

HAL BODLEY

Title next goal for St. Andrew's



MIDDLETOWN — St. Andrew's School has always been a pleasant place to visit, especially when the oaks and maples and pines are shedding the hues of autumn.

The rustic little campus on the banks of Noxontown Lake seems to produce an Ivy League atmosphere this time of the year. But very seldom has St. Andrew's produced much more than that outside its academic walls in October and November.

In football there have been only five winning seasons since 1947. The best during that span was 1950 when the Cardinals won six of seven games.

Now, they're one victory from duplicating that best year and winning their first Independent Conference championship.

Enthusiasm has never been better, but on the other hand, even during the losing campaigns, spirit was high.

This unusual situation is unique because all of the school's 150 students must participate in a sport and in the fall they have only football and soccer from which to choose. So when the Cardinals are winning, it's regarded as an over-all school effort.

"When I first came here nine years ago," said Coach Webb Reyner, a West Chester State grad, the other day, "I truthfully planned to stay only a year. I had never been exposed to a boarding school before. But it got to me and I wouldn't trade it now."

When St. Andrew's completed a season of five wins and two losses last year with mostly juniors, a banner campaign was predicted for 1965.

Not unexpected

"We had been playing these boys as a team since they were sophomores," said Reyner. "Considering the talent and experience we had returning, we thought we'd have an outstanding year. But you never know."

The Cardinals rolled over Boys' Latin of Baltimore 38 to 0 in the opener, but lost to St. Paul's, also of Baltimore, 16 to 6. Since the loss to St. Paul's, St. Andrew's has crushed four straight opponents.

"The St. Paul's game figured to be a tough one," said Reyner. "When they played us, they were in their third game and we were only in

our second. They were a little bit farther ahead. But St. Paul's is a good team, has only lost one game."

St. Andrew's plays St. Elizabeth's of Wilmington in Baynard Stadium on Saturday afternoon in its final game. The Cardinals, undefeated in three conference starts, have already clinched a tie with Tatnall which has ended its season with a 3-1 league record.

The best St. Andrew's has ever done were second-place finishes in 1959 and 1964.

When you look over the Cardinals' victories—30 to 6 over Friends; 28 to 8 over Tatnall; 65 to 0 over West Nottingham, and 28 to 0 over Tower Hill—the first thing noticed is that the opponents have had trouble scoring. St. Andrew's has scored 194 points to the opposition's 36.

"There are only three teams in the state that have had fewer points scored against them," explained Reyner. "The boys are very proud of that record."

Hardness appears to be the Cardinals' forte.

Developed hardness

"Three years ago we tried to develop players who hit hard," said Reyner. "It has become an obsession with them. They really go out there and knock the opponent over."

It's difficult to beat a balanced attack and that's what the Cardinals have.

Chip Burton, a 5-foot-11, 165-pound senior, is the quarterback and a good one. He has completed 23 of 40 passes and is also a running threat. He's averaging over 10 yards per carry. Against Tower Hill, for example, he carried 9 times for 91 yards.

"We've been using his running ability a lot lately with Cadwalader injured," said Heyner. "His roll-out and sprint-out plays have been especially effective."

The Cardinals have been without Gardner Cadwalader, their brilliant 6-foot, 195-pound halfback for two weeks. He suffered a concussion against West Nottingham and probably is finished. But Bobby Smith, a junior, has taken over and is averaging 17 yards a carry.

Reyner is very high on Ed Strong, a 6-3, 165-pound end who has scored 31 points and gained over 300 yards. He's also pleased with the performance of Jim McLaugherty, a senior halfback.

"In Cadwalader (unlimited) and guard Angus Davis (165) we have two of last year's state wrestling champions playing defense," said Reyner. "Davis was the outstanding wrestler in last year's tournament."

When Reyner tries to put the finger on the team's success, he cites two things. First, his assistants—backfield coach Dave Washburn and line coach Bob Colburn. Second, his tri-captains—guard Charles Gates, Cadwalader and Burton.

"My assistants are also head coaches of other sports and academic teachers," said Reyner. "They're in daily contact with the players. They have been tremendous. In our captains, we have a quarterback, lineman and halfback. One of them is close to each segment of the team."

A win over St. Elizabeth's and St. Andrew's has something to go with its beautiful campus—a conference trophy.

St. Andrew's eyes loop crown

The forward pass is all that stands between St. Andrew's School and its first Independent Conference football championship.

Doing the passing will be St. Elizabeth's senior quarterback Rich Sheubrooks and he could be the equalizer in a game that looks to be one-sided on the surface.

The teams square off at 2 p.m. today at Baynard Stadium.

St. Elizabeth's has had its troubles this season. The Vikings won the conference crown last year with an undefeated season. This year they have lost all three conference starts and are 3-3 over-all.

"This game will tell the story," said McDermott. "This one means better than .500 or worse than .500."

The game carries even more importance for St. Andrew's. The Saints are 3-0 in conference play. A win will mean the championship. Tatnall has finished its season with a 3-1 mark.

St. Andrew's is 5-1 over-all and a win would equal its all-time best of 6-1 in 1950.

However, St. Andrew's will most likely play without its All-State halfback candidate, Gardner Cadwalader. Cadwalader suffered a concussion two weeks ago and missed last week's game.

"They will pass against us," said St. Andrew's Coach Webb Reyner. "We think we can get a good rush on the passer. Our pass defense has been doing a good job all year and we have no reason to believe it won't continue to."