



1968 Sanger Apache Football

Sequoia Division Valley Champions

#2 VALLEY RANK by Fresno Bee

East Sequoia Champions

SEQUOIA DIVISION – VALLEY CHAMPIONS EAST SEQUOIA LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

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11-1-0 (5-0-0)

Clovis	7-12
Bullard	13-6
Sierra	34-6
Washinton Union	27-6
Tulare Union	7-0

Corocoran	21-6
Reedley	35-7
Lemoore	21-0
Selma	28-0
Tulare Western	42-7

Valley Playoffs

Coalinga	20-0
Garces Memorial	13-0



C.Ashley, J.Atondo, B.Barnes, M.Bender, R.Bohannon, B.Boone, B.Blunt, G.Branch, S.Champion, P.Freiberger, M.Gardner, G.Gerner, J.Harding, R.Hernandes, R.Hiraga, G.Horn, L.Howard, T.Kanagawa, K.Kister, C.Leath, C.Macias, A.Medrano, F.Merlo, J.Merlo, A.Munoz, G.Ogawa, M.Perez, R.Rusca, E.Salinas, J.Shamshoian, A.Sherfield, J.Showalter, C.Sonkson, S.Strope, H.Summers, C.Weber, M.Wilson

Coaches: JOHN PERKINS, Armando Gonzales, Merlin Lund



Valley Championship Tid-Bit:

Sanger defeated Garces with fog so dense that neither fans nor press box could see most of the game (in Sanger).



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Doctors & Dentists Make A Winning Team

What do you get when you mix one optometrist, four dentists, and about 150 young football enthusiasts together in the Sanger High School locker room?

The answer . . . about 150 mouthguards, valued at over \$5,000, for Sanger High School students who are trying out for the Apache football team

Last Wednesday and Thursday night Sanger's doctors donated their time

and talents to examine over 200 boys who hope to make this year's Apache football, water polo and cross country teams. While the MD's were performing their inspections Dr. Paul Cheney, Dr. William Henry, Dr. Richard Hoyt and Dr. Kenneth Marshall were busy fitting the football candidates with a mouth guard seldom used by high school athletes but widely used by college and pro football teams. The

dentists' able assistant for the two nights of hard work was Dr. Donald Negri, local optometrist

Dr Marshall said Sanger dentists tried several mouth-guard techniques before they settled on "Sta-Guard" manufactured by Stalite, Inc, of Hialeah, Fla. The material is a pliable plastic sheet about one-eighth inch thick that becomes soft when heated. A normal mold is taken of each ath-

lete's mouth, and the heated Sta-Guard sheet is sucked tight onto the mold using an ordinary household vacuum cleaner. (In fact Dr. Marshall says someone owes his wife a new vacuum cleaner as hers has had more wear and tear making mouth guards than it gets in house cleaning.) The result is a lightweight mouth guard that protects the player's teeth and is easy to wear.

Nine doctors performed between 200 and 225 physicals on the two nights. They were Dr. Marvin Call, Dr. James Giovacchini, Dr. Gene Heinrichs, Dr. Ellis Jamison, Dr. William Pillor, Dr. Roger Franz and Dr. Benjamin Poniek. Besides providing the free physicals, valued conservatively at over \$10 each, Sanger doctors take turns during the football season donating their time to be present during the games if needed.

One who appreciates the services provided without charge by Sanger's professional men is Jack Perkins, Sanger High School varsity football coach. "I certainly think it's fine that these men give so freely of their time on behalf of our athletic program. Every boy who wants to try out for our team can get a physical and mouth guard without cost. Since our football players have been provided with this custom mouth guard I don't know a single boy who has suffered injury to his teeth while wearing one in practice or in a game."

Perkins has another reason to be glad his players have the finest mouth guard available. In the past a player found not wearing a mouth guard was required to leave a game until he could return with a guard. Beginning this year a team will receive an automatic 15-yard penalty after one player on that team has been warned about not wearing his mouth guard.

