

NORTH SHORE CONFERENCE FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Cedarburg expects to make a

Aggressive ground game keys hopes

By DAN MURPHY

Special to the Journal Sentinel

Cedarburg's double-wing offense relies upon spreading the football around, which means a few ball carriers get to share the workload.

That doesn't seem to bother Bulldogs running back Lee Lauters one bit. The senior is second in the North Shore Conference in rushing last season.

He finished with 1,486 yards rushing and scored 14 touchdowns on a relatively scant 190 touches, resulting in a gaudy 7.8-yards-per-carry average. By comparison, Homestead's Justin Segura, who led the league in 2005 with 1,659 yards, rushed the ball 291 times.

"I think (spreading the carries around) helps," said Lauters. "Having multiple running backs helps a lot, because defenses aren't able to key on one person. Also, there's definitely not as much (wear and tear on a single running back)."

Lauters surprised himself somewhat with his breakout junior season, but Cedarburg coach Brian Leair wasn't shocked by the success.

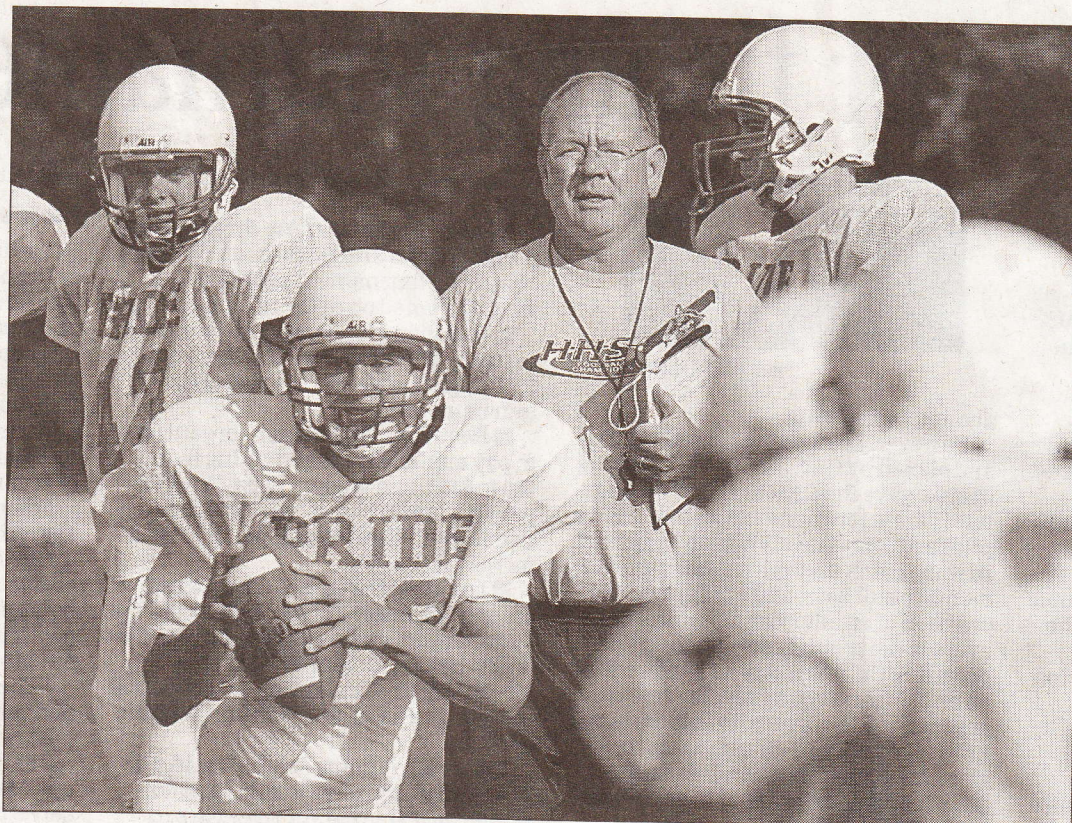
"He played at the end of his sophomore year and he was our leading rusher in three of the four games he played in," said Leair. "I expected he'd be a good back for us. He's very quick and has quick feet. And for not being terribly big, he's powerful. He's no bruiser, but for a smaller runner (5-foot-10, 185 pounds) he plays with a physical style."

Lauters had a different take on his introduction to varsity football.

"My junior year was kind of a surprise because sophomore year I didn't do too much," said Lauters. "But the offense just kind of clicked last year."

There's no reason to think the Bulldogs offense won't "click" again this season and improve on last season's 5-5 overall record (4-3 North Shore).

Cedarburg returns 10 of 11 starters on offense. Senior



TOM LYNN / TLYNN@JOURNALSENTINEL.COM

Homestead, led by head coach Dave Keel, has won 26 consecutive North Shore Conference games.

quarterback Nick Czarnecki, fullback Ryan Wickesberg (who rushed for 568 yards and four touchdowns last season), and running back Ian Marten join Lauters in a talented backfield that has the Bulldogs optimistic about Cedarburg's chances in the always brutal North Shore.

"We've put a lot of pressure on ourselves," said Lauters. "We have a good core of seniors coming back and we're all really excited. It's really important to have a good running game in the North Shore, and most of the top teams do."

Said Leair: "We'll spread it around, obviously. (Lauters) will be a big part of our offense, but not all of it. We have some other good backs and receivers. We have experience and a large senior class. We're not necessarily full of blue chip talent, but the kids work very hard."

CEDARBURG

Coach: Brian Leair, 11th season, 67-29.

Key players: Jared Buss, sr., LB, 6-2,

225; Nick Czarnecki, sr., QB, 6-1, 185; Andy Gall, sr., OL/LB, 6-2, 225; Lee Lauters, sr., RB, 5-10, 185.

Outlook: The experience that 26 seniors bring to the table can't do anything but help the Bulldogs. Lauters was a first-team all-conference selection last season, as was Gall, who should be able to open up holes for Cedarburg's solid running attack.

GERMANTOWN

Coach: Phil Datka, 38th season, 252-123.

Key players: Cody Griebing, sr., QB, 6-1, 200; Eric Rausch, sr., DL/OL, 6-1, 215; Brian Rego, sr., DE/WR, 6-2, 190; Dan Scheidegger, sr., DL/OL, 6-2, 215; Marcus Wallace, sr., RB/DB, 6-3, 215.

Outlook: The Warhawk football machine appears to be chugging along. Griebing passed for 1,487 yards and 23 touchdowns last season and earned second-team all-conference honors. Wallace, a state champion in the 200-meter dash, gives the Warhawks size, speed and athleticism in a dangerous backfield. "We've definitely got to figure out a way to get (Wallace) the ball," said Datka.

GRAFTON

Coach: Mike Bortolotti, fifth season,

9-27.

Key players: Jordan Coslet, sr., LB, 5-11, 185; Mike Huff, sr., RB/DB, 5-11, 175; Dean Large, sr., FB, 5-10, 185; Eric Neece, jr., LB, 6-0, 225.

Outlook: Neece was second-team all-conference last season as a defensive lineman but moved to linebacker this year. Huff gives the Blackhawks athleticism on offense. Lack of depth is a concern for Grafton, which was winless in the North Shore last season.

HOMESTEAD

Coach: Dave Keel, 18th season, 134-52.

Key players: Brian Gensrick, sr., WR, 6-2, 185; Rodney Hickman, sr., RB, 5-7, 165; Ryan Lunde, sr., DB, 6-0, 175; Qortney McLeod, sr., DE, 6-3, 245; Brandon Winters, sr., RB, 5-10, 160.

