



THROWBACK SERIES

"GREAT RESULTS CAN BE ACHIEVED WITH SMALL FORCES."

Sun Tzu

Foreword by Lucio Arellano



While America was immersed in the military conflict of the Vietnam War, there was one of many positive outlets for the people to focus their attention that was both electric and contagious, and that aperture was Lakewood Football. It was the year 1969 when Lakewood came of age and there was a significant growth in its popularity when coach John Ford and his staff led the Lancers to their second straight Moore League title with a CIF 4-A Playoff berth. It was also the decade of the 60s that Lakewood, due in large part to its winning and civic pride, became a football power well known throughout Southern California. Whenever opposing teams played Lakewood, they knew that they were in for a dogfight. This is the story of the '69 Lakewood Lancers Varsity Football Club ...

CIF Semis Climax Varsity's Best Year — Utilizing a stingy defense with a power offense, Lakewood earned a chunk of the conference championship and a respectable berth in the CIF Playoffs. Lancers boasted a preseason record of 3-1; Westminster, Warren, and Gardena yielded to Big Red while Mater Dei recorded its first victory over Lakewood in three years. Regular season play started slow against El Rancho. The Lancer machine was held in check by a tough Don defense, and El Rancho emerged the victor, 13-12. Then Big Red started to roll! At homecoming, Lakewood stymied the Poly attack 13-0, the most crushing defeat to the Jacks in four years. Hampered by four interceptions, just part of the stout Lancer defense, Jordan fell 20-0. The Ford machine rolled on sacking Millikan 14-8 and gaining more respect as the season progressed. Big Red upended the Moore League race when the Lancer defense turned in another noteworthy performance with a convincing 14-8 win over the Wilson Bruins.

Lakewood Football: Lakewood vs. Whitti...



Video: Lakewood vs. Whittier - 1969 CIF Quarterfinals

To start the ball rolling in the playoffs, Lakewood put the clamps on Compton's explosive Tarbabes, 28-12. The Lancer machine

observed Thanksgiving by feasting heartily on Whittier's Cardinals, 33-13. All good things eventually came to an end, however, as was the case when Lakewood confronted No.1 rated Blair of Pasadena. Only thirty-five seconds away from an amazing upset, Lakewood allowed Eugene Jones to slip away from two defenders and score on a 97-yard pass-run play to give Blair the win. Until Blair's final play, Lakewood had held fullback James McAlister and Kermit Johnson as well as anyone. The Big Red Family put forth a full team effort in trying to halt the marching Vikings, who edged Lakewood 24-19. Highlights of the overall season were clobbering L.A. power Gardena 34-14, earning the Moore League Crown, and gaining a top spot in the playoffs.



1969 LAKEWOOD LANCERS VARSITY FOOTBALL CLUB

Top Row (L-R): (Mgr.) Tim Ryan, Ed Billington, Larry Bush, Rod Jensen, Bob Posey, Chuck Bolt, Jeff Anderson, Tom Hall, John Scofield, Bill Todd, Tim Tillman, Craig Armstrong, Steve Krill Middle Row (L-R): Coach Collins, Coach Stephenson, (Mgr.) Jerry Cashion Smith, Jerry "Joe" Willis, Mike Owens, John Ford, Rich Frederick, Ray Willey, Jim Wilkins, Charles Hoon, Dave Douglass, Gary Brewsough, Richard Atwater, Dan Garcia, Cliff Kemp, Rick Gillies, Coach Ford Bottom Row (L-R): Kim Hannaford, Darrell Foley, Don Thomas, Elliot Neff, Ed Brummett, Frank Morales, Dana Hogan, Steve Martinez, Mark Crutcher, Carl Waller, Allen Pappia, Chris Norbryhn, Coach Gillies

High School Football Kicks Off Tonight

Sept. 19, 1969 — A rematch of last year's CIF finals and the debut of two Moore League coaches highlight tonight's opening round of CIF-SS football competition. If a school is fortunate enough to reach the playoff finals Dec. 12, this will be the first of 13 weeks of competition. Only Wilson and El Rancho are at home. The Bruins lost to Mt. Carmel at Stephens Field while the Dons entertain St. Paul. Poly plays at Redlands, Lakewood at Westminster, Millikan at San Bernardino, Jordan at Cantwell and St. Anthony at Dominguez. All games start at 8. Most interest from outside the area will be directed at the Poly-Redlands, Lakewood-Westminster and El Rancho-St. Paul encounters. New Jackrabbit coach Phil Santia must face a club that hasn't had a losing season in 19 years. Lakewood and Westminster are rebuilding after successful seasons that resulted in playoff berths, while El Rancho and St. Paul played to a 20-20 tie in the 4-A finals a year ago. How the game stacks up: The Lancers were the only team to hand the Sunset League champions a preseason defeat last year. Either Kim Hannaford or Ed Billington must take up slack at QB created by graduation of Mike Rae. Lions have Ed Bain back at QB, but many new faces.

Gillies, Lakewood Start Fast Storm Past Lions

Rick Gillies picked up where he left off last year and his Lakewood High teammates weren't far behind as the Lancers scored a convincing 20-6 win at Westminster. Gillies caught touchdown passes of 6 and 33 yards from Ed Billington as John Ford's club defeated the defending Sunset League champions for the second year in a row. While Gillies and another junior, tailback Mike Owens, earned offensive plaudits, it was a mid-season goal line stand in the third quarter that provided the momentum. With the aid of four penalties, the Lions had driven from midfield to the Lancer three where it was first and goal. Four plays on the ground managed only two yards as fullback John Baize was stacked up a football-length shy of the goal line in a fourth down play. Lakewood took over and nudged the ball out to the nine where Gillies got the team out of trouble with a 53-yard punt.

Westminster turned right around and played give away on the first play as Monte Downing bobbled the ball after picking up five yards and Rich Frederick recovered on the Lancer 43. After an illegal procedure call, Hannaford rolled out and didn't stop running until he covered 37 yards to the Westminster 25. Three plays later, he hit Gillies for the Lancers' second TD with 1:37 remaining in the third quarter. The Lions rallied to close the gap to 14-6 two minutes and eight seconds into the fourth quarter on a five-yard pass from Bane to Ed McLaughlin.

But that seemed to fire up the Lancers, who took the ensuing kickoff and covered 81 yards in only five plays as Hannaford scrambled before connecting with tight end Steve Krill for 38 yards, then found the ever-present Gillies from 33 yards out with 7:48 to go in the game. After a shaky start, Hannaford had a good second half. Ed Billington came off the bench to complete his first five attempts in the early stages of the second quarter to guide the club to a 7-0 halftime lead. Owens paced Lakewood in rushing with 116 yards on 18 carries.



