

# One-sided football series between Wildcats, Gateway continues

*Numbers again add up to Gators' large-margin shutout of GL*

**BY RANDY SKUBEK**

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**MONROEVILLE** — Pick a stat — any stat — and there are many, from any of the Greater Latrobe-Gateway football games over the last eight years.

There are the total yards in this game or the number of scoring plays over x-amount of yards in that game.

But there's one that stands out more than all of the rest.

246-0.

That's the aggregate score of the last five meetings between the teams.

The latest — 49-0 — came last night at Gateway, in front of a television (FSN Pittsburgh) audience, no less, to begin WPIAL Quad-A South Conference play.

It's the fifth straight time Greater Latrobe has not only been shut out, but by more than a little bit, and the Wildcats' sixth loss in a row to the Gators since 2002.

It doesn't get more telling than that.

"We got our butts kicked by a better team," was how GL head coach Ray Reitz saw it.

This is all new to Reitz — in more ways than one — who's in his first season as head coach after spending four successful years at Jeannette, where his teams were almost always on the other end of games like this.

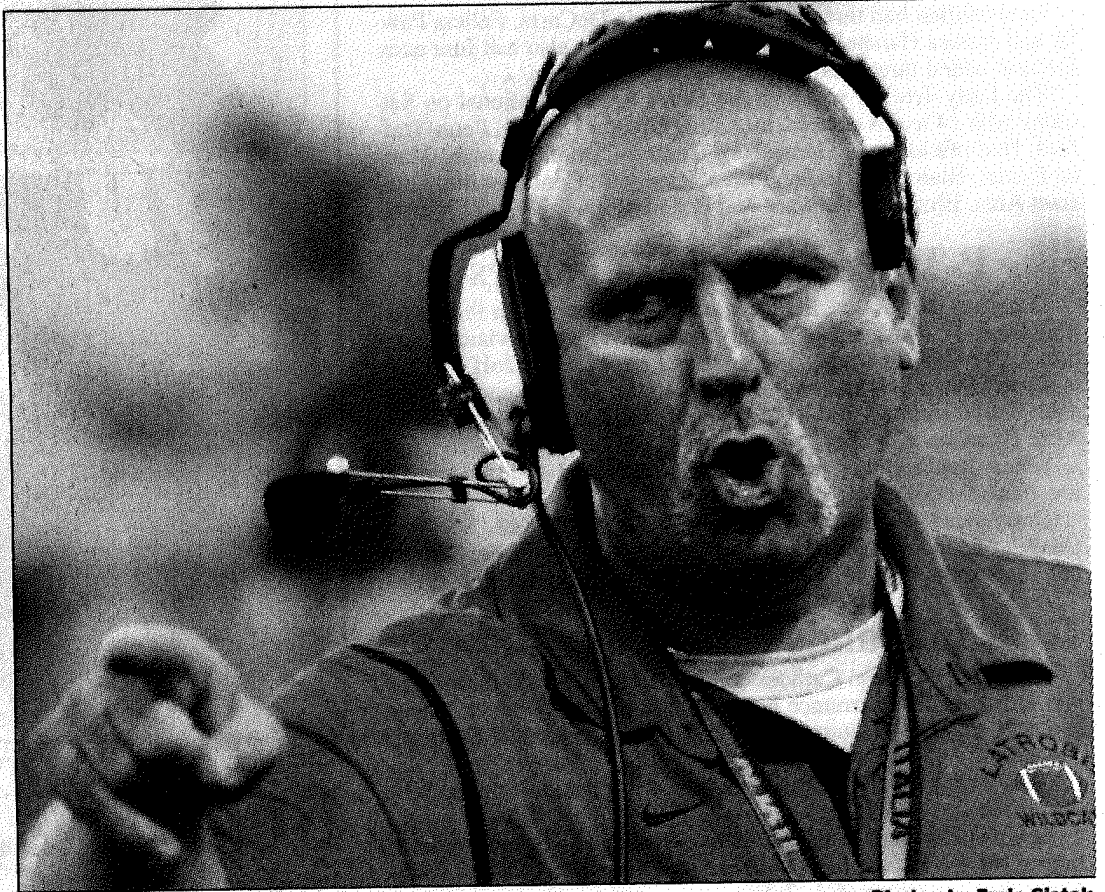
But it was just more of the same for the Wildcats, at least in this particular series as the game went to the 35-point mercy rule in the second half.