The only cost to the Sanger Unified School District for the athletes' medical and dental protection is for the doctor's tongue depressors, valued at about a cent, and the plastic sheet for the mouth guard which costs about \$1.00 each. If the mouth guards were made by appointment in the dentist's office the cost would be an estimated \$35 each while the cost of the physical would be conservatively estimated at about \$10 each. With the number of boys involved in the school's athletic pro-



BRAD VAUGHN TAKES HIS TURN getting a physical so that he may participate in fall sports at Sanger High School. Dr. William Pillor, left, was one of eight Sanger doctors who gave of their

time last week without charge to perform over 200 physicals. Sanger doctors have contributed their medical skills to Sanger High School for over 20 years.



DR. WILLIAM HENRY places a cold dental mould into the mouth of Raul Medina Thursday night as other Apache football prospects wait their turn to get

fitted for mouth guards. Sanger dentists prepared over 150 mouth guards during the two nights of volunteer work.

(Continued Page 2, Col. 6)



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DAVE VERRUE, RIGHT, new president of the Sanger Booster's Club, shows Bruce Barnes, Sanger High School senior tackle, one of the new sports jackets the Apache Boosters Club has purchase for SHS athletes to wear on public occasions. The jackets are a rich blue in color with brass buttons and what crest with a red letter "S". The Booster's Club raised the funds for the jackets by soliciting donations from the following individuals and firms: Sanger Building Supply, James Shoe Store, Kanagawa Citrus, Sanger Rotary Club, Sanger Herald, Fresno Guarantee Savings, Sanger Am-

vets, Sanger Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sanger Golf Association, Dari Delight, Gong's Markets, Aprile's Tavern, Ted Barr, Sr., Federate Store, Tejerian's Clothing, Nun Telford Farms, Sanger High Student Body, Tony's Flowers, Farmer's Chevron, Al Riffle, Sanger Credit Association, Sanger Firemen's Association and Weber Auto Parts. Bruce Farmer, the outgoing club president, said the Club is still about \$150 short of covering the cost of the teamjackets. Anyone wishing to help out may contact him or any club member.



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Apaches Open 1968 Fall Drills With 11 Lettermen Returning

By Carl Merz

The Sanger High School Apaches opened their 1968 fall football campaign last Tuesday as Coach John Perkins greeted 44 hopefuls at the first practice session. Included in that group of Varsity candidates were eleven lettermen back from last season's up and down team which saw the locals finish with a six win, four loss record and third place in the final East Sequoia League standings.

Perkins, in his third year as head varsity mentor (a two year record of 10 wins,

8 losses, and 2 ties), and his assistants, backfield coach Armando Gonzalez, and line coach Merlin Lund are extremely optimistic about the season ahead and they have good reason to be. The eleven returnees include a good nucleus to start with, and when they are mixed with some squad members from last year's varsity plus some talent off last year's Frosh-Soph eleven, the result could be a big winner this year.

Two problems that still plague Perkins, however,

are speed and overall team depth. Speed, always a factor in any sport, has been lacking on Apache elevens in the past couple of years and it worries Perkins. "We'll be faster than the last two years", he maintains, then adds quickly, "but that doesn't mean we are a fast football team".

On the subject of depth, Perkins says "It looks like I'll have to go both ways with some of our key performers unless someone unexpected shows up. I don't like to do it, but with us, it's

experienced quarterback to run it. The word experienced is the key, as Perkins feels he has two good prospects in last year's third stringer Craig Weber, and Craig Sonksen, up from the frosh-soph. If either or both mature, Sanger's offense could produce some satisfying results.

At the other offensive positions, things look pretty good with many lettermen back. The offensive line has Jim Merlo, Adolph Medrano, Barnes, and Mark Wilson, all started last year, returning to give the Apaches experience. Add Strobe and Ray Hernandez, among other candidates, and the Apaches look set here.

Fullback Allen Sherfield and halfback Bob Boone both return to lead a potentially strong backfield. Terry Kanagawa, Freiberger, and Hiraga, all up from the frosh-soph, should make the lettermen hustle and should also give Perkins good material to work with.