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Heavy Home Flavor Spices Prep Menu

UNBEATEN VIE IN THREE GAMES: Sep. 26, 1969 — Prep followers won't have to go far tonight to see their favorite team in action. Five of the six Moore League clubs are at home while St. Anthony entertains Serra at Clark Ave. Field. Only game away involves Poly playing at St. John Bosco in Bellflower. It wouldn't be surprising to see Moore schools do as well as they did a week ago when five teams rolled up impressive opening wins. Three gamers tonight involve unbeaten records. Perennial L.A. City and

Marine League power Gardena opens its season at Veterans Stadium against Lakewood (1-0). Lakewood (4th) and Poly (6th) are ranked among the CIF's top 10 teams this week and face tough assignments in order to maintain their lofty positions. How the game stacks up: The Mohicans were 9-1 last year and have won six of last seven Marine League titles. Twenty-three lettermen are back including all-league halfbacks Willie Perry and Bill Berry. Seven starters return on defense which was also the Lancers' strong suit against Westminster.

Owens' 4-TD Explosion Propels Lakewood, 34-14



GILLIES THE GREAT

All-City receiver Rick Gillies (83) makes a spectacular clutch reception as Gardena's Mike Feldman (36) tries to bring him down to the turf. All-Marine League performer Tim Guy (82) can only watch in frustration. Veterans Memorial Stadium. Long Beach, Calif.

Junior Mike Owens exploded for four touchdowns to power No. 4 ranked Lakewood High past L.A. city power Gardena 34-14 at the Vet. Owens dazzled more than 12,000 fans with an incredible running display. He gained 121 yards in 11 carries, one a 70-yard burst through the middle of a tough Mohican defense. He also caught four passes for 98 yards and two touchdowns. The Lakewood defense rose to every occasion. Although Gardena had two all-league lettermen in its backfield, Willie Perry and William Berry, the Lancers threw the Mohicans for 55 yards in losses. Except for Berry's 33-yard touchdown run early in the third quarter Lakewood controlled the game.

Gardena could not stop the 5-10, 165-pound Owens. He gained 15 yards on the ground and 18 yards in the air before capping a 64-yard march with a 3-yard score to put Lakewood on the scoreboard, 7-0. After Perry tied the score 7-7 on a two-yard run, Kim Hannaford, who completed 10 of 15 passes for 176 yards and three TD's, hit Owens on a fourth and 19 situation for a 21-yard scoring pass.

Tight end Steve Krill threw the key block to spring Owens. Gardena tied the score early in the third quarter but on Lakewood's first scrimmage play Owens raced 70 yards off-tackle to put the Lancers in the lead again. A defensive steal of a pass gave Lakewood the ball again and Hannaford hit Owens on a swing pass, and the little tailback raced 52 yards for the tally.

Rick Gillies took out the last Gardena defender. Gillies, a fleet end double teamed all night, scored the last touchdown. A bad snap on a fourth down attempt put the ball on the Mohicans 10 and Hannaford, with two men hanging on his 5-8 frame, found Gillies in the end zone.



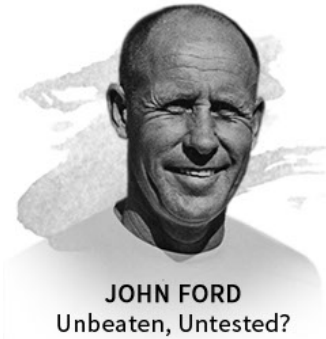
Lancers to Discover if They're for Real

Oct. 3, 1969 — Rated the fourth best high school team in Southern California, John Ford feels Lakewood will find out in many ways Friday night if it deserves that lofty position. The Lancers face once beaten, but highly touted Mater Dei at Veterans Stadium where the Monarchs hope to rebound after last week's 14-0 loss to fifth-ranked Loyola. Mater Dei opened the season with a 6-0 win over rival Santa Ana. Ford is cautious in his appraisal of the Lancers, who have beaten Westminster 20-6 and Gardena 34-14. "It's a team with as much potential as any we've had," Ford feels. "They work well together, have good team speed and our talent is evenly divided between passing and running. No one can say Westminster is as strong as last year. They're a young team. Then Gardena had a hard time getting started and I think that had a lot to do with us getting them in their first game." Observers to date find it hard not to believe the team is as strong as last year. After a shaky start in the Milk Bowl and early stages of the

Westminster game, Kim Hannaford has done everything asked of him at quarterback. Even backup man Ed Billington has completed 5 of his 6 attempts. Junior Mike Owens seems to have many of the talents last year's tailback, Al Lemmerman, had. End Rick Gillies, despite now facing the prospect of being double-teamed, is a better receiver than a year ago when he caught 42 passes as a sophomore.

Mater Dei has yet to beat Lakewood, losing to the Lancers 19-7 and 6-0 the last two years. An inability to find the end zone has Mater Dei coach Bob Woods wondering what has gone wrong. "On paper, this is the best club we've had in three years," Woods said Wednesday. "But when you score only one touchdown in two games something has to be wrong. When we got behind last week against Loyola, we just fell apart. We're going to have to start scoring. Then when you play Ford and all his formations it just complicates your problems."

Lakewood Trampled by Mater Dei, 34-6 — Mater Dei, out-hitting and out-thinking Lakewood, handed the Lancers and John Ford their worst defeat in four years, 34-6. The Monarchs held the CIF's No. 4 ranked team to only six first downs, 187 total net yards, and limited the explosive Lancers to one gain of more than 30 yards. Lakewood's Mike Owens was held to 74 yards in 16 carries, 27 yards in the first half, and the passing attack completed only four attempts. The only moment of glory for Lancer fans at the Vet came late in the second quarter when Kim Hannaford found split end Rick Gillies open on a 53-yard scoring aerial.



It was the first Mater Dei win in three years over Lakewood, and for the Monarchs it was a complete victory. Mater Dei's offensive unit ran off 66 scrimmage plays to Lakewood's 47 and gained 343 yards against a usually stout Lancer defense. The Monarch quarterback, Bob Hauptert, gave Lakewood's defensive unit fits with his double option. He carried the ball 19 times for 83 yards. His trailer on the option play, Mark Dunn, rambled 131 yards on 20 carries. Hauptert and Dunn carried the Monarchs to the Lakewood 8 with 8:44 gone in the second period. Hauptert ran untouched into the end zone. After Hannaford and Gillies paired up to put Lakewood back in the game, 7-6, Mater Dei drove to the Lakewood 19 with three seconds remaining. The Monarchs lined up for a field goal attempt and caught the Lancers asleep when holder Bill Appleton passed to Dunn for the TD. After a scoreless third quarter, Hauptert put Mater Dei on the scoreboard again with a four-yard TD sweep. Two plays later an alert Monarch defense recovered a Lakewood fumble and Hauptert passed eight yards to fullback Tom Grzeeka for a 27-6 lead. Dunn finished Mater Dei's scoring 85 seconds later with a 50-yard run.