Outlook: The Highlanders have won 26 straight conference games, not having lost a league game since 2002. There's no reason to think that streak won't continue. Homestead has talent in the backfield with Hickman and Winters, who both earned all-conference honorable mention last year. Lunde was last season's North Shore's defensive back of the year.

MILWAUKEE LUTHERAN

Coach: Joe Kalkopf, first season.

title run

Key players: Travis Handy, sr., WR/DB, 6-0, 180; Andrew Hobus, sr., LB, 6-0, 185; Donte Holland, jr., RB, 5-8, 175; Sam Novotny, jr., LB, 6-2, 200.

Outlook: The surprise of the conference last season was a Red Knights team that posted a 5-2 league record. That type of success won't be easy to repeat, but Lutheran certainly doesn't lack talent. Hobus, a second-team all-league pick, and Novotny anchor a strong linebacking corps. Handy, a second-team selection on both offense and defense, hauled in over 60 receptions last season. Holland was a second-team all-conference pick at running back.

NICOLET

Coach: Rob Rinka, third season, 3-15.

Key players: Brian Ernster, sr., LB, 6-0, 200; Nick Heim, sr., LB/TE, 6-2, 190; Colin Long, jr., DB/WR, 5-11, 185; Adam Stoffel, sr., QB, 6-1, 180; Mac Webb, sr., RB, 5-11, 175.

Outlook: Offensive experience isn't an issue for Nicolet. Webb is a three-year starter, and Stoffel was a starting signal caller last season. While there are question marks about the defensive line, the offensive line should be improved. "The biggest weakness we've had (in the past) is our offensive and defensive lines," said Rinka. "We have three seniors on the offensive line now that hopefully can solidify it."

PORT WASHINGTON

Coach: Tim Greisch, fifth season, 20-17.

Key players: Cody Binns, sr., LB/RB, 6-2, 215; Cameron Heilman, LB/SE, 5-11, 200; 215; Mike Preisler, sr., LB/RB, 5-11, 180; Chris Prom, jr., DL/TE, 6-4, 210.

Outlook: Preisler, a second-team all-conference linebacker, leads the Pirates defense. The senior also contributed five touchdowns and 280 rushing yards last season. Prom is a big pass-catching target, but Port Washington needs to find a replacement for graduated quarterback Tyler Granrath.

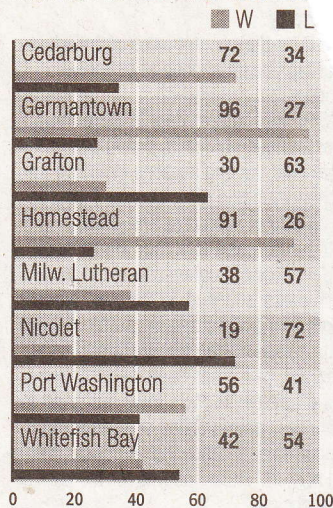
WHITEFISH BAY

Coach: Jim Tietjen, fourth season, 11-18.

Key players: Nick Bellore, sr., LB, 6-2, 235; Chris Hagerup, sr., QB/K, 6-5, 205; Austin Moret, sr., DE, 6-3, 240; Jordan Skiba, sr., DB, 6-1, 190.

Outlook: The Blue Dukes were second in the league in fewest yards allowed last season and most of that solid defensive unit returns, including Bellore, a Central Michigan recruit. Hagerup has only played organized football for three years but is athletic enough to have garnered NCAA Division I recruiting interest. "Hagerup is an outstanding athlete, and he's still learning how to play," said Tietjen.

NORTH SHORE CONFERENCE WON-LOST TOTALS FROM 1996-2005



GLANCE

2005 STANDINGS

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Homestead	7	0	12	1
Milw. Lutheran	5	2	9	3
Germantown	5	2	7	3
Cedarburg	4	3	5	5
Port Washington	3	4	5	4
Whitefish Bay	3	4	4	5
Nicolet	1	6	1	8
Grafton	0	7	0	9

2005 STATE PLAYOFFS

DIVISION 1

Homestead — Def. Milwaukee Riverside, 35-0; def. Arrowhead, 28-12; def. Menomonee Falls, 13-7; lost to Racine Park, 20-13, in semifinals.

DIVISION 2

Cedarburg — Lost to Menasha, 31-19.

Germantown — Def. Milwaukee Custer, 56-0; def. De Pere, 22-7; lost to Ashwaubenon, 17-16.

DIVISION 3

Milwaukee Lutheran — Lost to Union Grove, 22-16.

ALL-CONFERENCE RETURNEES

Running back — Lee Lauters, sr., Cedarburg.

Offensive line — Andy Gall, sr., Cedarburg; Nick Bellore, sr., Whitefish Bay.

Defensive back — Ryan Lunde, sr., Homestead.

Linebackers — Bellore; Ben Ernster, sr., Nicolet.

DID YOU KNOW?

Homestead was eliminated from the playoffs by Division 1 state champion Racine Park, and **Germantown** was knocked out by Division 2 champion Ashwaubenon. . . . The Highlanders are on a 26-game winning streak in the North Shore, a conference record. . . . **Milwaukee Lutheran's** seven victories last year was its most since coach Donnie Pries was hired in 2000.

SNAP JUDGMENT:

With a renovated stadium and a platoon system, the Blue Dukes hope to muscle their way into the elite ranks of the North Shore Conference

Whitefish Bay

Vital Stats

Enrollment	945
Nickname	Blue Dukes
Conference	North Shore
Last Year	Overall 4-5 Conf. 3-4
Playoffs	None

The Sidelines

Head Coach: Jim Tietjen (fifth season)

Assistants: Rob Young, Drake Zortman, Brian Sommers, Dave Quam, Markell Thompson, Jeff Trask, Greg Flint, Andy Jensen, Tom Mollan.

Look Back

2005 Season in Review

Green Bay Preble 34, Bay 3
Bay 38, Dominican 6
Germantown 28, Bay 7
Homestead 34, Bay 0
Bay 7, Port Washington 0
Cedarburg 42, Bay 15
Milwaukee Lutheran 42, Bay 35
Bay 49, Nicolet 18
Bay 35, Grafton 0

Look Ahead

2006 Schedule (all 7 p.m.)

Aug. 25 St. Francis
Sept. 1 at Slinger
Sept. 8 at Germantown
Sept. 15 at Homestead
Sept. 22 Port Washington
Sept. 29 at Cedarburg
Oct. 6 Milw. Lutheran
Oct. 13 at Nicolet
Oct. 18 Grafton

home games in bold

Quotable

"One of my assistants commented, this program looks a lot like Homestead right before 1999, when they won their state championship. All of a sudden, things started clicking."

Jim Tietjen

Whitefish Bay coach

Passing Game

• Open road

Tray Stewart, the team's workhorse running back, has graduated, but the team retains many key pieces to the passing game, including quarterback Chris Hagerup and receivers Lars Knudsen and Dan Ebert. Hagerup has been ranked as the 28th-best senior in the state by preseason publication The Gridiron Guide, which noted his punting and kicking as well as quarterbacking. "We have eight kids back on defense from last year, and he gives us fits (in practice)," coach Jim Tietjen said. "They always talk about throwing a ball through a window. Defensively, we're closing that window and it's a basement window now, and he's putting it through a porthole."

New Look, New Feel

• Cleaned house

A renovated stadium, including new bleachers and press box, will add to the Whitefish Bay experience this season, and money is already being raised for new field turf. Plus, Tietjen said the team is really concentrating on the little things, both on and off the field. "Our locker room is spotless," he said. "We have magnets on each locker and each kid has a chair with their number on it. The old equipment room is ours, with shoulder pads on the shelves and jerseys hung up with the same-color hangers by group. It looks like the Packers in there."

