

JANUARY

The Oskaloosa Herald

2006 - A YEAR IN REVIEW

DECEMBER

Trojans move on to Dome in a 20-18 heartstopper over Lenox

By **BURDELL HENSLEY**
The Oskaloosa Herald

ST. MARY'S — It was all about defense when the Tri-County Trojans and the Lenox Tigers duked it out at St. Marys Monday night in the Eight-Man football quarterfinals.

In the end, it was the Trojans hanging on by their white knuckles for a 20-18 win and the opportunity to take on the Essex Trojans Friday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. in the UNI Dome in Cedar Falls in semifinal action.

So intense was this game that pacemakers had to be checked for abuse. Both teams laid plenty of leather on the other and high-powered offenses found it very difficult to move the football.

The game hung in the balance right up to the final 11 sec-

onds as the Tigers rallied back from a 20-12 Trojan lead with a four-yard scoring pass from Seth Robinson to Tyler Peterson. Lenox had no choice but to go for two points to tie and send the game into overtime. The slippery Robinson scrambled and found his receiver in the endzone, but Ryan Schmidt came out of nowhere and tipped the ball away in a desperation dive.

Lenox tried an onside kick and Schmidt went high in the air to grab the ball and cradle it to his chest.

Bedlam on the Tri-County side of the field and the agony of defeat on the Lenox side of the field.

What a relief for Tri-County coach Scott Edmundson and his staff.

"It was defense, defense, defense," Edmundson said. "What a gut check! Our guys

played so hard and just kept coming at them. Lenox is a great team and much quicker than they appear on film. There defense made it so tough for our passing game. Late in the game we went to the power running game and that paid off for us."

The first half was a war of defenses and neither team could cross the other's goal. Finally late in the first half, the Tigers broke a 45-yard pass play from Robinson to Grant Calvin to move the ball to the Trojan 11. Three cracks at the Trojan line left the Tigers facing a fourth and three. Alex Peterson stepped up and booted a 24-yard field goal for a 3-0 lead with 1:16 left in the half.

On the next series, the Trojans were held on downs and turned the ball over to the Tigers.

On the first play Robinson

hit Calvin for 25 yards to the Tri-County 32 as time ran out. An illegal block on the Trojans moved the ball to the 22 and Lenox had one more play. This time, Peterson boomed a 40-yard field goal for a 6-0 Tiger lead at halftime.

The second half opened with the two teams trading punts and then Tri-County put together a 49-yard drive in 13 plays to get into the end zone. Tyler Shipley blasted the final four yards for the TD. The kick was blocked and with 3:36 left in the third period the score was tied 6-6.

Lenox coughed up the ball on the next series and Cory Randall scooped the ball up in stride and rambled 24 yards to score. Randall made a circus catch in the corner of the end zone for the two points and with 2:41 left in the third stanza the Trojans held a 14-6 lead.

Tri-County ambushed at the UNI-Dome 42-0

CEDAR FALLS — It was a dark day at the UNI-Dome for the Tri-County Trojans.

Tri-County took on the Essex Trojans in the semifinals of the Eight-Man playoffs Nov. 10 and the red and black-clad Trojans used a quick swarming defense to totally shut down the lads in gold and black with 32 yards of total offense in a 42-0 defeat.

Tri-County had used a quick, stinging defense and a prolific offense to rack up 11 straight wins going into Friday's semifinal. But on this occasion, they encountered a team with equal

to or better speed, and a deep and balanced offense that got on a roll and couldn't be turned away.

However, the loss could not dampen the season for three Tri-County players who were selected as all-stars.

Offensive lineman Logan Ogden was a second team selection and quarterback Ryan Schmidt and defensive back Cory Randall were third team picks.

The Trojans finished 11-1 for the season and the team tallied 2,635 yards of offense and had 46 rushing touchdowns.

Three area volleyball teams play in state tournament

It was quite a fall for the Oskaloosa, Eddyville-Blakesburg and Pella volleyball teams.

All three advanced to the state tournament with Oskaloosa coming within one game of the Class 4A championship match.

The Indians went 33-7, beating Ankeny and losing to eventual state champion Iowa City High in the semifinals.

While Oskaloosa didn't

win a state title, it did receive the sportsmanship award and Morgan Bailey was named to the all-tournament team.

Eddyville-Blakesburg and Pella both lost in the opening round — the Rockets falling to eventual state champion Western Christian in the Class 2A first round and the Lady Dutch dropping their Class 3A first-round match to Dubuque Wahlert.

Oskey Indians clip Hawkettes in state tourney opener

By **JIM GRIES**
Herald Sports Editor

CEDAR RAPIDS — Oskaloosa's volleyball team had a pep rally to send the team off to the state volleyball tournament and the fifth-ranked Indians used that emotional send-off to advance to the Class 4A semifinal with a 25-19, 19-25, 27-25, 25-21 triumph over No. 10 Ankeny at the U.S. Cellular Center.

The 33-6 Indians got tremendous crowd support as it seemed the entire community made the trek to Cedar Rapids to spur the team on to victory.

