

TV		Opp
12	Canton South	30
41	Indian Valley	7
55	Garaway	0
42	Fairless	13
6	Manchester (OT)	13
28	St. Thomas Aquinas	38
17	Tuslaw	6
41	Coventry	7
38	CVCA	0
28	East Canton	0

TV Knocks Off Playoff Bound Hornets

Tuscarawas Valley came to East Canton going nowhere after Friday's regular-season high school football finale despite a 6-3 record.

That is not to say the Trojans were without direction. "I can't think of a better way to end my senior year," said fullback Scott McCartney, who slogged through the muck for 177 yards and two touchdowns to lift Tusky Valley to a 28-0 PAC-7 victory over the Hornets. "The line was great, and the defense did what it had been doing all year, (setting) up the offense."

McCartney recovered a late East Canton fumble to preserve the shutout, one of three lost fumbles and four turnovers by the Hornets. McCartney had plenty of help from his friends on a night perfectly suited to power football. The Trojans offensive line moved forward. Halfback Josh Seward journeyed east and west. Quarterback Dave Spillman went up top, once. And Tusky Valley's compass-bearer, McCartney, went north again and again with 35 carries as the team ran for 238 yards. Tusky Valley's defense also shoved the Hornets around, making them head south repeatedly in netting just 80 yards rushing and 101 overall.

It all pointed to a second-place finish in the PAC for 5-1 Tusky, with its lone loss an overtime defeat to undefeated league champion Manchester. While the Trojans' season ended on a high note, East Canton's final chapter has yet to be

written.

The Hornets finished the regular season 7-3 and 4-2 in the league, but they are going to the Division VI playoffs. It's not the way they want to be going in, but at least they qualified, reasoned East Canton coach Dan Patterson. "We had our chances," Patterson said, "and you've got to take advantage of your chances. We didn't do that tonight. And, you can't take anything away from Tusky Valley. They are a good Division IV football team."



In a game decided by field position, turnovers and strength, Tusky won all three. In a span of 34 seconds late in the first half, a scoreless game became a 14-0 Trojans' lead.

After taking over at its 39 following Kyle Arick's 46-yard punt, Tusky Valley shoved its way into the Hornets' end zone in 10 running plays. McCartney carried eight times, scoring from a yard out on third-and-goal. The first of four Joe Sevier's PATs made it 7-0 with 3:16 left in the half. Twelve seconds later it was 14-0.

On East Canton's first play after the kickoff, fullback Dan John was drilled at his 15, the Trojans' Jeremy Rodgers recovered, and, in

one motion, kept his feet and roared untouched into the end zone.

That could have deflated the hosts, but Jake Jacobsen ran the kick back 53 yards to Tusky's 27 to inject life into the Hornets Jacobsen, the Hornets' leader with 45 yards rushing, ripped off a 22-yarder the next play to set up first-and-goal. That excitement was a short-lived, though, as quarterback Arick couldn't make connection on a handoff on first down, and the Trojans' Mason Weaver recovered at the 6.

"We couldn't throw the ball tonight," said Patterson, noting Arick was forced to also play safety due to injury. "That made it tough to run against their line. Without our balanced offense, we couldn't get any offense going."

Spillman and the visitors made sure of the outcome on the second play of the second half. Starting at the 10, a perfect play-fake into the line by Spillman froze the East Canton defense, allowing Weaver to run free deep down the right side. Weaver hauled in the long bomb at his 45 and outraced the secondary for the 88-yard TD.

McCartney sealed the game with a 6-yard TD run, and then picked up a fumble at the Trojans' 25 in the final 1:10 to go out in style. "The defense played great," said McCartney, a linebacker who finished as Tusky Valley's all-time leading rusher. "We moved them off the football."

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Tusky Valley Romps to Win Over Braves

Tuscarawas Valley's normally potent Wing-T offense got back on track Friday night. Its defense wasn't bad, either.