Two-Way Street

• Platoon Possibility

For the first time, Whitefish Bay will two-platoon, giving players a role specifically on offense or defense without needing them to stay in for every minute. It's a trademark of the stronger programs in the North Shore, including Homestead and Germantown.

THE WIN GAUGE



"That's just his athleticism. The other thing that makes him so interesting is that he's one of the top kickers in the country."

Lars Knudsen 6-5, 180 WR Junior

Likely to be Hagerup's primary target, Tietjen remarked on how excellent Knudsen looked in the preseason, one year after he led the team in receiving. In 2005, Knudsen caught 38 passes for 380 yards, with two touchdowns.

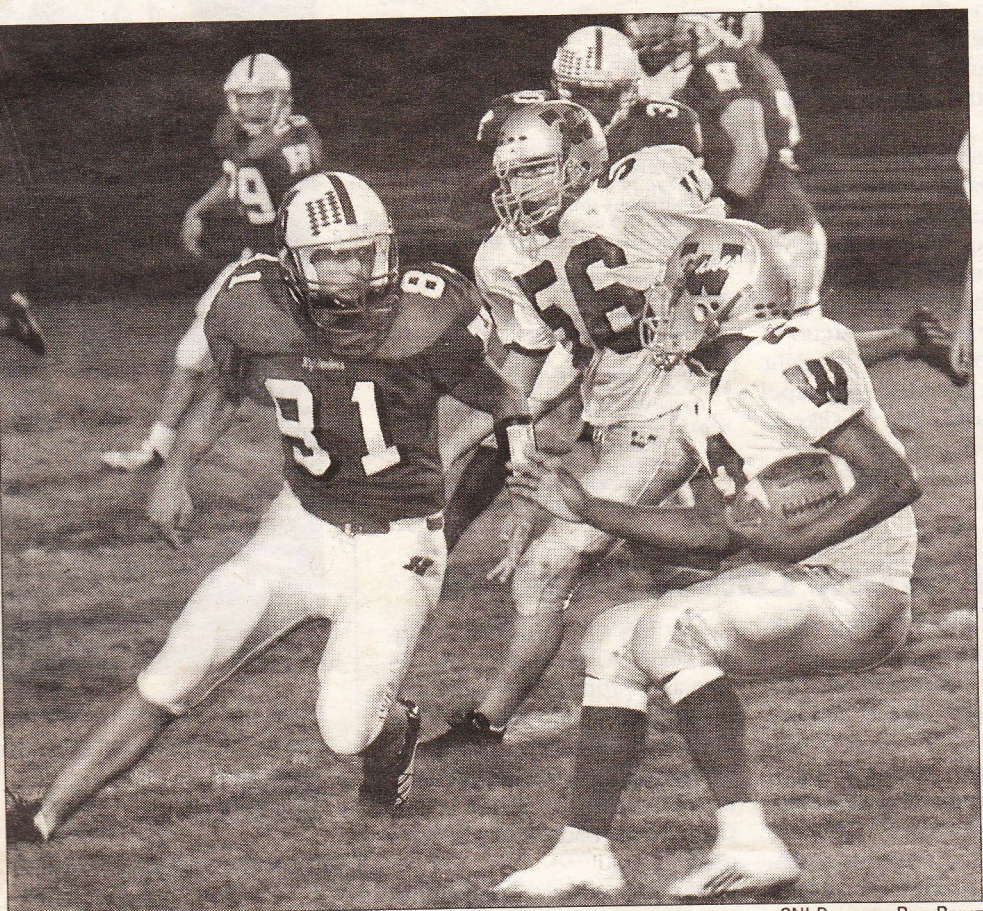
THREE TO WATCH

Chris Hagerup 6-5 205 QB/K/P Senior

Hagerup was already acknowledged for his punting (honorable mention all-conference) and kicking (second team) last year, and his quarterbacking could be the reason the Dukes make a move in 2006. With wideouts returning and a wealth of summer camp exposure under his belt, Hagerup will contend with Germantown's Cody Griebeling as the conference's best under center. "He's not afraid to take a hit and he can throw the ball 75 yards," Tietjen said.

Nick Bellore 6-2 235 LB Senior

The first team all-conference choice and honorable mention all-state selection registered 50 solo tackles last season (90 total), while second-best had just 23. With five sacks and 11 tackles for loss, Bellore was the most intimidating defensive presence the Dukes had, and he was one of the best defensive players in the state, ranked 15th among all seniors by The Gridiron Guide.



CNI PHOTO BY BOB BAILIE

Whitefish Bay's Trevon Love runs the ball in the first quarter of Bay's 20-15 loss at Homestead on Sept. 15

Big play doesn't go Blue Dukes' way

Upset-minded Bay nearly ends Homestead's NSC streak

By Steven L. Tietz
Staff Writer

A four-year conference winning streak was probably just one big play away from being broken on Sept. 15.

That's the thinking of Whitefish Bay football coach Jim Tietjen, whose team came tantalizingly close to making the North Shore Conference race interesting when it dropped a 20-15 decision at five-time league champion Homestead.

The play came in the third quarter, with the Blue Dukes (2-2) holding a 13-6 lead. The fired-up Bay defense had Homestead pinned back on its own 3-yard line. But instead of playing it close to the vest, Highlander coach

UP NEXT

**Port Washington (0-2, 2-2)
vs. Whitefish Bay (0-2, 2-2)**

WHEN: 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21

WHERE: Whitefish Bay High School, 1200 E. Fairmount Ave.

PREVIEW: Both teams began with 2-0 non-conference records but then traded subsequent losses to Homestead and Germantown in North Shore play. The race to four conference wins and the state playoffs begins here. Bay edged Port, 7-0, last season.

COACH TIETJEN SAYS: "We've been able to get Port the last couple of years, but they have been great games. Our kids are still very motivated."

Dave Keel had quarterback Brett Boyer drop back and throw the ball up the sideline toward speedy receiver Brian Gensrick.

Gensrick got behind the Blue Duke sec-

Homestead holds off Bay

Homestead took the lead on a 5-yard scoring run by Rodney Hickman in the third quarter, then played smart down the stretch to edge **Whitefish Bay**, 20-15, Friday.

Bay marched to the Homestead 14-yard line with 2½ minutes left, but Mike Feierstein intercepted Chris Hagerup's pass. With 7 seconds left, Homestead's punter ran out of the end zone for a safety, taking all the time off the clock.

Brett Boyer passed for 147 yards for Homestead, including a 97-yard scoring pass to Brian Gensrick. Bay's Chris Hagerup threw for 162 yards and two scores, 21 yards to Dan Ebert and 62 to Ryan Pandl.

Milwaukee Lutheran got a 5-yard touchdown run from Donte Holland in overtime, then stopped **Grafton** on the 3 on fourth down to take a 21-14 victory.