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Preps Attempt to Unscramble Puzzles

FINAL PRE-LEAGUE TUNEUPS

Oct. 10, 1969 — Uncertainties have thrown a big question mark over tonight's schedule of final preseason contests for Long Beach high schools. The script has something for everyone. Can Lakewood and Wilson bounce back after big losses last week that surprised everyone? Both schools offer interesting comparisons since each plays a team the other lost to a week ago. Wilson coach Owen Dixon called Warren "the biggest high school team I've seen in a long time," after his Bruins lost 31-14. The Bears have a strong rushing attack around John Stewart (brother of ex-Cal star Wayne Stewart) and 221-pound fullback Marc Springer. The front line averages almost 220 per man. Physical Mater Dei also dominated its 34-6 win over Lakewood and put continuous pressure on Lancer QB Kim Hannaford who was thrown four times behind the line of scrimmage.

Lakewood Hands Warren 26-9 Loss



THE CATS GO DOWN

All-CIF tailback Mike Owens (23) eludes would-be Bear tacklers from Warren, as the junior star runner finds a chunk of real estate and the open end zone in the distance waiting for him to burn for a big score. Veterans Memorial Stadium. Long Beach, Calif.

A fired-up Lakewood defense offset a bumbling offense to lead the Lancers past Warren 26-9 Friday night at the Vet. Lakewood's offense turned the ball over five times, three on interceptions to kill two drives, and twice on fumbles to hand Warren its nine points. But the defense held Warren until Lakewood's offensive machine thawed for a 20-point fourth quarter scoring spree. Dana Hogan spearheaded the Lancers' defense which permitted the Bears across the Lakewood 50 once, except for two miscues by their offensive teammates.

They held John Stewart to 43 yards in 17 carries, after he gained 143 against Wilson last week in a 31-14 victory. Warren was held to six first downs and was forced to punt seven times. The Lakewood offense in the first quarter had the 7,000 fans wondering not whether the Lancers would win, but by how many points. Lakewood marched 79 yards in 10 plays for its first score. Kim Hannaford and tight end Steve Krill combined on two successive pass plays for 25 yards, and Hannaford scrambled for 15 more to set up the score. Mike Owens twisted seven yards for the TD.

After losing 30 yards in penalties, a Hannaford pass was intercepted. But the Lakewood defense held until Owens coughed up the ball on the Lakewood 14. Five plays later Bob Bosanko hit Stewart for a 10-yard score with 29 seconds remaining in the first half. With nine seconds in the half the Lancers fumbled again, and Jim Byers booted a 35-yard field goal to put Warren ahead, 9-6. After a scoreless third quarter, Hannaford marched Lakewood 37 yards in nine plays for a TD.

The drive was hampered by the loss of Owens, who was on the sidelines being repaired for an ankle injury. Frank Morales sneaked over from the one to give Lakewood the lead again, 12-9. Two plays later, Hogan intercepted a Bosanko pass and scampered 20 yards to extend Lakewood's margin to 18-9. With one second remaining, Hannaford rambled 63 yards for the final score. Ed Billington passed to Hogan for the two-point conversion.



Moore Opens With Bang as Lancers, Dons Clash

DEFENDING CO-CHAMPS VIE: Oct. 15, 1969 — There's no need to remind players at Lakewood and El Rancho high schools how much is at stake in their Moore League opener Friday night in Pico Rivera. "And if someone isn't, we've sure been making them aware of it," states El Rancho coach Marty McWhinney. The two schools shared the league crown last year and league followers feel this week's winner will be at or near the top five weeks from now. The Dons, rated eighth this week in CIF Top Ten, have won three in a row after losing a 13-8 opener to St. Paul. Lakewood's only loss in four games was 34-6 to Mater Dei two weeks ago.

McWhinney says, "We've been coming along slowly and I just hope we're ready." Lakewood coach John Ford feels much the same way. "It's a natural thing for everyone to be up because of the importance. We gave up the ball too many times against Warren, but at least we were mentally ready to play which was something that didn't happen against Mater Dei. If they aren't ready today, they will be by Friday."

El Rancho quarterbacks Len Smith and Dwayne Mathews have thrown the ball only 36 times because of the running talents of Dennis Tarango, Dan Lara and Carl Zaby. Lara has gained 250 yards, Tarango 243 and Zaby 163 to give the well balanced attack the league's No. 7-8-10 rushers. "We've usually had one good running threat though this year we have three.

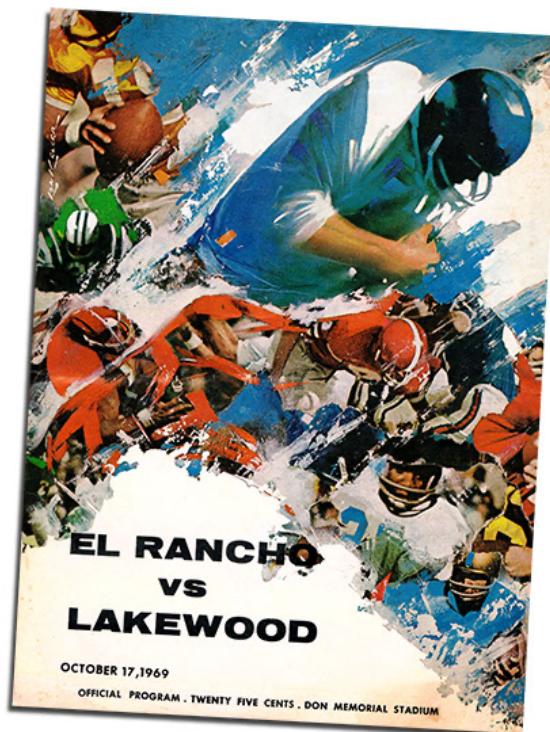
"All run with equal ability. They've been getting the holes and taking advantage of them. It's a well-rounded group," adds Ford. "They're aggressive and get the job done." The teams will be at full strength. El Rancho gets linebacker and defensive captain Steve Rosen back for the first time since the Westminster game.

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'68 Co-Champs Collide in Moore Opener: Oct. 17, 1969 — A rematch featuring last year's co-champions and efforts to snap long-standing hexes highlight what will hopefully be a lucky 13th season of Moore League high school football tonight. None of the six schools suffered a losing preleague schedule. Eight o'clock openers have Lakewood (3-1) at El Rancho (3-1), Wilson (2-2) at Millikan (3-1) and Jordan (3-1) vs. Poly (3-1) at Wilson High.

Whatever happens, it would be a big surprise if anyone survives the next five weeks without a loss. Lakewood and El Rancho shared the title a year ago, and their clash in Pico Rivera already has been labeled a "must win" by both schools. Though comparative scores against Westminster show little, El Rancho is a slight favorite against the Lancers.