Overall, Perkins feels the team looks improved, but there are many question marks. Will the newcomers produce? Will the lettermen improve over last year? What if the quarter-

back situation does not materialize? What about the problem of too many boys going both ways? It looks like an interesting season is shaping up for the Apaches, and for Coach Perkins.

The Apaches started two-a-day drills yesterday and will continue them through Thursday, September 12. There will be a single workout on Friday, September 13, and on Saturday, September 14 at 10:00 a. m. Dos Palos and Lindsay will visit Sanger for a control-type scrimmage. The public is invited with no admis-

a necessity. I don't know what it is, but there just doesn't seem to be as many good football players as there were a few years ago. The other coaches in our league seem to have the same problem. I don't know what the reason is. Maybe it's just too many outside interests today."

Enough for the problems, let's look at the Apache pluses. Admittedly, Perkins says his defensive is his strong suit right now and

well he should. Up front, Bruce Barnes, Fred Merlo, and Jim Merlo, all lettermen, return to give the Apaches a good nucleus in the defensive line. Steve Strobe and John Atondo, among others, should also provide help.

Sanger's linebackers are all seasoned veterans, as Jim Merlo, Ralph Bohannon and Harold Summers return to provide trouble for enemy ball carriers. The versatile Atondo is also being

counted upon for help here

The defensive backfield numbers Bob Boone and Sammy Champion as returning starters from last year with frosh-sophers Ron Hiraga and Paul Freiberger leading a group of talented newcomers to help Perkins forget last year's defensive lapses.

Offensively, the Apaches are potentially very strong but in order for Perkins pro-style T formation to work, he must have a good





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Apaches End Double Drills, Host Dos Palos, Lindsay Sat.

The Sanger High School Apaches, 14 players strong concluded two-a-day practices as of today and will face their first real test of

is the time for them, not later. The fan has been forgotten by the owners and the players too long. I think it's time he started getting his money's worth.

In closing, I would like to congratulate the Sanger Golf Association on its first birthday. Jerry Owens, Ed Caldera and Doug Vermillion, to name a few, have done a wonderful job organizing this club and putting on tournaments for the past year. They are now starting their second year and I urge all golfers in the Sanger area to call President Caldera and join the club. They have a lot of fun at their events and that makes no one a loser. The yearly fee is only \$5.00, and the line forms on the right.

See you next week!

Perkins also feels his offensive line is rounding into shape, but still lacks overall depth. Jim Merlo looks set to start at center with John Atondo in reserve. At the guards, Steve Strobe, Adolph Medrano and Hal Summers have all looked impressive in their battle for the two starting positions. Bruce Barens seems set at right tackle, but left tackle is still a question mark, although Fred Merlo has looked good.

the young season Saturday when they host Dos Palos and Lindsay for a control-type scrimmage. The action starts at 10:00 a. m. sharp on the Sanger High School stadium field with the public invited to attend.

Although a control-type scrimmage is not a game as such, Head Coach John Perkins feels that the head-knocking session will give him a definite indication of what he will have for the 1968 season that lies dead ahead, and well it should.

Dos Palos has long been a valley powerhouse and this year is expected to field one of their strongest elevens ever, while Lindsay is always considered to have a fine small school team. Together, they should provide a stern test for the Apaches.

If any surprises have come out of the first two weeks of practice, Perkins feels that his running backs have provided the biggest eye-openers. "When we opened drills, I figured we

Mark Wilson leads a strong corps of tight ends, and will be backed up by Bill Blunt and Gary Horn. Junior Paul Freiberger and senior Gary Gerner have been very impressive as split receivers so far, but, by no means have they nailed down starting positions as yet.

"I am just going to wait and see who does the best job in Saturday's scrimmage before I select many of my starters for the Clovis game," said Perkins. "We really won't know much about the team until after the scrimmage Saturday."

would be very low in running backs, but the development of Ron Hiraga, Noe Bernal, Don Griffith and Terry Kanagawa has made me change my mind," stated Perkins.

Hiraga and Griffith have been particularly impressive, Hiraga, a junior up from the Frosh-Soph, was considered primarily a defensive back candidate, but his strong running in last Friday night's scrimmage and in practice has him pushing Bob Boone for a starting job. Griffith did not play football at all last year, but has come along well thus far and should give senior Alan Sherfield all he can handle for the starting fullback assignment.