Marcus Wallace scored two first-quarter touchdowns, but it took a third-quarter fumble recovery to propel **Germantown** to a 30-12 victory over **Port Washington**. Jason Scuglik recovered a fumble for a Warhawks' touchdown. Germantown put away the victory when Cody Griebing threw 39

Team	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Cedarburg	2	0	4	0
Homestead	2	0	4	0
Germantown	2	0	3	1
Grafton	1	1	2	2
Milw. Lutheran	1	1	3	1
Port Washington	0	2	2	2
Whitefish Bay	0	2	2	2
Nicolet	0	2	0	4

Nicolet..... 0 7 0 8 - 15
Cedarburg..... 7 17 14 7 - 45
CED: Lee Lauters 9 run (Joel Roche kick). **CED:** Zak Suhar 34 field goal. **CED:** Lee Lauters 6 run (Zak Suhar kick). **NIC:** Markel McKinley 21 pass from Adam Stoffel (Cory Katzban kick). **CED:** Lee Lauters 18 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Lee Lauters 33 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Lee Lauters 55 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Herron 4 run (Zak Suhar kick). **NIC:** Mac Webb 17 run (Nick Vigder run).
Total yardage — CED 459, NIC 279. **Top rushers** — CED: Lee Lauters 12-184. **Top passers** — NIC: Adam Stoffel 17-34-191-0.

Whitefish Bay..... 7 6 0 2 - 15
Homestead..... 0 6 7 7 - 20
WFB: Dan Ebert 21 pass from Chris Hagerup (Chris Hagerup kick). **HOM:** Brett Werner-Powell 5 run (run failed). **WFB:** Ryan Pandl 62 pass from Chris Hagerup (kick failed). **HOM:** Brian Gensrick 97 pass from Brett Boyer (Mike Feierstein kick). **HOM:** Rodney Hickman 5 run (Mike Feierstein kick).
Total yardage — HOM 321, WFB 167. **Top passers** — WFB: Chris Hagerup 7-12-162-1. **HOM:** Brett Boyer 4-9-147-0. **Top receivers** — WFB: Ryan Pandl 2-80. **HOM:** Brian Gensrick 3-135.

Grafton..... 7 7 0 0 - 14
Milw. Lutheran..... 0 7 0 7 - 21
GRA: Dean Large 30 run (Brad Betts kick). **ML:** David Enters 2 run (John Palese kick). **GRA:** Dean Large 51 run (Brad Betts kick). **ML:** David Enters 1 run (John Palese kick). **ML:** Donte Holland 5 run (John Palese kick).
Total yardage — ML 151, GRA 248. **Top rushers** — GRA: Dean Large 23-165. **Top passers** — ML: David Enters 10-23-127-1. **Top receivers** — ML: Travis Handy 6-97.

Germantown..... 13 3 7 7 - 30
Port Washington..... 0 0 6 6 - 12
GER: Marcus Wallace 39 pass from Cody Griebing (Tom Sielicki kick). **GER:** Marcus Wallace 1 run (run failed). **GER:** Tom Sielicki 25 field goal. **PW:** Cameron Heilman 4 pass from Brock Loop (pass failed). **GER:** Jason Scuglik fumble return (Tom Sielicki kick). **GER:** Jon Wolf 39 pass from Cody Griebing (Tom Sielicki kick). **PW:** Chris Prom 5 pass from Brock Loop (run failed).
Total yardage — PW 273, GER 272. **Top passers** — GER: Cody Griebing 9-16-157-1. **PW:** Brock Loop 12-23-142-0. **Top receivers** — PW: Chris Prom 6-101.

yards to Jon Wolf for a score.

Lee Lauters ran for 184 yards and four TDs to lead **Cedarburg** past **Nicolet**, 45-15.

FOOTBALL > Dogs bounce WB from playoff chase

Whitefish Bay found itself on the wrong end of a 47-0 shellacking at Cedarburg on Sept. 29, dropping Bay to 0-4 in the North Shore Conference and eliminating the Blue Dukes from playoff consideration.

"Cedarburg's a good football team, and might be the best in the North Shore Conference," Bay coach Jim Tietjen said. "Cedarburg just out-blocked and tackled us. They pushed us around up front and when we did stop them, they threw over us."

Bay had fewer than 10 yards of total offense when taking sacks into the equation, a value Cedarburg running back Lee Lauters more than overcame on the first play from scrimmage, a 76-yard touchdown run. Lauters found the end zone twice in the first quarter,

helping the Bulldogs to a 33-0 halftime lead and 379 yards of rushing.

"We just don't see that offense that often," Tietjen said. "By the time we get our helmets screwed on, we're down 20-0."

After losses to Homestead and Germantown, two foes always expected to be near the top of the conference, Bay has fallen to Port Washington and Cedarburg. The Dukes can still finish with an overall record above .500 if they win their final three regular-season contests. That quest begins tonight at home against Milwaukee Lutheran.

"They're throwing the ball, have a nice quarterback, a nice running back and receiver," Tietjen said. "It's a typical Milwaukee Lutheran team."

NORTH SHORE

Pass helps Port handle Grafton

Robert Seer leaped above two defenders for a high pass from quarterback Brock Loop, then outraced the defenders to complete a 55-yard touchdown play in the fourth quarter to give **Port Washington** a 14-0 victory over **Grafton**.

Loop totaled 123 yards passing. Cody Binns ran 2 yards for a score for the Pirates, who held Grafton to 58 yards of offense.

Germantown enjoyed a 361-141 advantage in total offense and took a 37-7 victory over **Milwaukee Lutheran**. After Lutheran's Donte Holland returned the opening touchdown 93 yards for a score, Austin Stadler returned the ensuing kick 89 yards for Germantown to even the score. Stadler added an 8-yard touchdown run and finished with 136 yards rushing as the Warhawks pulled away. Germantown's Cody Griebing passed for 220 yards and a score.

Cedarburg rolled to a 47-0 victory over **Whitefish Bay**, racking up 460 yards of offense and holding Bay to 8 yards. Lee Lauters ran for 174 yards and two touchdowns.

Homestead opened a 35-0 half-

Team	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Cedarburg	4	0	6	0
Homestead	4	0	6	0
Germantown	3	1	4	2
Milw. Lutheran	2	2	4	2
Port Washington	2	2	4	2
Grafton	1	3	2	4
Whitefish Bay	0	4	2	4
Nicolet	0	4	0	6

Whitefish Bay..... 0 0 0 0 - 0
Cedarburg..... 20 13 7 7 - 47
CED: Lee Lauters 76 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Bailly Hackbarth 17 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Lee Lauters 29 run (kick failed). **CED:** Zak Suhar 31 field goal. **CED:** Kyle Czarnecki 1 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Zak Suhar 32 field goal. **CED:** Bailly Hackbarth 24 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Kyle Litz 2 run (Zak Suhar kick).
Total yardage — CED 460, WFB 8. **Top rushers** — CED: Lee Lauters 17-174.

Nicolet..... 0 0 0 0 - 0
Homestead..... 7 28 7 0 - 42
HOM: Brandt Anderson 10 run (Mike Feierstein kick). **HOM:** Justin Howard 3 run (Mike Feierstein kick). **HOM:** Brandon Winters 18 run (Mike Feierstein kick). **HOM:** Chris Daniels 4 run (Mike Feierstein kick). **HOM:** Ryan Lunde 18 interception return (Mike Feierstein kick). **HOM:** Brandon Winters 11 run (Mike Feierstein kick).
Total yardage — HOM 448, NIC 92.

Germantown..... 10 6 7 14 - 37
Milw. Lutheran..... 7 0 0 0 - 7
ML: Donte Holland 93 kickoff return (John Palese kick). **GER:** Austin Stadler 89 kickoff return (Eric Kindler kick). **GER:** Mike Asen 34 field goal. **GER:** Dan Grimm 33 pass from Cody Griebing (kick blocked). **GER:** Austin Stadler 8 run (Eric Kindler kick). **GER:** Chris Eichner 5 run (Eric Kindler kick). **GER:** Adam Breest 2 run (Eric Kindler kick).
Total yardage — ML 141, GER 361. **Top rushers** — GER: Austin Stadler 32-136. **Top passers** — GER: Cody Griebing 14-19-220-1. **Top receivers** — GER: Greg Rogers 5-115, Dan Grimm 4-89.