The Dons never have trailed in their last three games, and an improving offensive line has been doing a good job for Dan Lara, Dennis Tarago and Carl Zaby, who have combined for 656 yards. Lakewood is more spectacular with Kim Hannaford, Rick Gillies, Mike Owens & Co., but a repeat performance of seven turnovers that occurred against Warren would mean trouble against the tougher Dons.



El Rancho Wins 13-12, as Late Lakewood Assault Falls Short

El Rancho and Lakewood tried to stage a USC-Stanford finish, and the Dons emerged with a 13-12 win Friday night in Pico Rivera. The Lancers' Rick Gillies attempted a 36-yard field goal on the last play of the game, but it was wide — left and enabled the Dons

to win the important Moore League opener that featured last year's co-champions. It was a frantic finish that left the full house of 7,500 limp after Lakewood had driven from its own 25 to the Dons' 21 with only 58 seconds left in the game. Both teams wound up frustrated more times than they care to remember. El Rancho was its own worst enemy. It continuously put the pressure on its defense by fumbling 10 times and losing the ball on five occasions. Lakewood never could get its ground game untracked against a typically tough El Rancho defense and never did make a first down rushing. El Rancho dominated play and seemingly had a safe 13-0 lead late in the third quarter. Then the Lancers took advantage of two fumbles to put the game in doubt. Dan Lara fumbled away the ball on his own 11, leading to the first Lakewood TD.

It came after the Dons had stopped a drive that had reached the 14. Mike Owens got seven yards to the four, then went off left tackle on the ensuing play to make it 13-6 with 1:38 left in the third quarter. Gillies' PAT attempt was wide left. With 6:59 left in the game, Lakewood drove 65 yards in 10 plays, with Frank Morales scoring from the one.

The clock now showed 3:02 remaining, and Lakewood went for the two-point conversion. Quarterback Kim Hannaford tried to fake a pitch and keep the ball, but Joel Larson broke through to drop him on the one. It was all El Rancho in the early going. The Dons drove 31 yards in eight plays to take a 6-0 halftime lead as Leonard Smith scored on a keeper from the one.

Rod Hiatt's 23-yard punt return put the Dons in good field position. The score went 13-0 as El Rancho took the second half kickoff and covered 37 yards in eight plays after Carl Zaby returned the kickoff 38 yards. El Rancho limited the Lancers to 46 net yards and one first down in the first half. Hannaford went to the air 22 times after intermission for Lakewood and hit Gillies 6 times for 67 yards.



Moore League Tilt — Poly Vs. Lakewood

Oct. 23, 1969 — It isn't just by coincidence that both the last time Poly defeated Lakewood and reached the CIF playoffs was five years ago. The Jackrabbits realize that if they're to attain bigger and better things in their resurgence under Phil Santia, there's no better time to let the rest of the Moore League know than tonight against the Lancers at the Vet. Though once-beaten in league play, Lakewood is dangerous. "We're almost in the same spot as a year ago," says Lakewood coach John Ford, "and the team realizes it." After losing to El Rancho last year, the Lancers went through the rest of league play unbeaten and earned a playoff berth. "This, though, is the best Poly team in quite awhile," feels Ford. "They have experience on defense and some big people up front to go with their speed."

Unlike the past, Poly's defense has overshadowed the offense. Only veteran halfback Maurice Anderson (404 yards) ranks among offensive statistical leaders for the Jacks. But a defensive secondary led by Don Davis, Booker Livingston, and Jerry Givens has picked off nine passes in five games — more than twice as many as any other league school. Eight of the other defensive starters are back off last year's team. The Lancers offer a variety of problems for any team. Most interesting match tonight will be how well the Jacks can contain Lancer receiver Rick Gillies. Gillies hauled in six passes in the second half from Kim Hannaford against El Rancho and along with Steve Krill gives the team a strong 1-2 receiving combination.

The Lancers had trouble moving on the ground against El Rancho and forced Hannaford to go to the air 29 times — the most attempts by any league quarterback the last two years. Poly, which blitzed Jordan 42-15 in its league opener, must meet the Lancers on their homecoming night.

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11,750 See Lakewood Defense Throttle Poly



JOLTING THE JACKS

All-CIF tailback Mike Owens (23) runs over Poly's Curtis Nichols (73) and leaves Booker Livingston (24) in the dust. Veterans Memorial Stadium. Long Beach, Calif.

Lakewood beat Poly at its own game Thursday night. The Lancers contained the Jackrabbits as no team has in the past four years and scored a surprising 13-0 Moore League victory. An estimated 11,750 watched Poly receive a blank for the first time in league play since Wilson turned the trick, 27-0, in 1965. Poly was held to five first downs, 31 yards net rushing, and never got passed midfield the last three quarters. The Lancer defense also accounted for both touchdowns. A bad snap on a first quarter Poly punt gave Lakewood a first down on the Poly 11. Lakewood needed only one play to score. The second Lancer TD, in the third quarter, followed an intercepted pass.

The Jacks, who showed a reluctance to pass, didn't manage a first down in the second half until 14 seconds into the last quarter. Lakewood's only sustained march came the second time it had the ball. With Kim Hannaford throwing short pitches to Rick Gillies and Steve Krill, and a 39-yard dash by Mike Owens on a trap, the Lancers moved 70 yards to the Jackrabbit 20. But a holding penalty eventually stalled the drive, and Charles Georgie dumped Hannaford for a 9-yard loss on a fourth and three at the 14. Then the Lancers held Poly. On fourth down, Chuck Bolt broke through and recovered the low punt snap from center on the 11.



Hannaford ran for an apparent TD on the first play, but the Lancers were offside. Set back to the 16, Hannaford threw to Gillies, who struggled to the two and fumbled. In the ensuing scramble Lancer Steve Krill came up with the ball across the goal line and Lakewood had all the points it needed. Hannaford did an outstanding job in throwing short screens and completing 10 of 16 passes for 120 yards, but Ed Billington came off the bench in the third to throw a five-yard pitch to Steve Martinez for the second TD. Rod Carey's first pass attempt of the third quarter for Poly was intercepted by a Lancer lineman on the Poly 41. He pitched to Hannaford, who went to the Jackrabbit 10. Two rushing plays put the ball on the five, where Billington rolled and fired to Martinez, who was all alone in the end zone with 8:10 left in the period. Almost every Lakewood defender sparkled, but Richard Atwater, Bolt, Dave Douglass, Rich Frederick, Jerry Willis and Tom Hall did most of the damage. Poly quarterbacks Payton Lonon and Carey were thrown seven times for losses totalling 27 yards, thanks to a tenacious Lakewood defense.