The Trojans churned out 330 yards on the ground en route to a non-league 35-6 victory over Indian Valley. The win improves Tusky Valley to 1-1, while the Braves slip to 1-1. "That was a good win for us," said Tusky Valley coach Dale Martini. "We needed that. We have a lot of high expectations and it was real important for us to win this one. Coming off a loss, you never know how a team is going to respond, but our attitudes were real good this week. We responded well. We had a good week of practice and played well tonight."

Jonathan Lindsay scored three touchdowns and Scott McCartney edged closer to becoming the Trojans' all-time leading rusher with 176 yards as the winners dominated the trenches. "We have a veteran offensive line and we wanted to do a better job of establishing our running game this year," said Martini. "That's as well as we've run the ball in a long time."

"Tusky Valley's execution on their run blocking is very, very good," said Indian Valley coach Scott Young. "They've been doing this for a long time and they're very good at it. If we put guys outside, they ran it up the middle. If we had guys inside, they went outside."

Mostly, the Trojans went to McCartney. The senior fullback, banged, battled and dragged defenders all night long on his 26 carries. He scored on a 14-yard run. Lindsay carried the ball just six times, but gained 73 yards and scored on runs of 19, 5 and 37 yards. "They've been repping things for so long that it's tough to stop," said Young.

Tusky Valley had great field

early in the game, but couldn't take advantage until the second period. The Trojans finally punched the ball in from 34 yards out as Lindsay went the final 19 on a sweep. Joe Sevier added the first of five extra points to make it 7-0 at the 9-minute mark of the second frame.

Indian Valley, though, answered right back. Literally. Joey Milburn scooped up Sevier's ensuing kickoff at the 12-yardline, bolted up the middle past the first wave of defenders, then outran Sevier down the sideline for the 88-yard kickoff return to make it 7-6 as the Braves' PAT failed.

More outstanding field position helped give Tusky Valley the lead. It had to go just 18 yards in four plays after a 12-yard Indian Valley punt to go up 14-6 with 3:34 left before halftime.

Derek Cummings guided the Braves down the field with three key completions as it drove to the Trojans' 10 late in the quarter. But his pass into the end zone with time winding down was picked off by Dan Holdsworth – one of several key plays made by Holdsworth in the game.

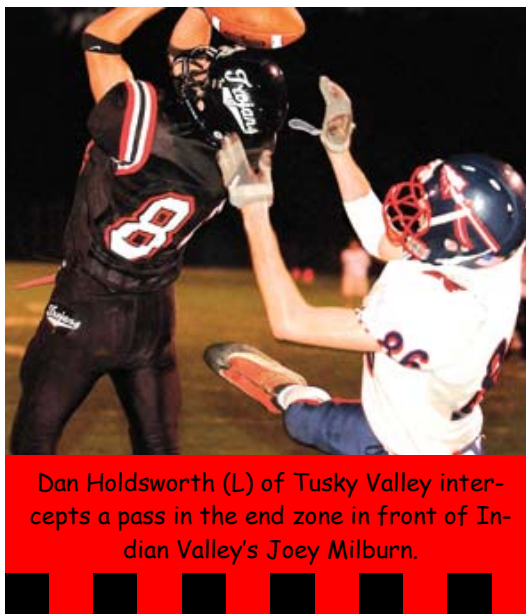
McCartney's 14-yard TD run with 5:13 left in the third period put Tusky Valley ahead 21-6. Lindsay went in from 37 yards out with 10:56 to play and Holdsworth snared a 48-yard scoring pass from David Spillman with 5:22 remaining to account for the final

margin.

Spillman had a solid game for the winners, hitting 5-of-10 passes for 102 yards and the TD. "We ran the ball well and we're still able to throw it," said Martini. "And I thought we played well defensively. Their quarterback can throw the ball, but we had guys there to make plays." Tusky Valley finished with 432 yards of total offense, while limiting the Braves to 180 total yards.

Hampered by bad field position, then going to the air to get back in the game, Indian Valley ended up with zero net

rushing yards. "Our run blocking isn't where it needs to be, but we were able to get outside and hit them with some good screens," said Young. "All I ask of my kids is that they compete on every play, and they did that. We're going to come right back and get ready for Cambridge." Despite being under consistent pressure, Cummings connected on 9-of-



Dan Holdsworth (L) of Tusky Valley intercepts a pass in the end zone in front of Indian Valley's Joey Milburn.