Grafton..... 0 0 0 0 - 0
Port Washington..... 0 7 0 7 - 14
PW: Cody Binns 2 run (Ryan Murphy kick). **PW:** Robert Seer 55 pass from Brock Loop (Ryan Murphy kick).
Total yardage — PW 274, GRA 58. **Top passers** — PW: Brock Loop 7-11-123-1. **Top receivers** — PW: Robert Seer 4-107.

time lead and enjoyed a 448-91 edge in total yardage on its way to a 42-0 victory over **Nicolet**. Brandon Winters ran for touchdowns of 18 and 11 yards.

Bay posts rout vs. aerial foes

Hammers Red Knights for first NSC victory

It finally came together for Whitefish Bay football.

Seeking its first North Shore Conference victory in a season that had provided its share of disappointments, Bay dominated a pass-happy Milwaukee Lutheran team, 35-3, on Oct. 6, scoring two touchdowns in both the third and fourth quarter.

"It was great for the kids on homecoming," Bay coach Jim Tietjen said. "We had a nice crowd and big smiles on the kids. It was great for the coaching staff, for everybody."

Lutheran struck first with a field goal in the first quarter, but Duke quarterback Chris Hagerup ran for his first of two rushing touchdowns on a 2-yard scamper with 11 seconds to play in the half, giving the Dukes a 7-3 halftime lead. Ryan Pandl and Quentin Griffin both found the end zone in the third, and Hagerup passed to Dan Ebert from 28 yards out to kick off scoring in the fourth.

"The defense stepped up, made three fourth down stands that frustrated them," Tietjen said. "And then the offense came to life. We had moved the ball, but once we started scoring, we continued to stop them and it began to kind of snowball."

Even though he didn't find the end zone, Tietjen said it was a breakout game for Trevon Love, a large reason why the Dukes rushed for 153 yards on the night.

Jordan Skilba had two interceptions and dropped a third that would have been a touchdown return, and Tietjen credited Mike Mackay for being active on defense. The Dukes also had six sacks.

Hagerup finished 6-for-10 with 134 yards. Bay is 3-4 overall and 1-4 in the North Shore Conference, with a chance to finish above .500 for the year with matches against Nicolet to

NORTH SHORE

Cedarburg runs past Grafton

Lee Lauters rushed for 198 yards and three touchdowns, and Baily Hackbarth added 119 rushing yards and two scores, to lead **Cedarburg** past **Grafton**, 41-14.

The Bulldogs opened a 35-0 halftime lead and wound up out-gaining Grafton, 455-154.

Dean Large rushed for 105 yards for the Blackhawks.

Whitefish Bay broke away from a 7-3 halftime lead to beat **Milwaukee Lutheran**, 35-3. Chris Hagerup threw for 134 yards and also ran for two scores for Bay. David Enters threw for 169 yards for Lutheran.

Port Washington held **Nicolet** to 61 total yards in a 27-0 victory. Cody Binns ran for 132 yards and two scores for the winners, and Blake Evenson and Mike Priesler also scored.

Team	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Cedarburg	5	0	7	0
Homestead	3	0	7	0
Germantown	3	2	4	2
Port Washington	3	2	5	2
Milwaukee Lutheran	2	3	4	3
Grafton	1	4	2	5
Whitefish Bay	1	4	3	4
Nicolet	0	5	0	7

Port Washington..... 6 14 7 0 - 27
Nicolet..... 0 0 0 0 - 0

PW: Cody Binns 7 run (kick failed). **PW:** Cody Binns 2 run (J.D. Hoile kick). **PW:** Blake Evenson 7 run (J.D. Hoile kick). **PW:** Mike Preisler 3 pass (J.D. Hoile kick).

Total yardage — NIC 61, PW 333. **Top rushers** — PW: Cody Binns 17-132.

Milw. Lutheran..... 3 0 0 0 - 3
Whitefish Bay..... 0 7 14 14 - 35

ML: John Palese 28 field goal. **WFB:** Chris Hagerup 2 run (Chris Hagerup kick). **WFB:** Ryan Pandl 5 run (Chris Hagerup kick). **WFB:** Quentin Griffin 10 run (Chris Hagerup kick). **WFB:** Dan Ebert 28 pass from Chris Hagerup (Chris Hagerup kick). **WFB:** Chris Hagerup 6 run (Chris Hagerup kick).

Total yardage — WFB 287, ML 224. **Top passers** — ML: David Enters 19-37-169-2. **WFB:** Chris Hagerup 6-10-134-1. **Top receivers** — WFB: Lars Knudsen 3-81.

Cedarburg..... 14 21 3 3 - 41
Grafton..... 0 0 0 14 - 14

CED: Lee Lauters 18 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Baily Hackbarth 64 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Lee Lauters 3 run (kick blocked). **CED:** Lee Lauters 94 run (Ian Marten run). **CED:** Baily Hackbarth 10 run (Zak Suhar kick). **CED:** Zak Suhar 19 field goal. **GRA:** Mike Kalies 9 run (Brad Betts run). **CED:** Zak Suhar 33 field goal. **GRA:** Brad Betts 9 run (run failed).

Total yardage — GRA 154, CED 455. **Top rushers** — CED: Lee Lauters 13-198, Baily Hackbarth 10-119. **GRA:** Dean Large 20-105.

NORTH SHORE

Fast start lifts Germantown

Germantown scored 29 points in the first quarter on its way to a 36-0 victory over **Grafton**.

Austin Stadler rushed for 141 yards and scored four times for Germantown, including an 85-yard kickoff return to open the second half. Greg Rogers threw 63 yards to Cody Griebeling for the Warhawks' other score.

Chris Hagerup completed 11 of 18 passes for 275 yards and three touchdowns, all to Lars Knudsen, to lead **Whitefish Bay** past **Nicolet**, 35-7. Mac Webb ran for 139 yards and a score for Nicolet.

Port Washington opened a 21-3

Team	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Homestead	6	0	8	0
Cedarburg	5	1	7	1
Port Washington	4	2	6	2
Germantown	4	2	5	3
Milw. Lutheran	2	4	4	4
Whitefish Bay	2	4	4	4
Grafton	1	5	2	6
Nicolet	0	6	0	8

Germantown..... 29 0 7 0 - 36
Grafton..... 0 0 0 0 - 0

GER: Austin Stadler 5 run (Mike Asen kick). **GER:** Cody Griebeling 63 pass from Greg Rogers (Mike Asen kick). **GER:** Austin Stadler 24 run (Austin Stadler run). **GER:** Austin Stadler 67 run (Mike Asen kick). **GER:** Austin Stadler 85 kickoff return (Mike Asen kick).

Total yardage — GRA 123, GER 259. **Top rushers** — GER: Austin Stadler 14-141. **GRA:** Dean Large 28-110.

Whitefish Bay..... 14 7 0 14 - 35
Nicolet..... 7 0 0 0 - 7

WFB: Anthony Robertson 5 fumble return (kick blocked). **NIC:** Mac Webb 75 run (Cory Katzbach kick). **WFB:** Lars Knudsen 4 pass from Chris Hagerup (run). **WFB:** Lars Knudsen 45 pass from Chris Hagerup (Chris Hagerup kick). **WFB:** Trevon Love 1 run (Chris Hagerup kick). **WFB:** Lars Knudsen 95 pass from Chris Hagerup (Chris Hagerup kick).

Total yardage — NIC 289, WFB 481.

Port Washington 21, Milw. Lutheran 11

lead and held on for a 21-11 victory over **Milwaukee Lutheran**.