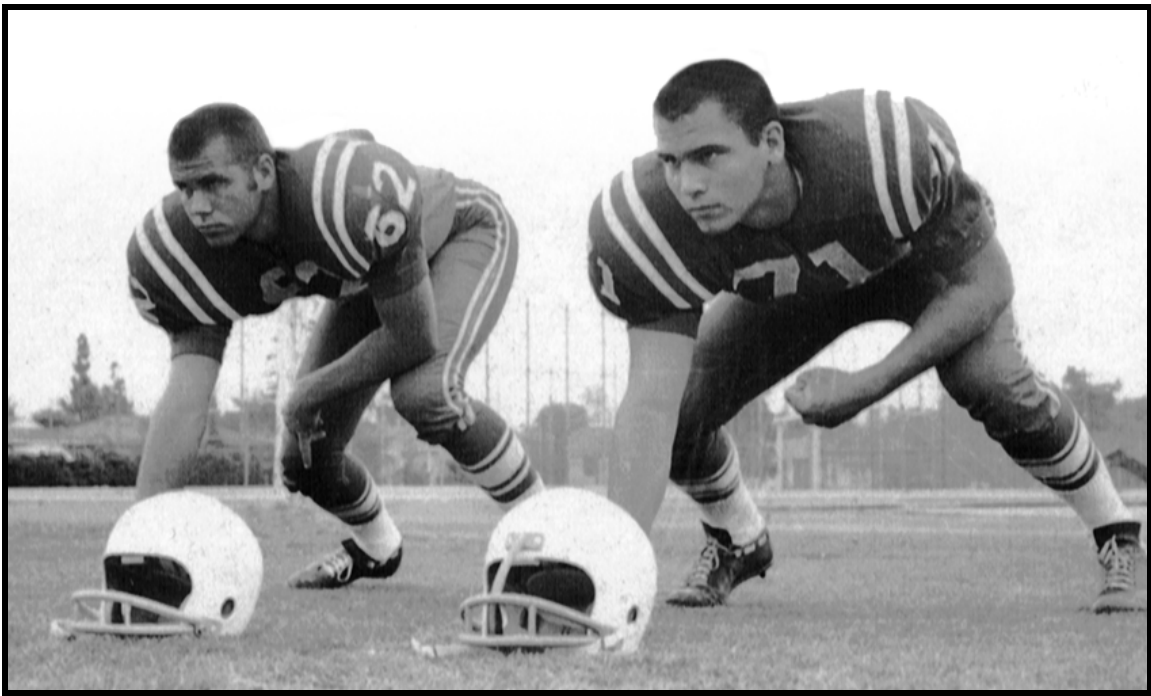
Panther Miscues Aid Lancers

Oct. 31, 1969 — Lakewood's Kim Hannaford passed for one touchdown and scored another on a punt return, leading the Lancers to a hard-fought 20-0 victory over Jordan. A packed house saw the Panther defense victimized by a fumble and four interceptions. Long Beach's leading ball carrier, Gary Rawson was held to 79 tough yards on 26 carries. Rawson gained 1,162 yards on 224 carries leading up to the Lakewood game. Lancer Mike Owens gained 98 yards on only 15 tries. Jordan was in charge through much of the first half. It drove 49 yards in nine plays in the second quarter, but Rawson came up inches shy of the first down at the five on his sixth carry of the march. Sparkled by the goal-line stand, the Lancers ripped off 95 yards in eight plays and scored on Hannaford's 34-yard pass to Rick Gillies. Gillies hauled in three other passes en route to the score, good for gains of 16, 21 and 19 yards. The junior sensation's only other reception came late in the fourth quarter giving him five on the evening for 99 yards. Hannaford connected on 7 for 13 aerials for 116 yards with two interceptions compared to Jordan's only 7 of 21 for 72 yards and four interceptions.

"We were not the biggest, fastest or the most talented that year, but we were all well coached and we played as a team. We called ourselves 'The Family.'" — Dana Hogan

Jordan was stymied on its next series and taken by Hannaford at the Panther 43. Behind exceptional blocking, Hannaford broke one tackle and sped down the sideline for the score, and then passed to Gary Brewsbaugh for a 14-0 halftime lead. Mike Hegan caught Owens' third-quarter fumble in mid-air and returned 21 yards into Lancer territory, but three plays later Henry Garcia threw his third interception to snuff out another Jordan drive. In the fourth period, Rick Hart's interception for Jordan was nullified in two plays on a fumble, and minutes later Lancer Ed Billington ran five yards for the final score.

Wilson Seeks Title Tie Tonight — Lakewood Faces Millikan



LION-SIZED LANCERS

Two of the biggest obstacles Millikan High gridders will face tonight will be Lakewood guard Craig Armstrong (62) and tackle Bill Todd (71). Armstrong is 6-foot-3 and weighs 198 pounds. Todd is 6-1, 204. Lancers and Rams meet in Moore League contest. Ford Stadium. Lakewood, Calif.

Nov. 7, 1969 — While Wilson hopes to wrap up no worse than a tie for the Moore League championship tonight, Lakewood will have a harder time trying to stay a game back of the pace-setting Bruins. The Lancers are faced with a "must win" situation that at best would force a three-way tie with Wilson and El Rancho, forcing a coin flip to determine the league's No. 1 club. It has been Lakewood's defense that has taken the play away from the offense the last two weeks. Defenders like Richard Atwater, Dana Hogan, Ed Billington, Darrell Foley, Chuck Bolt, Rich Frederick, Jerry Willis and Tom Hall have turned in outstanding back-to-back efforts in blanking Poly and Jordan. With a deceiving 1-2 league mark, Millikan will present more problems than Lancer defenders have faced so far. The Rams have a balanced attack and perhaps the league's most versatile back in Steve Derian. Derian, who is listed at 5-10, 165 weighs closer to 150, has caught 14 passes for 249 yards and amassed 678 yards rushing to rank among leaders in both categories. "Teams have really keyed on him of late," says Roger Hull, "but he keeps coming back. I don't know where we would have been without him on offense considering some of the injuries we've had to other personnel."

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Lakewood Stifles Millikan Assault at Two, Wins 14-8

Lakewood's stingy Lancers stopped a Millikan touchdown bid on the two with 1:53 left to play and went on to beat the Rams, 14-8 in their annual struggle at the Vet. Some 12,000 fans watched the teams trade goal line stands and long scoring plays on the damp field before the Lancers managed a seven play, 32-yard drive 3:43 into the final period that accounted for the deciding score. The win kept Lakewood's playoff hopes alive. The unbeaten Lancers meet Wilson Thursday night in the regular season finale. It was another tough loss for Millikan, which has played well in league competition but has only a 1-3 record.

As it has for the last three weeks, Lakewood's defense turned in a noteworthy performance. Except on two occasions, the Lancers held Millikan's ground game in check. The Rams managed 44 yards rushing, and their longest run from scrimmage was nine yards. Millikan stopped the Lancers on the Ram two after Lakewood had driven 76 yards the first time it handled the ball in the third quarter. Despite a first down on the five, four cracks into the line produced only three yards as Pat Dutty hauled down Frank Morales on the fourth down TD bid.