"Are they not just the best fans in the state?" Oskaloosa coach Sarah DeRonde said. "I think they need to win the award. When we had the other

team shouting some other stuff back, we were responding good. They are fantastic. Look how many people we brought all the way from Oskaloosa. We devoured any crowd here today. Our fans helped us so much."

"Our fans are amazing. They are definitely the best fans here," Oskaloosa senior hitter Emily Stanton said. "That's what really get us going. The fans are just great."

The fans didn't need to help Oskaloosa much in the opening game as the Indians, who face top-ranked Iowa City High at 1 p.m. on Friday in the semifinal, never trailed as it held a 10-6 lead after the Hawkettes (25-9) had a couple of errors. But kills from Johanna Ruff and Chelsey Semprini cut the deficit to 10-8.

The Indians countered with kills by Morgan Bailey and

Stanton to increase the lead to 12-8 and Ankeny could get no closer.

The second game was a little bit different matter as Ankeny stayed with Oskaloosa through the early moments of the game.

The game was tied at 7 and a kill by Stanton apparently gave the Indians a 1-point advantage. But after a discussion by umpire Tara Hoffert and Ankeny coach Dave Whims, Oskaloosa saw its lead extend to 9-6, much to the dismay of the Ankeny fans.

An ace by Stanton spotted Oskaloosa a 4-point bulge, but the Hawkettes scored three unanswered points on kills by Hannah Johnson and Cathleen Andresen and a hitting mistake by Bailey.

The game went back-and-forth with neither team getting more than a 2-point lead on the

other.

The Indians held a 17-14 lead when Ankeny scored the next six points to take control of the game.

Johnson had two kills and — much like the first game when the Hawkettes misplayed the ball for easy points — the Indians had a pair of miscues that cost them the game.

It looked like Ankeny was gaining control of the match as it led from the very beginning and Oskaloosa appeared to be on the ropes.

But that's when the Indians play their best volleyball.

The Hawkettes led 18-13 following a kill by Alicia Davidson when DeRonde called a timeout. Ankeny got a point following the timeout and the Indians began their comeback.



Eric Palmer defeats Danny Carroll

■ Oskaloosa attorney Eric Palmer wins race for Iowa House District 75

By **JARED McNEILL**
The Oskaloosa Herald

OSKALOOSA — It looks like Oskaloosa's Democratic state Sen. Tom Rielly will have some company in Des Moines as Democrat Eric Palmer defeated incumbent Danny Carroll (R-Grinnell), speaker pro tem of the Iowa House.

Iowa's 75th District encompasses roughly the eastern half of Mahaska County and the western half of Poweshiek County. Unofficially, Carroll defeat-

ed Palmer in his backyard of Mahaska County by a slim margin of just 13 votes. In Carroll's home of Poweshiek County, Palmer beat the five-term incumbent by 689 votes.

Carroll took home 2,518 votes in Mahaska County and 2,503 in Poweshiek County. Palmer brought in 2,505 votes in Mahaska County, while bringing home 3,192 votes in Poweshiek County.

When asked how he was

feeling, a thrilled Palmer said he felt "grateful, humbled, excited — a lot of different words."

While he is excited, he remains focused on what he ran on throughout his campaign.

"I think it's time to get up there and get the focus on what I've been talking about from day one — the jobs and the health care and the education," said Palmer. "It's time."

In speaking about his

opponent, Palmer said that he received a call of concession from Carroll.

"He was very gracious in calling me and conceding the race and I think I'll leave it at that," said Palmer. "He said it'll be a very rich experience ... and I believe it will be and I hope I can do some good up there."

Said Carroll, "It's been an honor to serve the people of the 75th House District and I called Mr. Palmer and wished him the very best."

When asked if he will run again, Carroll said he didn't know.

Herald Assistant Editor Jared McNeill can be reached through e-mail at jmcneill@oskyherald.com



Eric Palmer



Danny Carroll

What's happened since the November election

OSKALOOSA — With Eric Palmer being elected to the Iowa House, someone needs to take his seat on the Oskaloosa City Council.

At their Dec. 4 meeting, the Oskaloosa City Council agreed to a plan to replace the outgoing city council member.

Applications were accepted until Dec. 13 and interviews were conducted on the 18th of this month. The appointment can't be made until the first meeting in

January, after which the resignation from Palmer becomes effective.

The list of candidates to fill Palmer's council seat includes Joseph Caligiuri, Jason Comstock, Keith Garrett, Tom Jimenez, Lori Smith and Russell Sparks.

As for Palmer, he has been selected to serve as vice-chair on the House Judiciary Committee representing Oskaloosa, along with state Sen. Tom Rielly.

Palmer's term will start Monday, Jan. 8, 2007.

Have a **SAFE** New Year's Holiday
from your friends at the **Oskaloosa Herald**

People You Trust!

Better Built for \$34 - \$85 sq. ft.

Visit us at: www.centuryhomes.net



Come See Us At:
1712 Pella Road • Oskaloosa, IA 52577
641-672-2344
Call Us Toll Free At:
1-877-241-3621

**Prices You Can
Live With!**