22 passes for 180 yards. He hooked up with Matt Schaar four times for 92 yards, including a 58-yard gainer. In addition to his 88-yard kickoff return, Milburn also had a 35-yard kickoff return and made an acrobatic catch for 33 yards. "That's one thing we're going to work on next week – kickoff coverage," said Martini.



TV Grinds Out Victory Over Tuslaw

Scott McCartney rushed for 196 yards and Josh Seward scored two touchdowns as Tusky Valley defeated Tuslaw in a Principals' Athletic Conference clash.

Seward's 10-yard touchdown

run late in the first quarter gave the Trojans a 7-0 lead. Tuslaw pulled within 7-6 at the 10:36 mark of the second stanza on a 57-yard touchdown jaunt by Jim Dowling. The extra-point kick was no good.

Seward's 5-yard TD run with

4:18 left in the first half boosted the Trojans' advantage to 14-6. Joe Sevier then booted a 27-yard field goal in the final frame to end the scoring. Sevier also kicked two extra points. Dowling led the Mustangs on the ground with 177 yards in 18 carries.

Tusky Valley Runs Over Pirates

The visiting Trojans scored early and often in rolling past Garaway. Tusky Valley (2-1) led 13-0 less than four minutes into the game. Jonathan Lindsay opened the scoring with an 18-yard touchdown run to make it 6-0. On the ensuing kickoff, Adam Wright returned a Pirate fumble 23 yards for another score.

A 40-yard touchdown pass from David Spillman to Dan Holdsworth made it 20-0 in the first period. Scott McCartney's 14-yard run in the first minute of the second period put the Trojans on top 27-0, and then two Mason Weaver scores made it 41-0 at half-time. Weaver caught a 27-yard TD toss from Spillman and then scored from 27 yards out after blocking a punt.

In the third quarter, Josh Seward gave Tusky Valley a 48-0 advantage on a 17-yard run. The winners added a fourth-period TD by sophomore Russell Linder on a 62-yard run.

McCartney led Tusky Valley runners with 93 yards on 14 carries. Joe Sevier booted six extra points for the night.

Trojans Rout Comets 41-7

Scott McCartney rushed for 202 yards on 23 carries and scored three touchdowns as Tuscarawas Valley cruised past host Akron Coventry. Tusky Valley improved to 3-1 in the PAC and 5-3 overall, while Coventry dropped to 2-3, 3-5.

McCartney had a 6-yard scor-

ing run and added a pair of 1-yard runs. Dan Holdsworth caught a 22-yard scoring pass from David Spillman, while Josh Seward (12-yard scoring run) and Cade Adams (11-yard scoring run) also scored for the winners.

Joe Sevier added five conversion kicks for the Trojans, who led

28-0 before the hosts scored.

Seward added 102 yards on 12 carries, while Spillman was 4-of-9 passing for 37 yards. Tusky Valley outgained Coventry 378-96 as the Trojans held the hosts in check.

Adam Magovlick scored on a 10-yard run for Coventry.

St. Thomas Aquinas Withstands Trojan Rally

Aquinas scored twice in the final 4:36 to pull out a win against Tusky Valley. The Trojans, who trailed 17-0 in the second quarter, took the lead with 6:28 to play on a 14 yard pass to Mason Weaver from David Spillman. Joe Sevier's PAT made the score 28-24.

But Dennis Underwood, who

finished the game with 163 yards and four touchdowns, put the Knights back on top. He scored on a 20-yard run with 4:36 on the clock and cashed in on a 46-yard run at the 2:37 mark to account for the final score. Underwood also had touchdown runs of 44 and 85 yards.

Trailing 17-0 late in the second quarter, David Spillman got the Trojans on the board on a 1-yard run

with 4:34 on the clock, but Underwood scored 13 seconds later. Jonathan Lindsay caught a 3-yard pass from Spillman with 5 seconds left in the half to make it 24-14 at halftime. Scott McCartney, who had a touchdown run in the third quarter, led the Trojans with 72 yards on 17 carries. Spillman hit 17 of 32 passes for 195 yards for Tusky Valley (3-3).