The Rams managed to nudge the ball only out to the seven, and a poor 27-yard punt put Lakewood in good field position on the 32. This time the Lancers weren't denied. On third and eight at the 20, Kim Hannaford threw 11 yards to Morales, Dana Hogan bounced 14 yards to the 5, and three plays later Morales scored from the one. Morales played his best game of the year on the two drives. He repeatedly was called upon to deliver key yardage. Millikan almost came all the way back, taking the ensuing kickoff and gaining 58 yards to the Lancer two.

Kim Eilerts, throwing to Bob Buckley four times, garnished 48 of those yards. The Rams had a first down on the six, but three cracks into the line produced only four yards and Eilerts overthrew Buckley on the fourth down play. Lakewood elected to give Millikan a safety on fourth down from the eight in an effort to use up the clock. It received a free kick with 17 seconds to play. The teams produced long scoring plays in the first half. Eilerts combined with Buckley for a pass-run play that covered 74 yards early in the second quarter. Lancer Rick Gillies eluded six tacklers in running back a punt 60 yards to tie the score 6-6- at halftime.



Wilson-Lakewood — Countdown to Title

Nov. 13, 1969 — Revenge-minded Wilson tackles determined Lakewood tonight in what promises to be an intriguing duel. Prep followers, who may fill Veterans Stadium with its largest crowd of the season, couldn't ask for a better way to close the Moore League season. The contest matches two of the League's three best teams; the top offense vs. the top defense, and an intense rivalry that has built up the last three years.

Each of the last three encounters has decided a playoff spot — the No. 1 rule of measure in determining a high school's prowess in football. If Lakewood can beat Wilson and El Rancho does the same to Jordan Friday, the league would finish in a three-way tie for the championship and necessitate a drawing to determine the No. 1 CIF playoff representative.

Despite identical 6-2 season records, the Bruins are favored. The Bruins have been able to do it all on offense against other conference teams, averaging 339 yards the last four weeks. When Wilson does score, the team has had an uncanny knack of converting 2-point conversion attempts — something no one else can boast.

Rushing, Wilson has made 7-of-10 attempts, passing 10-of-16. All this has been accomplished while alternating quarterbacks Lamont Larkin and Cass Ditzler. Ditzler, the better passer, and Larkin the better runner, have had equal success. Lakewood's advantage lies with its quickness on defense.

The Lancers, who have allowed only one TD in their last three games, must contain the sweeps and slants of Larkin, Bob Beaman, Bill Cecil and Brian Doheny.

The Bruins hope to put pressure on Lancer QB Kim Hannaford. The 5-8, 153-pound scrambler throws better than any other league quarterback under rush, and has equally talented receivers in Steve Krill and multi-talented Rick Gillies.

"When I was still in Jr. High, I remember watching Hannaford from the stands in their CIF game vs. Blair, and couldn't believe how fast he was ... blazing speed." — Ron Wilson



13,500 See Lakewood Rally Nip Wilson, 14-8

Down but never quite out. Lakewood upset Wilson and upended the Moore League race Thursday night. Two second-half touchdowns and a defense that held Wilson to its lowest point total of the season enabled the Lancers to record a 14-8 victory and gain a share of the conference championship for the second year in a row. Matters can become more complicated tonight if El Rancho beats Jordan as expected and throws the league into a three-way tie — something that has never happened before in Moore history. The season's largest crowd at Veterans Stadium, an estimated 13,500, witnessed the tense struggle that wasn't determined until the final 78 seconds. Lakewood's quick defense took away Wilson's running attack except for two plays and turned away the Bruins five times in the second half. One of the long Wilson runs was a 65-yard scoring burst by fullback Brian Doheny, who slanted into the line, broke loose and outran two defenders to give the Bruins their only score with 6:53 left in the half. Doheny converted on a run to make it 8-0. Moments later, Doheny ran 31 yards the next time he handled the ball. Those two runs accounted for 96 of Wilson's 136 yards rushing as Lakewood repeatedly took away the outside threats of Lamont Larkin, Bob Beaman and Bill Cecil. Lakewood scored the first time it handled the ball in the third quarter as it looked like a different club on offense.

A 45-yard march took only three plays. Junior Mike Owens swept 14 yards to the 31, gained 3 more to the 28, and then QB Kim Hannaford hit Rick Gillies on a slant pass. Gillies never broke stride as he scored the quick TD. Hannaford hit Owens over the middle for two points to make it 8-all. Hannaford again took to the air to drive the Lancers 56 yards early in the final period. Passes to Steve Krill for 17 yards and Owens for 10 gained first downs. Owens swept end for 11 yards, Frank Morales rambled 14 more, and Lakewood had a first down on the five. Morales went over left tackle on the first play and the Lancers were on top for good, 14-8, even though Hannaford's conversion pass to Dana Hogan failed with 7:43 left in the game.

Wilson fought back, taking the ensuing kickoff and marching from its 30 to the Lakewood 15 in six plays. Cass Ditzler hit Dean Nosworthy for 24 yards, Beaman for 9 and Ed Laing for 21. But a clipping call on a first down play from the 15 pushed Wilson back to the 30 and the Bruins were unable to recover.

"Kim Hannaford was the best athlete I've ever known, and I've known and played with several who made it to the pros. Also, he was the most competitive. To give you an idea, I was rather good at handball — a sport we participated in after running down to LBCC to the handball courts with Coach Woolbright driving behind us in a car during the Kamikaze off-season workouts. Kim had never played the game and I actually beat him when we played ... barely." — Craig Armstrong

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Moore Loop Trio Launches CIF Playoff Hopes Tonight

Nov. 21, 1969 — What high school football teams strive nine weeks to achieve becomes a reality tonight for three Moore League clubs. Lakewood, El Rancho and Wilson joining 13 other Southland 4-A prep powers in CIF playoff competition that will eventually determine the No.1 team Dec. 12 in the Coliseum. The league's first-ever three-way tie for first place resulted in the team earning a playoff berth. How long they survive depends a lot on the first two weeks. Tonight, Lakewood entertains Coast League champion Compton at the Vet, El Rancho is at home against Pacific League titlist Arroyo and Wilson travels to La Palma Park to play Anaheim.

The Bruins appear to have the roughest assignment. Anaheim was runner up to El Rancho in 1966, won the title in 1967 and reached the semifinals last year. Though not as deep as in the past, the Colonists do have talented George Fraser back again for the third year of playoff competition. Fraser and tailback Tom Thorn, second leading scorer in Orange County with 90 points, have been the mainstays behind a 7-2 record. Until a week ago, it appeared the Bruins might have the necessary momentum to mount a playoff challenge.

But a 14-8 loss to Lakewood has again thrown a big question mark over the team. If the Bruins defense plays as well as it did last week and the offense can regain some of its thrust, Anaheim could be beaten. Compton also has the potential to bother Lakewood. The Tarbabes have genuine home run threats in quarterback Herb Singleton. Babes' John Culpepper (223), LeFrance Arnold (233) and Roland Duckett (220) anchor a large forward wall. What the Lancers lack in size, they repeatedly made up for in quickness, pursuit and an ability to make the big plays.