Dukes territory, but the Dukes underwent a quick three and out, aided by Slinger timeouts. It led into the punt that would set up the Owls' last chance at victory.

"He's a robber," Tietjen said of Skiba, an honorable mention all-conference defensive back last season. "We baited them a little bit. They thought we were playing cover-three and we were playing cover-two and Jordan was just laying back there like a robber."

Hagerup, Pandl and Brandon Martin split the running duties, though Pandl was the one who found paydirt for his fourth touchdown in two games.

"What's so special about Ryan is that when he gets around the goal line, he kind of smells that end zone and gets there," Tietjen said.

The team overcame a number of obstacles, including missing officials that delayed the start of the game by 20 minutes due to a scheduling snafu. Sophomore Patrick Fagan played admirably at noseguard as an injury replacement, and linebacker Nick Bellore played the game with a cast on his thumb after surgery Wednesday to repair ligament damage incurred in Bay's first game of the year Aug. 25 against St. Francis.

Bellore brought the pressure that prevented a converted point-after kick in the first quarter, coming after Ed Wesela's 35-yard interception return for a touchdown to spot Slinger a 6-0 lead. Hagerup finished 8-for-11, though he did throw two interceptions before kicking the game-winning PAT.

The focus now shifts to the North Shore schedule, where Bay is looking to become one of the conference elite. No better route exists than beating Germantown on the road Friday, Sept. 8.

UP NEXT

WHO: Whitefish Bay (2-0) at Germantown (1-1)

WHAT: North Shore Conference Opener

WHEN: 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 8

WHERE: Germantown High School, W180 N11501 River Lane

PREVIEW: If the gap really is narrowing between Whitefish Bay and the upper echelon of the North Shore Conference, this will be one of the greatest litmus tests possible. With a recent state championship (2003) and a healthy tradition, Germantown and Homestead often jockey for the top spot in the conference, with everyone else competing for table scraps. The Dukes will have to face both those schools on the road in back-to-back weeks, and could make a significant statement in either contest.

BOX SCORE

Whitefish Bay 7, Slinger 6

	WFB	Slinger
First Downs	9	8
Rushing Yards	132	63
Passing Yards	81	44
Comp.-Att.-Int.	5-12-2	8-12-1
Total Yards	213	107
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	5-50	5-45
WFB	0 6 0	7-7
Slinger	6 0 0	0-6

Slinger—Ed Wesela, 35, interception return for TD.

WFB—Ryan Pandl, 9, run (Chris Hagerup, kick).

Individual Statistics Leaders

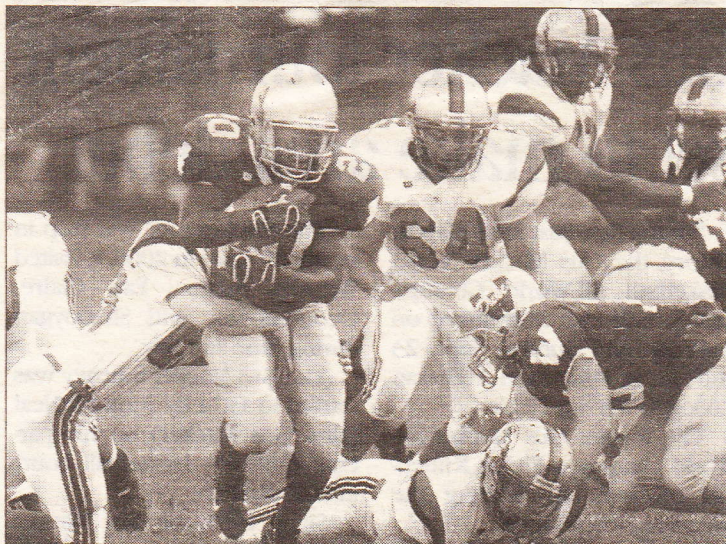
Rushing — WFB, Ryan Pandl 11-45, Chris Hagerup 9-33, Brandon Martin 12-29, Trevon Love 7-25.

Passing — WFB, Hagerup, 5-12-81.

Receiving — WFB, Dan Ebert 2-59, Lars Knudsen 2-23.

"That's obviously a big deal right now," Tietjen said of a pending matchup with the traditional powerhouse. "It's one of those games that we think we have to get in order to have a good season. It would mean that our program is progressing."

Said Germantown coach Phil Datka, "We're coming off a tough one (a last-second 21-17 loss to Hartford). We've got to get healthy and stay motivated."



CNI PHOTO BY BOB BAILIE

Whitefish Bay's Brandon Martin tries to break free of a tackle in the Dukes' season-opening win against St. Francis.

Dukes dodge seldom-used freebie kick

2-0 Bay begins NSC play at Germantown on Friday

By JR Radcliffe
Staff Writer

It is a little-known football rule enacted just four times in National Football League history, and just twice since the late 1960s. But on Sept. 1, Whitefish Bay nearly got a taste of a surprise buried within the inner reaches of the football rule book.

After executing a fair catch near mid-field in the final seconds of its meeting with the Dukes, Slinger attempted a free kick that could have been the difference in the game, had the ball traveled through the uprights. A miss left Bay with a 7-6 win at Slinger, giving the squad a 2-0 start to the 2006 season.

"I was involved in one in 1983 when I was at Mukwonago," Bay coach Jim Tietjen said. "So I've seen it before. It was interesting because the officials were in open debate figuring out what was going on."

"It was interesting because the officials were in open debate figuring out what was going on."

Jim Tietjen
Whitefish Bay
football coach

The "fair-catch kick" is one of three types of free kick, though the kickoff and safety kick are far more common. If a team executes a fair catch and feels it can reach the uprights with a free kick, the defense is compelled to line up 10 yards downfield on the next play from scrimmage, and the kick can be executed from the spot of the catch. The ball is live thereafter.

It's a nice lesson in upper-level football rule explanation. Fortunately for Whitefish Bay, it is also moot.

Quarterback Chris Hagerup found receiver Dan Ebert for a 40-yard pass play in the fourth quarter, and Ryan Pandl ultimately charged in from 9 yards out with just less than five minutes to play, tying the game, 6-6. Hagerup's extra point proved to be the difference in the game.

Jordan Sklba collected his third interception in two games with less than a minute to go and the ball deep in Blue

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Duke ascension stalls with loss to Warhawks

Path doesn't get any easier with test at HHS

By JR Radcliffe
Staff Writer

Whitefish Bay had every reason to feel like it accomplished something Sept. 8 at German-

town.

The Blue Dukes had gone to Dakota Stadium in the North Shore Conference football opener and appeared the better team throughout the game, save for a fatal 6 minutes and 36 seconds to start the contest. They had turned what appeared to be a blowout in the

first quarter into a slow-moving battle of field position and proven they belonged with the conference elite.

And if it were previous seasons, maybe Bay really would feel that way.

"Remember my statement at the beginning of the year when I said our leadership would take

us all the way?" Bay coach Jim Tietjen said. "If our leaders had been playing like they were at the end of the ballgame, we would have won tonight."

"It's all about scoreboard." A shaky start spotted Germantown a 21-0 lead before Bay

CONTINUED ON PAGE 44

had even recorded a first down, and despite a pair of touch-down passes by Bay's Chris Hagerup and a defense that held the Warkhawks down most of the way, Germantown prevailed and delayed Bay's official ascension into the top tier of the NSC with a 28-14 victory.

"We're physically as good as they are," Tietjen said. "We're not as mature mentally. We have kids that are fine athletes that need to make plays and they didn't at times when we needed it."