Canton South Gains Big Win Versus Trojans

Three hundred-and 65 days, 8,760 hours, 525,600 minutes and 31,536,000 seconds. That's how long Canton South's football team had been waiting for another crack at Tuscarawas Valley.

After a year of frothing at the mouth in anticipation of avenging a 26-20 loss in overtime at the hands of the Trojans in 2001, the Wildcats picked up a 31-12 win Saturday night. "This is a sweet win, just a sweet win," Canton South coach Elmer Schuetz said. "We've been thinking about last year's game for a whole year. We were up 20-7 with five minutes to go last year and they came back to tie it and send it to overtime before beating us."

Schuetz wasted little time in offering praise to the Trojans, who except for some big plays early stayed even with the Wildcats for much of the night. "This is a very big win for us because that is a very, very good football team," Schuetz said. "We got lucky in the beginning and our kids held tough in the second half. In the fourth quarter we talked about what happened last year and the kids responded, they hung in and they held together and played tough to end."

Tusky Valley coach Dale Martini said he expected a fight out of the Wildcats. "They have some kids who are really hungry to get things going this year and they proved that tonight," Martini said.

Canton South started off fast, going up 14-0 on two big plays. The first score came at the 4:54 mark in the

first quarter when quarterback Ronnie Bourquin hooked up with wideout Desmond Irvin on a 77-yard pass. The Travis Secrest kick was good for the 7-0 lead. The next Canton South touchdown came just a minute later when



Tusky Valley running back Scott McCartney (36) tries to step away from a tackle by Canton South's Dan Dale.

Malachi Rushin yanked the ball out of the arms of Tusky Valley running back Cade Adams at the Trojan 49 and returned the ball for a touchdown and a 14-0 lead.

"I can't say I'm pleased with giving up the big plays early," Martini said. "Those two plays put us down early. I thought we fought back but they answered us." The Trojans put the score at 14-6 with 7:58 on the clock in the second quarter when David Spillman tossed a five-yard score to Scott Spillman. The David Spillman kick was no good.

The teams kept the score 14-6 going into halftime with almost identical statistics. Canton South had 173 total yards of offense to 140 for the Trojans. Tusky Valley had eight first downs to six for Canton South.

Both defenses were stingy in the third quarter, forcing four punt situations and a missed field goal by Secrest. Tusky Valley ended the third quarter with a 17-yard run by Daren Harvey on third-and-10 to set up the Trojans on their own 37 yardline to start the fourth quarter. On the first play of the final quarter, Rushin intercepted a David Spillman pass at the TV 40-yard line and returned it to the 30.

The Wildcats drove to the 2-yardline and eventually scored on a run by Jeremy Richards. The touchdown was set up by a 24-yard run by Bourquin. The Secrest kick was good for the 21-6 lead with 10:44 left in the game.

A 22-yard field goal by Secrest put South up 24-6 with 7:49 remaining.

Tusky Valley took the ball on the Wildcat 34 and after being sacked for a 13-yard loss, Spillman responded with an eight-yard pass to Mike Corpman and then a 20-yard pass to Mason Weaver on fourth-and-15. After an incomplete pass, Spillman found Weaver for a 17-yard touchdown with 4:50 to go. The conversion pass failed for the 24-12 deficit.

Tusky Valley's defense held Canton South down and forced a punt in the next series but while driving from his own 18-yard line Spillman threw an interception to Richards, who returned the ball to the Tusky Valley 3. Richards ran it in for the final score and Secrest's point after was good for the final deficit.

Richards finished with 89 yards on 21 carries while Jonathan Lindsay led Tusky Valley in rushing with 57 yards on nine carries. Bourquin completed 6 of 16 passes for 137 yards, an interception and a touchdown. Spillman had a rough first varsity start, completing 9 of 26 passes for 98 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions.

The loss left Martini looking for improvement in his team's next game at home against Indian Valley. "We were really inconsistent tonight," Martini said. "I talked to the kids about character (after the game) and how to respond to this. We need to get better and work towards our next game. We have a long way to go but I know we have the potential to be a really good football team."