The team has played only one bad game, a 34-6 loss to Mater Dei Oct. 3. Arroyo has surrendered but 65 points in nine games and is 8-0-1. It is doubtful the Knights have seen any backs the quality of El Rancho's Dennis Tarango, Dan Lara and Carl Zaby. The Dons, like Anaheim in many respects, seem to rise to the occasion in the playoffs. Blair of Pasadena, Bishop Amat and St. Paul are the three top-seeded teams and favored to reach the semis. The California tie-breaker system will be in effect for all games including the finals for the first time. El Rancho and St. Paul battled to a 20-20 draw last year.



Lakewood Puts Skids to Compton



KRILL WITH STRENGTH AND SKILL

Lancer Steve Krill (86) leaps for a catch against the Compton Tarbabes with teammate Rick Gillies (83) there to block a defender in the CIF first-round playoffs. Veterans Memorial Stadium. Long Beach, Calif.

Week after week Lakewood's football team seems to gain a little more measure of respect. Friday night the Lancers put the clamps on Compton's heretofore explosive Tarbabes to record a 28-12 first-round CIF playoff win at Veterans Stadium before an estimated 9,000. It was another impressive defensive effort for Lakewood, now 8-2 on the year. Compton QB Herbert Singleton never could get his passing attack untracked. Even when he did have time to throw, which wasn't often, receivers would drop the ball or have it batted down by the scrambling Lancers. Except for the waning moments of the game, Singleton mounted only one sustained march. He hit on only 3 of 17 attempts for 73 yards.

Heralded Reggie Ishman, who caught 14 of Singleton's 19 TD tosses, didn't catch a pass. He was either bottled up at the line of scrimmage or couldn't shake Lancer defenders, most notably Darrell Foley. Compton didn't get out of its own territory in the second half until the final four minutes.

"Rich Fredericks (65) was small in stature but an absolute beast, physically. He was a great wrestler and incomprehensibly powerful for his size. He hit like a ton of bricks and if you ran into him, it was like running into a fire hydrant." — Ron Wilson

An 80-yard interception return by Ronald Johnson accounted for Compton's only points after intermission. Explosive running by Mike Owens, Frank Morales and passes from Kim Hannaford to Rick Gillies propelled Lakewood in a 21-6 halftime lead. The second time the Lancers got the ball, Morales took a pitchout and ran 41 yards to the Tarbabe 26.



On the next play, Owens took another pitch and wasn't stopped until he had scored with 3:50 elapsed. Gillies kicked the first of four successful PATs and it was 7-0. Hannaford hit Gillies for 15, 11 and then a 19-yard scoring strike to spark a 63-yard, nine-play march the next time Lakewood handled the pig skin. Gillies, who caught six passes for 89 yards in the first half, seemingly was open every time Hannaford found him. Compton took the ensuing kickoff and drove 76 yards in eight plays for its only sustained drive. All the damage was done on the ground except for the last play when Singleton found Ike Spencer from eight yards out for the TD. It was his first completion. Hannaford again combined with Gillies for 30 yards on a second down and 17 situation to provide the impetus on Lakewood's third drive. Owens scored from the two with 2:54 left in the half and the Lancers were in command for good. Hannaford also was a hero for Lakewood on defense, intercepting two passes. Ed Billington picked off another Singleton aerial. Morales led the Lancers with 73 yards on 10 attempts, Owens had 70 on 18.

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Can Whittier Work Another 'Miracle' Against Lakewood?

Nov. 26, 1969 — Vic Lopez has no claims of being a miracle worker at Whittier High, but it should be with trepidation that Lakewood's Lancers approach their second-round CIF playoff game with the Cardinals tonight at Cerritos College. The unusual mid-week scheduling hasn't given Lopez and the team much time to enjoy a 16-13 win over St. Paul in what was the first round's one big upset. Even Lopez admits, "I don't know how we beat them. I'm very proud of our team, but I know if the game had lasted much longer, we would have been beaten. Our kids hit them hard and St. Paul fumbled a couple of key plays, but they were still coming on strong in the second half."

St. Paul had a first down on the Whittier one with 3:33 left to play when the Cardinals' Dan Kisling recovered a Pat McPartland fumble that decided the outcome. Lopez also says he sees no visions of 1965 all over again when as a first-year coach his Whittier team ended Loyola's 35-game win streak in the CIF finals. "There's not the same caliber of personnel here now."

Whittier, 7-3 over-all, didn't get into the playoffs until the last week of the regular season. A 7-0 win over Monte Vista earned a share of the Whitmont League championship. "Anytime you can force a team like St. Paul to make mistakes, you've got to respect them," says Lakewood coach John Ford, who doesn't expect his team to let down after a 28-12 opening playoff win over Compton.

"I was happy we were able to score points and move with some consistency." In Whittier's three losses, the team has been hurt by the pass, which may mean the Lancers will go to the air more tonight. Kim Hannaford has now thrown for 1,263 yards and 9 TDs with favorite target Rick Gillies having latched onto 39 receptions for 539 yards.

Whittier has a good scrambler, like Hannaford, in junior John Albini who threw for one TD and ran 26 yards for another against St. Paul. Brothers Fran and Chris Kachaturian also start in the backfield. All other playoff games on the 4-A and 3-A level are Friday night.



Lancers Riddle Whittier

SHORT NOTICE NO HANDICAP



CARDINAL SIN INDEMNITY

With Richard Atwater (33) and Steve Krill (86) leading the way, Mike Owens of Lakewood returned this Whittier kickoff 25 yards to the 35 yard line. Cerritos College Falcons Stadium. Norwalk, Calif.

Perhaps Lakewood should have played all its games this season with only two days practice. Lancer coach John Ford wasn't happy with having to come back on such short notice, after beating Compton Friday but the team showed no ill effects Wednesday night in a second round CIF playoff game against Whittier at Cerritos College. The Cardinals scored the first and last times they handled the ball, but it was all Lakewood in between as the Lancers rolled to a 33-13 victory before a near full house of 11,500. Whittier ran off 75 plays to Lakewood's 45 and was outgained by 110 yards. It was the Lancers' best offensive showing of the year and quarterback Kim Hannaford directed the four-star production.

Hannaford, the little man who has done a big job this year in taking Mike Rae's place, completed 10 of 14 passes for 200 yards and two touchdowns plus scoring two other TDs on runs of 9 and 12 yards. Another 50 yards passing was tacked on by reserve Dan Garcia who certainly made the most of his only offensive play of the night. Though it happened only seven minutes into the first quarter, it was the game's big play. Whittier had taken the opening kickoff and driven 75 yards on 15 plays with quarterback John Albini scoring on a keeper from the three. Mike Owens returned the kickoff 32 yards to midfield when the Lancers inserted Garcia on their first play from scrimmage.