Gateway (1-0, 3-0), ranked either No. 1 or 2 in the WPIAL — depending on which poll you subscribe to — and No. 6 in the state, once again hung some big numbers on the board. The Gators rolled up 461 yards, including 338 on the ground, to only 116 for Greater Latrobe (0-1, 1-2), and five of their seven touchdown plays covered a minimum of 14 yards, including four that went for at least 35.

"I think we were star-struck. We were in awe," is how Reitz described it.

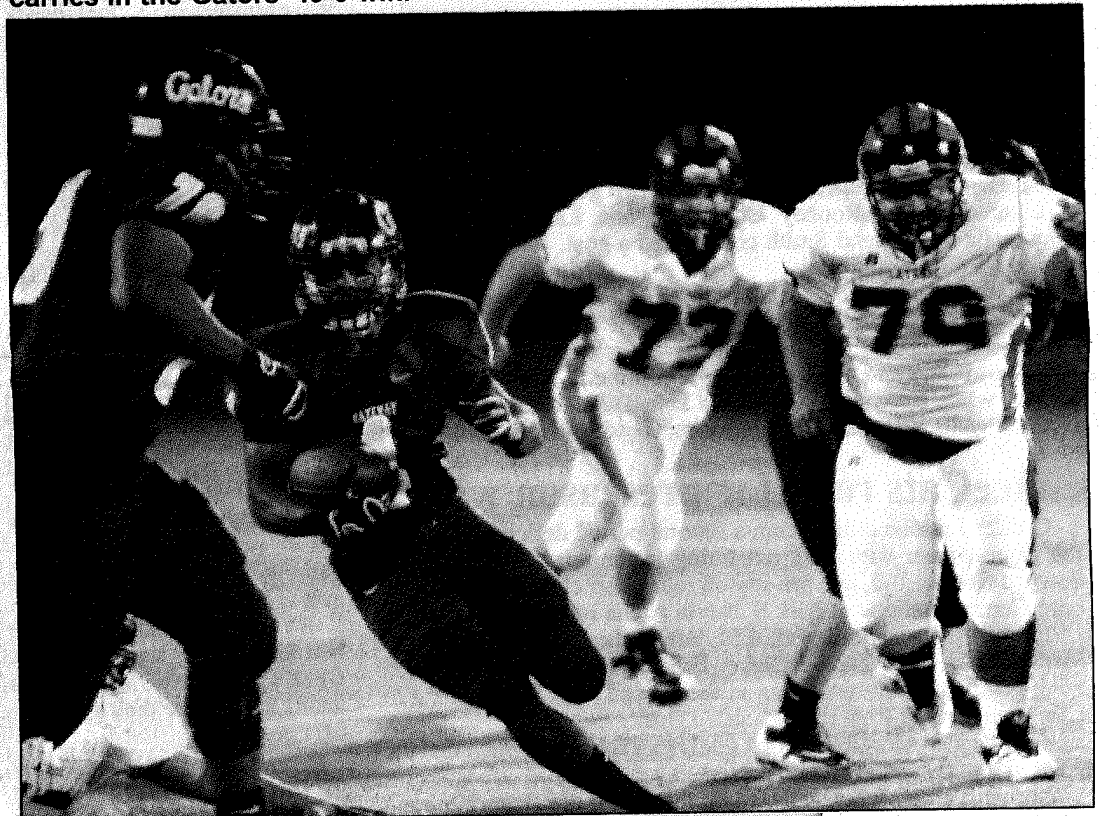
"They have tremendous speed at the skill positions. They just out-manned us.

