the game, particularly middle linebacker Will Sinnott and corner linebackers Brett McClure and Kevin Miller, who penetrat-

ed well during both the running game and second-half pass attempts.

M.M. Robinson Rams bomb seniors

The worst is now over for the senior Mustangs' 1996 regular season, but is there enough time left to grab a suitable playoff spot and make some waves in the Ivor Wynne playdowns?

Milton District is still without a win, after taking a 48-6 shellacking at the hands of M.M. Robinson Friday in Burlington. The Rams are ranked second in Metro. While all-eight Tier I teams make the playoffs this year, the 'Stangs will have to win at least two of their final three games in order to have any real hope for a first-round playoff victory.

A seventh or eighth place finish would mean facing M.M. Robinson or Nelson, who downed them 37-0 two weeks ago.

Despite the lopsided score Friday, head coach Keith Pearce said his team played their best game of the season — particularly the offensive backfield. Kicker Sean Preece scored two field goals in the first half while quarterback Adam Gertzbein showed a lot of poise in prolonging a few drives.

Also looking good on offense were tight end Paul Loader and slotback Jim Mora.

The Rams used their first stringers throughout the game, and ran up the score with two late TDs while MD's substitutes had the field.

The seniors travel to Bronte Park in Oakville tomorrow (Thursday) for a 6 p.m. start against Q.E. Park.

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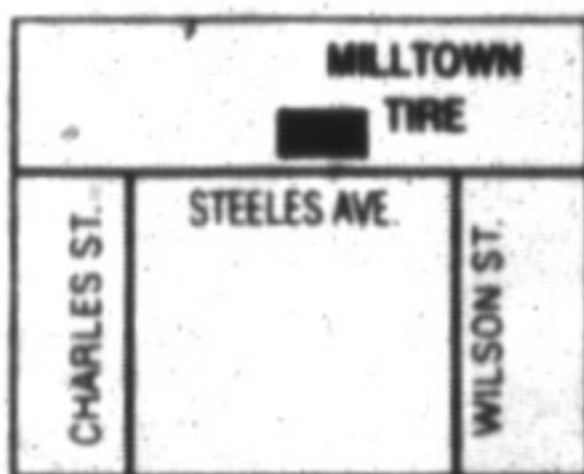
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