Hannaford handed off to Owens who gave the ball to Garcia coming back across the field. The 152-pound junior stopped, threw a strike to Rick Gillies alone on the 15 and in only seven seconds Lakewood had tied the game after Gillies added the PAT. That play gave Lakewood the boost it needed and it was a difficult game after that. Hannaford drove the Lancers 71 yards on 5 plays and 80 yards on 4 plays twice in the second quarter while Whittier was controlling the ball and going nowhere. Hannaford connected with Steve Krill for 17 yards and Owens again for 26 to spearhead the second drive. With a first down on the 6, tight end Krill caught a pass over the middle to put Lakewood ahead for good.



Hannaford threw a 28-yard strike to Owens who made an over-the-shoulder catch on the 10 for the third TD with 34 seconds remaining in the half. Drives of 65 and 39 yards that were climaxed by Hannaford's runs produced two additional scores in the third quarter before Ford started sending in subs with 14:25 left to play. Lakewood will now play either Blair or Santa Monica in the semis Dec. 5 equaling the farthest the team has ever gone in the playoffs. El Rancho defeated the Lancers, 33-14, in the 1966 semis.

CIF SEMI-FINALISTS COLLIDE IN COLISEUM

Stopping Blair Lakewood's Greatest Challenge

Dec. 5, 1969 — Asked to accomplish the improbable all season, Lakewood attempts tonight to do what 11 other teams this year have found impossible. The Lancers, who didn't earn a CIF playoff berth until the final week of the regular season, now find themselves in a semi-final round contest against unbeaten and at this date unstoppable Blair of Pasadena. Winner of the Coliseum encounter will face either Bishop Amat or Anaheim, who meet tonight at Anaheim Stadium, in next week's finals. Scoring at an average of 43 points a game, ground-gulping Blair is the highest point producing team in Southland high school

history.

The talents of fullback James McAlister and tailback Kermit Johnson have caused most of the damage and left more than one opposing defense strewn in the wake of their rampages. McAlister and Johnson have amassed in excess of 3,500 yards rushing and accounted for 47 touchdowns.

"There was no quit on our team! The loss to Blair, no doubt, was the most stunning, heartbreaking loss in Lancer history. I scored our last touchdown on a 16-yard pass from Kim Hannaford. We thought we had it won. On second down, we barely missed a quarterback sack in the end zone for a safety. Then it was 3rd and 10 for Blair before that broken play! Phillips scrambled around for what seemed like forever before finding Jones open, damn!!" — Steve Martinez

Not entirely a two-man team, the Vikings also utilize tight end Eugene Jones, center Mike Shaw and linebacker Morris Martin to remind many of the 1958-59 Poly CIF title teams. "It's an imposing challenge," admits Lakewood coach John Ford. The Lancers have displayed a quick defense that has overcome a lack of physical size with quickness and speedy pursuit.

McAlister offers a different obstacle in that he combines speed with power at 5-1, 210 pounds. Only one Lancer defender weighs in excess of 200 pounds. Ford's confidence in his offense was renewed the last two weeks. He feels the Lancers can score against Blair. Lakewood with its different sets presents numerous problems for any first-time opponents. A big play in the 33-13 win over Whittier was a 50-yard halfback pass from Dan Garcia to Rick Gillies for a TD — the first time it had been utilized this season. Gillies is an All-CIF candidate in his own right, having caught 44 passes for 65 yards. Quarterback Kim Hannaford has turned in consistent performances and if the running attack with Mike Owens, Frank Morales and the blocking of Dana Hogan can click, fans could witness a lot of scoring. Quarterbacks will be in the spotlight at the Bishop Amat-Anaheim game. Amat's Pat Haden has received all the publicity this year with 3,983 yards passing, but Colonist George Fraser is a two-time All-CIF selection and is at his best in post-season competition. It is the fourth year in a row Anaheim has advanced as far as the semis, though they are slight underdogs tonight.



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Lakewood Topped in Final Seconds, 24-19



LANCING THE VIKES

QB Kim Hannaford (16) hands off to fullback Dana Hogan (34) on second down as he attempts to break through a gap at the line of scrimmage against the Blair Vikings. Elliot Neff (63) leads the charge with Craig Armstrong (62). Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. L.A., Calif.

Thirty-five seconds away from a stunning upset, Lakewood let Eugene Jones slip away from two defenders and score on a 97-yard pass-run play to give Blair an incredible 24-19 victory over the Lancers Friday night at the Coliseum. It was a heartbreaking setback for Lakewood, only a heart beat away from putting the team in next week's 4-A finals against Bishop Amat. Blair's second

string quarterback, Charles Phillips, rolled deep in the end zone on the third down play, found Jones somehow ahead of everyone else at the Viking 35, and the 6-foot-3, 212-pounder out-raced two men the rest of the way to score with 20 seconds showing.

Co-seeded with Amat as the No. 1 teams in the playoffs, Blair was held to its lowest point total of the season after running over 11 previous foes for 529 points. Until Blair's final play, Lakewood had held James McAlister and Kermit Johnson as well as anyone, only to see the unheralded Phillips and Jones emerge as last-second heroes. Phillips started his first game of the year for Blair in place of regular quarterback Ken Lipkin, who had pulled a muscle in last week's 44-19 romp over Santa Monica. The Lancers seemingly had the game won when Richard Atwater downed Rick Gillies' tower 44-yard punt on the three with 66 seconds to go.

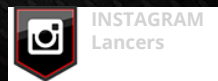
Two incomplete passes used up 31 seconds, before the almost unbelievable play stunned the crowd of 12,901. How Jones got behind his man on the obvious passing situation is something Lancer coach John Ford will probably wonder all winter. It had been Lakewood's ability to stop all three of Blair's two-point conversion tries that had given the team a 19-18 advantage. Blair closed to within one point in the final 2:47 on a 12-yard romp around end by Johnson. On a similar try for two points, he was stacked up a foot short of the goal line. The Lancers' last score had come on a 16-yard TD strike from Kim Hannaford to Steve Martinez 1:36 into the final quarter. The 88-yard march covered eight plays.

Hannaford was outstanding all evening for Lakewood, completing nine of 15 passes for 148 yards and two touchdowns. The Lancers scored first with 4:44 remaining in the first half as Hannaford hit Steve Krill for 12 yards over the middle, only to see Blair come back on the last play of the half. Phillips threw a screen to McAlister with five seconds to go and the 210-pound Big Mac barreled over three defenders on the 18-yard play in accounting for Blair's first score. It was the first of what turned out to be many anxious moments for Blair, which was forced to the wire for the first time this year. The Vikings had to rally three times to overcome Lakewood's inspired play. McAlister gained 100 yards on 22 carries, his lowest total of the season. Johnson added 99 more on 12 attempts.



— **GO BIG RED!**

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