And, yeah, Gateway can methodically move the football if it has to.



Photos by Ernie Sistek

The frustration shows on the face of Greater Latrobe head coach Ray Reitz during Thursday night's WPIAL Quad-A South Conference opener. Below, Gateway's Orne Bey finds running room and leaves GL defenders Matt Halula (73) and T.J. Dove (79) in his wake. Bey rushed for 122 yards and two touchdowns on just seven carries in the Gators' 49-0 win.



Its first touchdown came after a 55-yard, nine-play drive with fullback Demond Haynes going over from the 2 and Eric Fitchwell booting the first of what would be five extra points in the first half — and all of them key. It was the fifth one that set the score at 35-0 and invoked the mercy rule to start the second.

That touchdown was then followed by four of the quick-strike or big-play variety — or both.

They included a 60-yard punt return by Brendon Felder, 55-yard jaunt right up the middle from senior running back Orne Bey on a draw play, an acrobatic catch in the endzone by senior wide receiver Steve Vranka, who juggled the ball — not once, but — twice before pulling it in one-handed while lunging for it out in front of him on a 35-yard pass from senior and four-year starting quarterback Rob Kalkstein.

The last one — of the first

half, that is — was a 14-yard scamper by Bey that, with Fitchwell's point-after, made it 35-0 with 1:22 left. This one capped a 96-yard march that took just 10 plays, including passes of 13 and 26 from Kalkstein to junior wide receiver Dondi Kirby and Vranka, and another run of 27 by Bey.

It also came right after Greater Latrobe's only scoring threat. The Wildcats went all the way from their 29 to just outside Gateway's goal-line with senior fullback Brad Burkley gaining 52 of his 86 yards rushing during the series before they were pushed back by the Gators on four cracks inside the 1.

"I think we lost some intensity at that point. It was already 28-0," Reitz suggested.

Gateway then scored on its first possession of the second half, on a 36-yard run by Felder. It was after the Wildcats went

three and out to open the third quarter, and it would be the only series their starters got in the second half.

The Gators' final touchdown came on the third play of the fourth quarter, a three-yard run by senior Markie'd Jones, just one of the many speedy tailbacks they can...well, "run" out there. Gateway was also on the GL 10 late in the contest in a battle of the backups and junior varsity players, but coach Terry Smith had reserve sophomore quarterback Brian Jones take a knee twice to end it.

"I just don't think we came off the ball well," Reitz observed. "We just got to get better."

Bey wound up as the leading rusher for Gateway with 122 yards, and those two TDs, on just seven carries. Markie'd Jones was next with 81 on 11

attempts, and Kalkstein completed seven of nine passes for 115 yards with two going to Vranka for 61.

The 'Cats tried just five passes — four by senior Eric Shaffer and one by sophomore Derrick Zavatsky — connecting on only one for one measly yard. They were also held without a first down in the mercy-rule second half and just for total.

"We just didn't play well. That happens," Reitz stated.

"But it's only one game. Now we have to regroup."

Greater Latrobe plays its first conference home game next Friday (7:30 p.m., Memorial Stadium) against Connellsville. The Falcons (0-2) kickoff Quad South play tonight at home against McKeesport Area (1-1).

### Gateway 49

### Greater Latrobe 0

	GL	G
First downs	4	19
Rushes-yds	33-115	37-338
Passing yds	1	123
Passes-int	1-5-0	8-10-0
Fumbles-lost	2-0	1-1
Penalties-yds	3-17	3-20
Punts-avg	8-39.1	1-38
Total offense	116	461

#### Score by Quarters

Gr. Latrobe	0	0	0	0	—	0
Gateway	14	21	7	7	—	49

#### Scoring

- G—Haynes 2 run (Fitchwell kick)
- G—Felder 60 punt return (Fitchwell kick)
- G—Bey 55 run (Fitchwell kick)
- G—Vranko 35 pass from Kalkstein (Fitchwell kick)
- G—Bey 14 run (Fitchwell kick)
- G—Felder 36 run (Fitchwell kick)
- G—M. Jones 3 run (Fitchwell kick)