McCartney Sets Record as Trojans Pound Fairless

It was a fitting way for Scott McCartney to break the record. He certainly didn't steal the show. The spotlight was on the passing game from the start. He didn't grab the spotlight. The Tusky Valley defense did that and then some.

Rather, McCartney put out his usual workmanlike effort. But it was enough.

McCartney rolled up 89 yards rushing in the Trojans' 42-13 Principals' Athletic Conference win over Fairless and that

was enough to make him the school's all-time rushing leader. The senior fullback entered the night just 32 yards short of Nate Ady's career-best 1,920 yards, and he took care of that with no problem. "This is a great honor, but the credit really goes to the linemen," McCartney said. "They do it all and I couldn't do anything without them. "A couple of those guys – (Kyle) Sundheimer and (Eric) Lee – have been with me for over two years now, so this is for them."

McCartney's totals on the night are typical of his career at Tusky Valley. "He's never really had real big totals for a year, but he's just such a great player," said Trojan coach Dale Martini. "We use so many different people in our offense, you never know what might have happened if he'd have run the ball more." McCartney got 18 carries on this night, but the game was

over well before he could become a factor.

Quarterback David Spillman got it going for Tusky Valley when he hit Mason Weaver on a long pass that went for a 70-yard touchdown on the second offensive play of the game. On their next possession, the Trojan quarterback threw a 40-yard bomb to Scott Spillman in the end zone for another score and a 14-0 lead. Spillman, who had another bomb dropped in the first quarter, completed 7-of-11 passes on the night for 169 yards.



Tusky Valley's Scott McCartney is dragged down from behind by Fairless defender Jon Shockey.

a defensive touchdown in the second quarter. Fairless quarterback Steve Fisher coughed up the ball when he was hit by Jonathan Lindsay. Weaver scooped it up at the 30 and ran 70 yards for the touchdown. The Weaver defensive touchdown came right after the Falcons had gotten their best field position of the night when Ryan Brooks and Jon Shockey blocked a Tusky Valley punt to give the visitors possession at the Tusky Valley 21.

"That was a weird turn of events," said Fairless coach Rollie

Mushrush, whose team falls to 0-4. "But that's the kind of stuff that seems to be happening to us right now. "But our kids didn't quit. They were out there hitting all night. We're not happy, but we're not disappointed with our efforts. They just had too many weapons for us."

Martini said he was glad to have the passing game step up early. "We wanted to run the ball, but the passes were there early," Martini said. "They did a better job of stopping our running game than (Canton) South did, but we were able to get it going."

The Trojans finished with 314 yards in total offense. Fairless, which had just one first down until midway through the fourth quarter, finished with 62 yards. Tusky Valley is 1-0 in league play and 3-1 overall and will host conference foe Manchester next week. "We know we have the talent, it's just a matter of going out and doing it," McCartney said when discussing next week's game against the Panthers.

Martini had guarded optimism about his squad, "I feel real good about this team right now," Martini said. "But we're going to have to play great defense and we can't be one dimensional."

<u>Player</u>	<u>Yards</u>
Scott McCartney	2909
Nate Ady	1920
Josh Duebner	1773
Jeff Ladrach	1687
Seth Duerr	1361

Trojans Produce 38-0 Victory Over CVCA on Homecoming Night

The seniors went out in style Friday night at Tusky Valley. Playing in their final home game, the Trojans' talented stable of senior running backs and linemen punished Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy with more than 500 yards of total offense in a 38-0 victory.

And don't forget the defense, which held CVCA to only 48 yards of offense in the game, including minus-15 yards rushing in the second half. With the shutout, the Trojans have yielded only seven points in their last two games and outscored those opponents by a combined 79-7.

It was enough to leave Tusky Valley coach Dale Martini, who saw his club improve to 6-3 overall and 4-1 in the Principals' Athletic Conference, passing out accolades all around – especially to his seniors.

“(CVCA) played us pretty tough in the first half and I thought we were a little sluggish,” Martini said. “But our kids and especially the seniors, really responded in the second half for us.”