Suggesting that his team fell victim to the Germantown mystique that was enhanced by a state title in 2003, a lengthy roster and one of the area's better high school football stadiums, Tietjen watched as the Warhawks scored three times in the first 6:36. Marcus Wallace ran in from 4 yards out to cap Germantown's first drive of the game, and Greg Rogers caught a 29-yard touchdown pass from Cody Griebling on the second play of the next drive, set up by Austin Stadler's punt return to the Whitefish Bay 32.

After a Bay fumble on the first play of its next drive, Wallace found paydirt again.

"We got off to a great start," Germantown coach Phil Datka said. "But boy, then we really had to hang on. Bay gave us everything we could handle. We got off to that great start, and then all hell broke loose. They started running their no-huddle offense and they threw a lot of passes and we couldn't seem to stop anything."

NEXT KICKOFF

WHO: Whitefish Bay (2-1 overall, 0-1 in North Shore Conference) at Homestead (3-0, 1-0)

WHAT: North Shore Conference football game

WHERE: Homestead High School, 5000 W. Mequon Road., Mequon

WHEN: 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 15

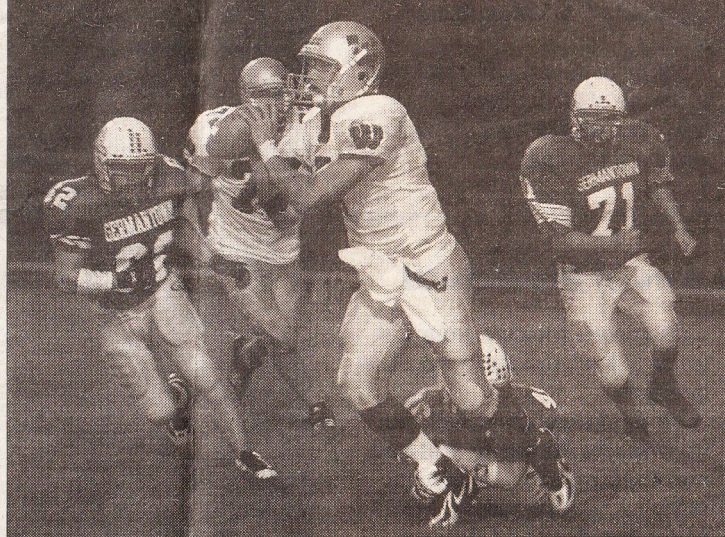
PREVIEW: Facing Germantown was guaranteed to be difficult, but facing five-time reigning North Shore Conference champions Homestead is guaranteed to be an even stiffer task. The last time the Highlanders lost a conference game was the middle of the 2002 season, when Cedarburg escaped with a thrilling 21-17 victory. It will mark a return for Whitefish Bay offensive coordinator Drake Zortman, who spent the 2005 season as Homestead's quarterbacks coach, and running backs coach Brian Sommers, who served the same role last year with the Highlanders.

"We didn't get after it," Tietjen said. "If we're going to be good, we have to get after it and we didn't. We let them be the hitters, not us."

"All of a sudden, we started warming up and started to believe what we were doing and we can play with them," he said. "We played with them in the second half, we got after it. They did some good things; they're a good football team. That's why they are where they are."

Before the end of the first quarter, Hagerup had found Lars Knudsen from 36 yards away for touchdown, and Bay's Brandon Martin appeared to have another score on first and goal from the 6 in the early going of the second quarter. A late holding flag erased that from happening.

"The kid was on top of him,"



CNI PHOTO BY BOB BAILIE

Whitefish Bay quarterback Chris Hagerup eludes a Warhawk tackler during the Blue Dukes' loss at Germantown on Sept. 8. Bay will visit Homestead, another North Shore Conference power, at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 15.

Tietjen said. "He ran him over. Good officials don't make those calls; that's a no-call. We push it in there, it's 21-14, and we get the next one, it's a tie ballgame."

The next one didn't come until late in the third, when Dan Ebert caught a 22-yard touchdown pass on a perfect spiral to the corner by Hagerup, part of Ebert's 93 receiving yards in the second half.

"Ebert is just coming to life," Tietjen said. "He is a physical specimen. He's big, tall and strong and just outfought their kids. I thought the offensive line played pretty well against Germantown's front. It's because we have the young kids playing the offensive line (that the pass plays are traditionally designed for long gains). What you saw there when Brandon ran in, that was our big kids and we got a push on them. Our ju-

niors aren't big kids at this point yet."

Hagerup finished with 201 yards through the air, though three interceptions crimped the cause, especially two in the fourth quarter. Senior Nick Bellore, a non-factor in the first quarter, proved to be a major disruption for Germantown thereafter, recording a sack, two tackles for loss and an interception on a ball tipped at the line, temporarily giving Bay a chance to drive for a tying score with just more than four minutes to play. Germantown intercepted the ball two plays later.

"Bay is a very legitimate team," Datka said. "The quarterback is skilled and that linebacker is the best I've seen. He's a load. He nailed our fullback and knocked him out of the game."

Said Tietjen, "What we were

doing, we were running delayed blitzes. Nick was inside and (Matt) Kowalsky was covering up. When Anthony Robertson went in, we got tougher on the edge."

With a brutal road schedule within the conference this season, Bay's test gets no easier Friday, Sept. 15, when it travels to face defending conference champion Homestead. The Highlanders have won 26 consecutive conference games.

"If you have a lack of focus in practice (this week), I'm throwing you out," Tietjen said. "You know what it takes now, what our expectations are, and we just have to do it."

Box Score

Germantown 28, Whitefish Bay 14

	GT	WB
First Downs	16	12
Rushing Yards	197	115
Passing Yards	139	201
Comp.-Att.-Int.	9-17-139	10-30-201
Total Yards	336	316
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-1
Punts-Avg.	5-37	5-25
Penalties-Yards	6-77	4-28
Whitefish Bay	7 0 7 0 - 14	
Germantown	21 0 0 7 - 28	

Scoring

Germantown — Marcus Wallace, 3, run (Mike Asen, kick)

Germantown — Greg Rogers, 29, pass from Cody Griebling (Asen, kick)

Germantown — Wallace, 1, run (Asen, kick)

Whitefish Bay — Lars Knudsen, 36, pass from Chris Hagerup (Hagerup, kick).

Whitefish Bay — Dan Ebert, 23, pass from Hagerup (Hagerup, kick).

Germantown — Wallace, 3, run (Asen, kick).

Individual Statistics Leaders

Rushing — WB, Chris Hagerup 13-85, Brandon Martin 13-30; GT, Austin Stadler 12-92, Marcus Wallace 14-77, Cody Griebling 7-25.

Passing — WB, Hagerup, 10-30-201; GT, Griebling 9-17-139

Receiving — WB, Dan Ebert 3-93, Lars Knudsen 4-75; GT, Dan Grimm 4-36, Greg Rogers 3-49.



CNI PHOTO BY JOHN O'HARA

Whitefish Bay quarterback Chris Hagerup drops back during a practice this summer. Hagerup, a senior, is one of Bay's top returning players and is expected to be one of the leading quarterbacks and kickers in the North Shore Conference this season.