#### Rushing

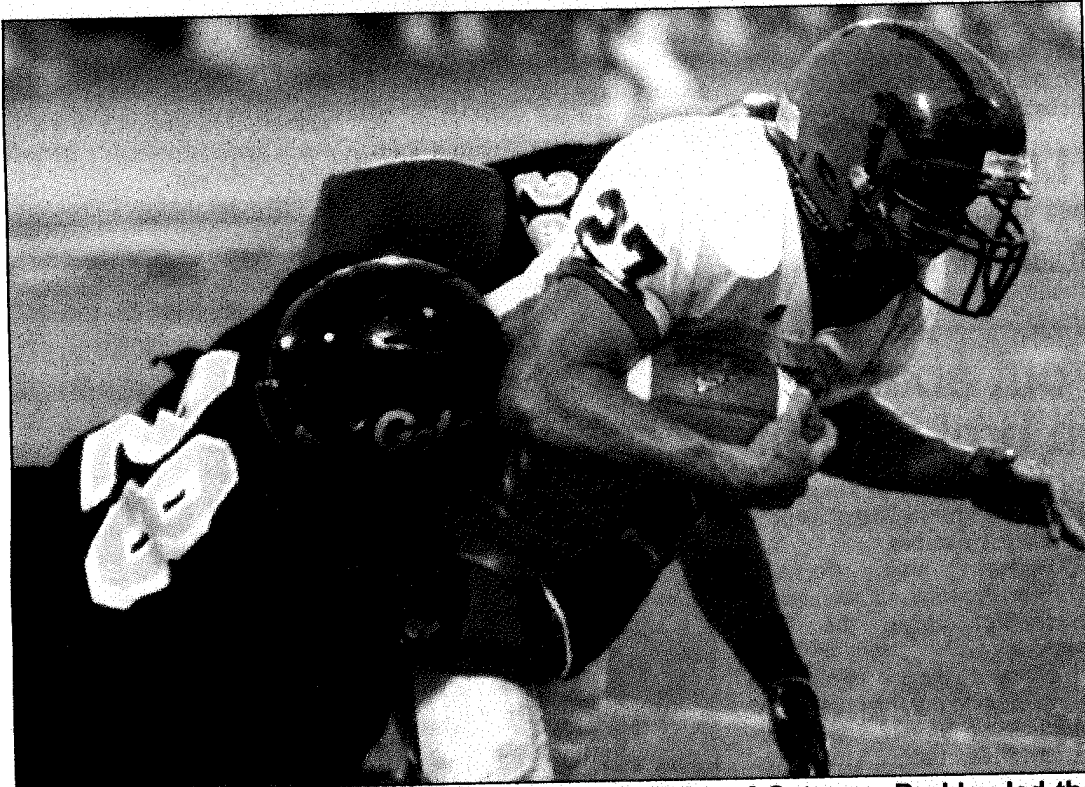
- GL—Burkley 11-86; A. Stewart 3-13; Finley 2-7; Taylor 4-7; Gondosh 2-5; Pletcher 1-3; Zavatsky 2-0; Shaffer 7-0; Rossi 1-(-6)
- G—Bey 7-122; M. Jones 11-81; Felder 1-36; Tyler 5-28; Snow 3-26; Kalkstein 1-14; B. Jones 4-11; Kirby 1-8; Turner 1-6; Nunley 2-4; Haynes 1-2

#### Passing

- GL—Shaffer 1-4-0-1; Zavatsky 0-1-0-0
- G—Kalkstein 7-9-0-115; B. Jones 1-1-0-8

#### Receiving

- GL—Burkley 1-1
- G—Vranka 2-61; Williams 2-24; Kirby 2-18; B. Jones 1-12; Turner 1-8



GL's Brad Burkley is dragged down by Delbert Tyler of Gateway. Burkley led the Wildcats in rushing with 86 yards on 11 carries.