The play of guards Eric Lee and Jeremy Rodgers particularly was convincing, allowing the Trojans to mix up their inside runs and outside sweeps, Martini said. Tusky Valley rushed for a total of 372 yards. “They just were really getting after it up there tonight and they kept opening up nice holes for us to run behind,” he said. “It was a nice team victory, especially in our last home game.”

Senior running back Scott McCartney said he was emotionally excited before the start of the game since it was his last appearance on the home field. The school's all-time leading rusher, McCartney added to his re-

cord total by going over the 1,000-yard mark for the season early in the game and he didn't stop until he had 174 yards on 29 carries and two touchdowns. “Our line is just awesome and it's easy to run behind them,” McCartney said. “I was pumped. I wanted to play well tonight and I wanted us to win. It's a great feeling.”

McCartney carried the Trojans in the first half as he jump-started the offense with 111 yards in 21 carries and both of his touchdowns. Both teams started slowly, trading punts on several series before a McCartney 5-yard touchdown run early in the second

quarter capped a 14-play drive that burned 6:45 off the clock. On the Trojans' next series, McCartney struck again,

plunging in from a yard out to finish off another long drive – 63 yards on 11 plays.

Leading 14-0 at the half, the Trojans put the Royals (2-4, 4-5) away by early in the fourth quarter with a flurry of offense over a near six-minute span. The scoring started with a 29-yard field goal by senior Joe Sevier with 5:08 left in the third quarter. After getting the ball back on downs at its own 25, Tusky Valley quickly got into CVCA territory and found itself with a first-and-goal at the Royals' 8. Senior running back Mike Corpman made his first carry of the night a memorable one as he raced untouched around left end for the touchdown and a 24-0 lead with only seven seconds left in the quarter. “I thought that was a big play right there,” Martini said. “Our kids really got pumped when Corpman took it in

and that seemed to finish (CVCA) off.”

Of course, whatever doubt was left, TV quarterback David Spillman took care of on the Trojans' next offensive play. On first down from the Tusky Valley 41, Spillman rolled right and set up to throw a pass a few yards downfield before freezing the CVCA defense with a beautiful pump fake. The maneuver left senior split end Dan Holdsworth all alone behind the defensive backs and he caught Spillman's pass in stride for the 59-yard touchdown with 11:18 remaining. Spillman had a solid night passing the ball, as he finished with seven completions in 14 attempts for 133 yards, the touchdown and one interception.

Senior Cade Adams finished the scoring for Tusky Valley when he burst through the Royals for a 14-yard run. Adams totaled 38 yards rushing, while junior Jonathan Lindsay had 55 yards on five carries and junior Josh Seward carried nine times for 46 yards. “We executed real well on offense both last week (in a 41-7 win over Coventry) and tonight,” said Martini.

Defensively, whenever the Royals appeared to be ready to mount a drive, the Tusky Valley defenders quickly shut down the CVCA running game and put enough pressure on the passers to hurry both quarterbacks the opponents used.

“It's unfortunate we were unable to put together another win or two and maybe have been looking at the playoffs right now,” Martini said. “If you look at our losses, we were beaten by some good teams and I think we could play with anybody (in our region). But these kids don't have anything to be ashamed of. They have had a tremendous season and I'm very proud of the effort they have given out there each game. They will have a lot of good memories of this season.”



Manchester Knocks off TV in Overtime Thriller

Knowing very well about his team's inability to move the ball all night against a stingy Tuscarawas Valley defense, Akron Manchester football coach Jim France had to dip into his bag of tricks in overtime after a 6-6 regulation. What he pulled out of his hat was the hook-and-ladder and eventually, a 13-6 win over the host Trojans on Friday night.

With a third-and-11 situation from the 21-yardline facing his team in overtime, France called in the hook-and-ladder and his players ran it to perfection. Quarterback Ryan Swain threw a strike to wideout Sean Calvert at the 10. Calvert then turned and pitched the ball back to teammate Josh Feesler, who streaked into the end zone for the 12-6 lead. The Nick Manson extra point was good for a 13-6 lead as the Trojans took over at the 20 for their series.