FUNDRAISER

WHO: The Whitefish Bay High School football program

WHAT: Hosting its inaugural homecoming golf outing

WHEN: Friday, Oct. 6

WHERE: Squires Country Club in Port Washington

HOW: To play, donate prizes or sponsor a hole, contact Paul Skiba at (414) 828-2759

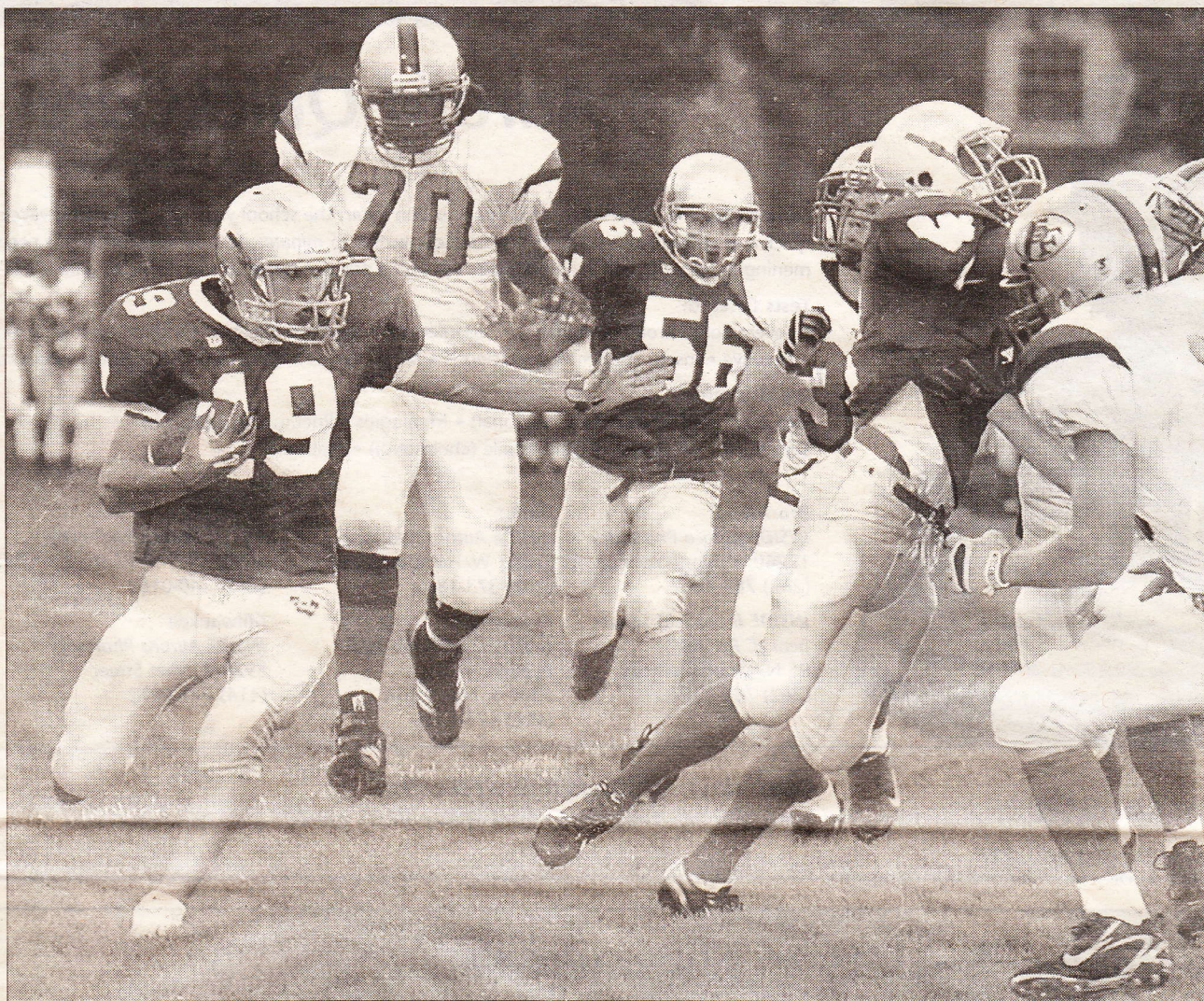
POLLPOSITIONS

CNI PREP FOOTBALL TOP 5

Ranking of best suburban football teams in CNI Newspapers coverage area:

	Pts.
1. Homestead	40
Beat Kingsford (Mich.), 35-7	
Visits Manitowoc Friday	
2. Germantown	30
Beat Milwaukee King, 42-0	
Visits Hartford Friday	
3. West Allis Central	18
Beat Pius XI, 47-6	
Visits Milwaukee Vincent Friday	
4. Whitefish Bay	12
Beat St. Francis, 28-0	
Visits Slinger Friday	
5. Bay View	7
Beat Wilmet, 26-22	
Hosts Grant (Ill.) Friday	

Also receiving votes: New Berlin Eisenhower, 5 points; Brookfield East, 4 points; Menomonee Falls, 3 points; Brookfield Central, 1 point



Whitefish Bay's Ryan Pandl looks for room to run during the Dukes' 28-0 victory at home over St. Francis on Aug. 25. Pandl rushed for three touchdowns in the game.

CNI PHOTO
BY BOB BAILE

Dukes dig renovated digs

Bay breaks in renovated home with dominant win over Mariners

By Matt Newman
Sports Editor

The bleachers are new and so is the offense.

Whitefish Bay kicked off its 2006 football campaign with a dominating 28-0 victory over visiting St. Francis on Aug. 25. The game was the first in a renovated Blue Duke stadium that features a refurbished set of bleachers on the east side of the field.

In addition to the new seating, Bay showed off a high-energy offense fueled by the passing of quarterback Chris Hagerup, the receiving of Lars Knudsen and the running of Ryan Pandl and Brandon Martin.

"We've always had a strong defense, now we have an offense to go along with it," Whitefish Bay coach Jim Tietjen said.

That strong defense was led by Jordan Sklba, who intercepted a pair of passes.

He returned the first pick 67 yards for a

touchdown to give the Dukes a 6-0 lead with about two minutes left in the first quarter.

"That set the tone," Tietjen said. "He took it to the house and got things started."

Sklba eluded St. Francis standout and University of Wisconsin recruit Josh Oglesby near the end of his run to paydirt. Oglesby, who stands 6 feet-8 inches and weighs 315 pounds, loomed large in Bay's mind before the game, Tietjen said. Once the contest started, he was neutralized by Bay defensive lineman Austin Moret.

"He outplayed him," Tietjen said of Moret's performance. "He stood up to Oglesby very well."

"Every play defensively, there were seven kids in the frame. I could go on and on, there's just too many quality kids this year that are making stuff happen."

The Dukes also looked fresh late in the game, thanks in part to their platooning system that helped players catch their breath during the humid evening.

"The heat was a big factor. They're big guys, and I think the heat took its toll," Tietjen said of St. Francis' non-platooned squad.

Bay's best defensive effort came late in

BOX SCORE

Whitefish Bay 28, St. Francis 0

	SF	WB
First Downs	9	13
Rushing Yards	52	133
Passing Yards	89	114
Comp.-Att.-Int.	8-18-2	6-15-0
Total Yards	141	247
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	9-61	4-20
St. Francis	0	0
Whitefish Bay	7	7
Whitefish Bay — Jordan Sklba, 67, interception return, (Chris Hagerup, kick).		
Whitefish Bay — Ryan Pandl, 2, run (Hagerup, kick).		
Whitefish Bay — Pandl, 1, run (Hagerup, kick).		
Whitefish Bay — Pandl, 1, run (Hagerup, kick)		

the second quarter after St. Francis drove to the Dukes' 1-yard line and was threatening to cut into the home team's 14-0 lead.

On fourth and goal, Bay got excellent penetration off the line and stopped St. Francis' James Thomas for a loss and the Mariners never threatened again.

"Whitefish Bay had a very good run defense," St. Francis coach Doug Sarver said. "Our pass game showed some poten-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24