

Vikings win Junior DY A title !

Steelers vs Vikings

The Vikings clinched the Junior League Championship with a hard-fought 8-8 tie with the extremely tough Steelers in a superbly played game. The tie gave the Vikings a league-leading record of 7-1-1 while the Steelers finished a half game behind at 6-1-2. Fullback Don Mitchell paced the Steeler ground attack with well over 100 yards and was the game's leading rusher. Running backs Mike Jones and John Sprankle handled the bulk of the running chores for the Vikings with over 130 yards combined unofficially.

The Steelers powered 64 yards to their score behind the direction of fine quarterback Ken Garnto. The drive's biggest play was a key fourth down pass from Garnto to Mitchell of 20 yards. Mitchell supplied the rest of the drive's horsepower combined with a bootleg play from Garnto. From three yards out, Mitchell smashed in for the score and then bulldozed home for the conversion and a 8-0 lead.

The Steelers maintained their edge with superior team defensive play, until early in the final quarter. Starting at their own 35-yard line, the Vikings mounted the tying touchdown drive. Mike Jones' sweep was good for 25 yards and John Sprankle turned the corner for 30 more and a first and goal. Sprankle's determined four-yard blast and Jones' conversion knotted the game at 8-8 to give the Vikings the Junior League title.





Vikings beat Steelers 12-0

VIKINGS VS STEELERS

The Vikings reclaimed first place in the Junior League with a 12-0 shutout of the previously unbeaten Steelers, Sunday at Düppel Field. Two big breaks were the keys which led to both Viking scores. After halting a deep Viking drive at the one-yard line, the Steelers fumbled on the possession as the second quarter progressed. Linebacker Mike Jones recovered for the Vikings at the Steeler two which set up QB Scott Stuhlmiller's one yard plunge for a 6-0 Viking edge.

A second break occurred during the fourth quarter when Viking tackle Robert Thomas blocked a punt fairly deep in Steeler territory, picked it up and scampered to the Steeler nine. On fourth down, Mike Jones plowed over from a yard out for the game's final touchdown, and a 12-0 Viking victory. The win gave the Vikings a 4-1-0 record while the Steelers slipped to 3-1-1. Defensively, safetymen Kevin Sicotte and Tony Barnett each intercepted a Steeler pass.

VIKINGS VS COLTS

The Vikings trounced the Colts, 20-0, to maintain their half game over the Steelers with a 6-1 mark. The Junior League title still remains a toss-up between the Vikings and the Steelers at 5-1-1. Tony Barnett, Kevin Sicotte, and Mike Jones each scored a touchdown for the men in green; Sicotte also tallied one conversion and a pass interception on defense.

Vikings vs Dolphins

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The Vikings started the fireworks at their 41-yard line during the first quarter when fullback Tommy Washer blasted through the Dolphins line and turned on the afterburners for a 59-yard score. Mike Jones then swept in for the conversion an early 8-0 lead. The men in green's alert defensive play set up the second touchdown when defensive end Mike Olguin pounced on a fumble at the Dolphin 27 during second quarter play. Mike Jones capped the short 27-yard drive with a two-yard smash for a 14-0 halftime margin.

The third quarter opened with an explosive play that was nullified by a penalty; Viking halfback John Sprankle's 57-yard TD burst, but it stalled the Viking attack only momentarily. Later in the half, big defensive tackle Bob Colangelo recovered a fumble punt return at the Dolphin 30 which led to the game's final tally. Jones churned for a 15-yard pickup; then later scored his second touchdown on a six-yard power smash to up the advantage to a 20-0 final.

During the course of the action, starting Dolphin quarterback Mike O'Sail had left the game with damaged ribs and was later taken to the hospital for X-rays which, fortunately, proved to be negative. O'Sail was replaced by Donny Collins who did a fine job in rallying his team in the closing moments of the game. Collins connected with league-leading receiver Dennis Weese twice for 45 yards during the potential scoring drive, which ended at the Viking two-yard line, as time expired on the day. Weese hauled in five receptions for 90 yards, unofficially. O'Sail hit on three pass completions; Collins heaved four strikes for a combined yardage of 115 yards, unofficially.

Collins also chalked up a pass interception as did teammate Danny Prater. For the Vikings, Tom Dietz notched his fifth league-leading pass theft. Mike Jones also picked off a Dolphin pass. As of now, the Junior League title is still a toss-up between the Steelers at 4-1-1 and the Vikings at 5-1. With three games to go, the Dolphins at 2-3-1 are just about out of it; the Colts have already been eliminated.



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