Trojan quarterback David Spillman threw two incomplete passes and was sacked for a 7-yard loss before throwing one last desperation to Mason Weaver that the tight end dropped to seal the Panther victory.

"It was a play we've used quite a bit in practice but it's not one we've run a whole lot in real game situations," France said of the game-winning play. "We ran it once for about a 40-yard touchdown against Tuslaw last week and luckily tonight it worked for us. Their (Tusky Valley) kids, particularly their defensive line, beat our offensive line up and down all night long. We self-destructed against them. We know our kids got their butts kicked up front, where it counts, and I told our players that. I have a feeling there are going to be some tough practices this week." France added that after a long night of battling, he knew his team needed a bit of trickery. "Our guys were getting tired and I know they (Tusky Valley) have a lot of two-way players and they were tired and both teams were just giving it all they had, so we had to do something a little out of the ordinary," the veteran coach said.

The loss left Tusky Valley coach Dale Martini filled with pride over his team's effort, which was statistically better despite three turnovers. "I'm very proud of our kids," Martini said. "For people who

were here tonight, they might say we possibly outplayed them and in the statistics I'm sure you'll see it but games aren't won statistically. It's an emotional loss for sure but we maybe outplayed a tough, good, solid team and I couldn't be more proud of our great kids and our great (coaching) staff."

The Trojans had 12 first downs to 10 for Manchester and outgained them 213-188 in total offense. Still, it was two lost fumbles in the first half and an interception in the second half that didn't help the Trojans. "We haven't had any turnovers in three weeks and tonight we had three," Martini said. "You can't commit three turnovers like that against an opponent like Manchester. You almost have to play errorless ball against them."

There was not much offense to speak of and only one touchdown scored in the first four quarters. The Trojans (0-1 Principals' Athletic Conference, 3-2 overall) led 3-0 on a 37-yard Joe Sevier kick at the 5:08 mark in the first quarter, but Manchester answered at the 2:24 mark when Justin McCraney ran in from seven yards out following a fumbled punt by Weaver at the TV 7-yardline. The extra point was blocked by Weaver, making it 6-3.

The two teams played to scoreless second and third quarters and the game looked to nearly over in the fourth quarter when, on third-and-3 from the Manchester 40, Tusky Valley's Josh Seward fumbled to the Panthers' Josh LeBarre. On the next play, Panthers running back Aaron Neely ran 41 yards to set up the visitors at the Tusky Valley 17 with seven minutes remaining in the game. Neely gained two yards on the next play before Tusky Valley cornerback Joe Bird scooped up a McCraney fumble to give his team possession at their own 17.

The Trojans proceeded to drive downfield, making it to the Manchester 47. On third-and-nine, Brody Jackson intercepted a Spillman pass at the Panther 14-yardline with 3:05 left in regulation.

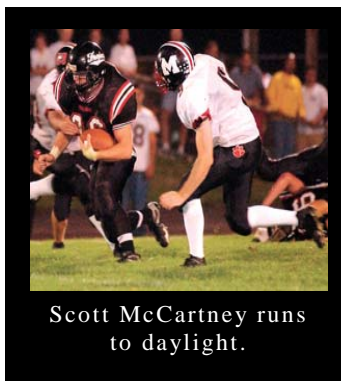
The Trojans held steady defensively though, causing Manchester to punt. After taking over at its own 42, Spillman hit Matt Rumer with a 53-yard pass to set up a first and goal from the 5. After two attempts by Scott McCartney to get across the goal and an incomplete pass, Martini elected to have Sevier kick his second field goal of the game, this time from 22 yards away. Sevier responded by tying the game with 37 seconds left. Manchester ran one running play after the ensuing punt to force overtime and the eventual theatrics.

"Sitting here at 3-2 I still think this is one of the best teams we've had here," Martini said. "With some tough opponents we've gotten better each week. We just try to play our game and improve each week. We can't look behind us because we have a tough schedule left to play." The Tusky Valley mentor said his defensive front truly did step up all night. "Eric Lee is having one phenomenal season and tonight was no different," Martini said. "He makes plays all over the place. Then you have Jeremy Rodgers and Kyle Slutz and Cade Adams and Mason Weaver – those guys on our line just played so well tonight."

