

Oilers strike empty well, bow to Albany, 40-0

By Scott Flaherty

The "slick" Oilers of Randolph traveled 159 miles west of Boston last Saturday hoping to strike a "well", at least as far as their record goes.

The Oilers (0-2) traveled to Albany, N.Y., via coach bus. However, it was the Metro Mallers, undefeated with a record of 2-0, who left the game in "coach", defeating the Oilers 40-0.

Oilers' assistant coach Ed Casabian explains before the game, "we're going to have our hands full."

He was right. Casabian continued, "after the first two weeks in the season, Albany is one of the premiere teams. We have to stop Joe Burke, the leading rusher and scorer in the Eastern Football League."

The week before Albany demolished the Taunton Raiders by a score of 40-13.

The Mallers (a.k.a. the "Bruse Brothers") wasted no time after receiving the opening kick off.

On a drive that started from their own 20 yard line, wide receiver Gary Weinlein ended it with an 18 yard reception in the Randolph end zone at 9:07 of the first quarter.

Tail back, special teams player, and kicker Joe Burke capped the touchdown off with an extra point kick, to give his team a 7-0 lead.

On the Oilers' first possession, both teams exchanged penalties. With a three and 11 situation Sean Crowley coughed up the ball to Mallers' Tom Heiser.

The fumble nullified itself, when, exactly one play later Burke fumbled and Randolph regained the ball.

After Crowley gained three yards, it started again. Mallers' Gregg Keyes intercepted a Fred Beisner pass at the Oilers' 43 yard line.

With 5:09 left in the first, Mallers' Burke hit his second oil slick and fumbled again, only to be recovered by the Oilers' Lorne Beane.

Beisner got sacked twice for substantial losses. So, the Oilers decided to punt. As luck would have it, Dave Hickey's punt was blocked and the Mallers' Jeff Lipscomb "kindly" re-

with the extra point kick.

In the second quarter, Oilers' Paul Cavello intercepted Noisette.

Albany added, yet another touchdown, when Burke rushed in from the eight. The game was in the bag for the Mallers.

The halftime score was 21-0, in favor of the home team.

Mallers' QB went seven for 11 passing — totaling 104 yards, and they had six first downs.

The Oilers' had only 44 yards rushing as Beisner went 0 for 5 with an interception and three sacks. The Oilers had but two first downs.

Mallers' assistant coach Jim Cox commented at halftime, "frankly, I thought it would be tougher. They're (Oilers) trying to do things they can't do."

Linebacker Tom Kirlis of the Oilers contributed a fumble recovery at 10:13 of the third quarter deep in Mallers' territory at the four yard line.

Awesome defense by the Mallers and a fumble recovered by the Mallers kept the Oilers quiet.

Noisette brought his team to the Oilers' 3, only to be stood-up by the Oilers' defense.

The fourth and final quarter brought grey skies for the Oilers.

At 12:22 the Oilers fumbled to the

Mallers' Jeff Hotaling who returned it for a 39 yard-six point play. The kick was good, the score was 28-0.

Approximately six minutes later, at 4:46, the Mallers go their fifth TD. The kick wasn't good, but that did not matter.

The Oilers' new QB, Mahoney fumbled and Mallers' Jeff Lipscomb picked the ball up and brought it to the end zone, one last time.

The final score was 40-0.

The Oilers finished the night minus five yards passing, and 93 yards rushing. Add to that, six fumbles and two interceptions.

Albany had 160 total yards, with six fumble recoveries and one interception.

Tom Heiser, Mallers' linebacker commented, "they played tough. Give 'em a lot of credit."

Joe Burke noted that, "Randolph presented a lot of problems with their blitzing linebackers.

"Randolph's a tough football team; they stick their noses in there, they bounce right back up."

Oilers' General Manager Peter O'Kane explained the team's trouble, "we're a young team and we're building for the future. So we're going to have problems with teams like Albany and the stronger teams in the league when we substitute and they don't. They'll be able to take advantage of our inexperience.

"That (Saturday's game) was a much closer game than the score, physically."

O'Kane proudly declared, "I think the team came together up there. They were very vocal and emotional.

"If we had to go play them again next week we wouldn't back down. They didn't back off!"

The Mallers' record improved to 3 and 0.

Although the Oilers' record dropped to 0 and 3, one fan has faith, "I think the Oilers will come around and go 4 and 4 on the season, possibly 5 and 3.

"I don't know; it's a gut feeling!"

On that note, tomorrow (Friday) the team will play Cape Cod at 7:30 p.m. in Randolph.