Offensively, McCartney finished with 27 carries for 97 yards, taking over the bulk of the rushing load after junior Jonathan Lindsay left the game with what appeared to be a slight knee injury. His status was uncertain as he did walk the sidelines after halftime. Spillman finished with 6-of-13 accuracy for 120 yards. Rumer, starting for the injured Danny Holdsworth, caught three balls for 71 yards while Weaver had two catches for 40 yards.

Neely led the winners with 20 rushes for 95 yards. For the 5-0 Panthers (2-0 in the PAC), the win was big.

"We're happy to be 5-0," France said. "We've beaten some Division II teams and we know this game puts the winner in the driver's seat for the PAC title. It doesn't guarantee a championship but it does give us a good cushion. It also helps us out a little with those computer points."



Scott McCartney runs to daylight.

Weaver Earns T-R Player of the Week

Tuscarawas Valley senior football player Mason Weaver went out and had himself a game last Friday in a 42-13 win over Fairless.



Mason Weaver

On the offensive side of the ball, the 6-foot-4 tight end caught a pair of touchdown passes from quarterback David Spillman of 70 and 10 yards. On the defensive side of the ball at his end position, he scooped up a fumble and sprinted 70 more yards for a score.

For his monster effort, Weaver, the son of Ed and Deb Weaver of Bolivar, is the area boys' Athlete of the Week.

Weaver said that his receptions are a result of an improving Spillman, who is in his first year of starting at quarterback for the

Trojans. "Spillman is throwing the ball a lot better because he's getting so much time to throw because of our offensive line," Weaver said. "He's getting better each game."

Tusky Valley coach Dale Martini said Weaver simply is a great player. "He's the real deal," Martini said. "He just makes some fantastic plays – on both sides of the ball. He has all the tools, he can run and catch. He's just got it all and I really do expect him to come on even more the rest of the way."

Tusky Valley has reeled off three straight wins since losing to Canton South in the opener. Weaver said the Trojans are more focused now. "We just had a bad night that night," he said. "In practice we're more focused on ourselves and we just worry about what we have to do in the game."

McCartney Sets Single-Season Rushing Record

Senior Scott McCartney set the single-season rushing record on Friday, October 26th vs. East Canton. McCartney, the school's all-time leading rusher, ended the 2002 campaign with 1351 yards rushing. The offensive line of Kyle Sundheimer, Eric Lee, Tyler Booth, Jeremy Rodgers and Tim Isaacs opened holes for McCartney throughout the season.

Player	Yards
Scott McCartney	1351
Jeff Ladrach	1348
Josh Duebner	1172
Seth Duerr	1124



Trojans Earn PAC Honors

Several Tusky Valley Trojans were honored by the PAC for their outstanding performances during the 2002 football season. Senior Scott McCartney led the way as he was named the league's Most Valuable Player. McCartney set the school's single-season rushing mark with 1351 yards rushing. McCartney is also the school's all-time leading rusher.

Senior lineman Kyle Sundheimer, Jeremy Rodgers, and Eric Lee played a major role in

McCartney's success. The three lineman were rewarded for their hard work by being named to the 1st team.

Rounding out the 1st team selection was senior tight end/defensive end Mason Weaver. Weaver ends his career as Tusky's all-time sack leader with 20

sacks. Senior wide receiver/defensive back Danny Holdsworth and Senior linebacker Cade Adams received honorable mention awards.

Senior place kicker Joe Sevier capped off the Trojan honorees by being named PAC Special Teams Player of the Year. Sevier connected on 38 of 40 PAT's as well 4 of 6 field goal attempts. Sevier ends his career as Tusky Valley's all-time leading kicker.

Scott McCartney — Most Valuable Player, 1st Team PAC

Kyle Sundheimer — 1st Team PAC

Jeremy Rodgers — 1st Team PAC

Mason Weaver — 1st Team PAC

Eric Lee — 1st Team PAC

Danny Holdsworth — Honorable Mention PAC

Cade Adams — Honorable Mention PAC

Joe Sevier — Special Teams Player of the Year PAC