The quarterback situation remains a head-to-head duel between Craig Sonksen and Craig Weber. Sonksen, a junior, displayed a fine passing arm and good leadership ability in last week's head-knocker, while Weber excelled at running, especially on the pass-run option. Perkins feels both boys have done a fine job and will wait until after Saturday before selecting his number one signal caller.

Perkins also feels his offensive line is rounding into shape, but still lacks overall depth. Jim Merlo looks set to start at center with John Atondo in reserve. At the guards, Steve Strobe, Adolph Medrano and Hal Summers have all looked impressive in their battle for the two starting positions. Bruce Barens seems set at right tackle, but left tackle is still a question mark, although Fred Merlo has looked good.



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Apaches Meet Clovis Friday In Non-Conference Opener

By Carl Merz

Having passed their first "test" of the young 1968 season, the Sanger High School Apaches will begin playing 'em for keeps tomorrow night when they meet the North Yosemite League's Clovis Cougars in Clovis. Kickoff for the interleague battle is scheduled for 8:00 p. m. at the Clovis High School field, and will be preceded by a junior varsity game between the same two schools at 6:00 p. m.

The "test" the Apaches passed was last Saturday's controlled scrimmage against Dos Palos and Lindsay. All three coaches, head mentor John Perkins and his assistants, Armando Gonzalez and Merlin Lund, were somewhat pleased with the over-all play of their team. The defense was particularly impressive and seemed to be shaping up as a fine, stingy unit. Despite the fact that Los Palos' great halfback, Earl Austin, broke loose for two long touch-

down runs, Sanger's defensive unit displayed much class for this early in the season.

A Fine Job

"I felt our defensive unit did a real fine job, and we were well pleased with their performance," stated Perkins after the two-hour-plus head knocking session.

Particular praise went to middle guard Ray Hernandez, tackle Steve Strobe and halfback Bob Boone. Hernandez, a big, tough boy, plugged up the middle very effectively, while tackle Strobe, only a junior, time and again knifed through to make tackles and force errors. He is very agile and strong for his size. Boone, a letterman and also only a junior, displayed fine ability as both a pass defender and an open-field tackler.

The defense seemed to get better as the scrimmage progressed. Proof of this is the fact that the final time Dos Palos had the ball, on five of the ten plays they

ran, tough Apache tackling forced five fumbles. It is this kind of hard-nosed football that wins ball games.

The offensive unit of the Apaches over-all looked very good, although they were erratic at times, which is only natural this early in the year. Craig Sonksen opened at quarterback against Dos Palos, and guided his mates some 70 yards before running out of downs. On the second play of the scrimmage, Sonksen flipped a 25-yard swing pass to Boone, who dislodged some fine moves through played some fine moves throughout the day. Other offensive boys who impressed were flanker Paul Freiburger, and the interior line, tackles Bruce Barnes and Fred Merlo, guards Hal Summers and Adolph Medrano, and center Jim Merlo.

Clovis Tough

Sanger picked a tough opening opponent, as the Cougars are loaded with

big, tough linemen, but, as yet, an untried backfield. Eighteen lettermen return from last year's 6-3 season to give Coach Herb Criner a fine nucleus to build from. Heading the list of returners are tackle Tony Allegro, a 205-pound, two-way performer, and giant defensive tackle Al Dalerio, 6'4" and 274 pounds. Clovis operates out of a Wing-T formation that emphasizes sweeps and passing, and could be very hard to beat if their young backs come through. They are a NYL dark horse.

According to Perkins, his Apaches are primed and ready for tomorrow night, yet his main problem continues to be team depth. "We will be a respectable football team if we stay healthy," is the way he puts it.

That "if" is a pretty big word as already six players are going both ways. If injuries occur and force more two-way performances, there could be some mighty tied Sanger Apaches on about nine fall Friday nights.

One thing is for sure, both teams will give a top effort to try to win their opener. Both head coaches are very optimistic about the season ahead and this game should answer many of their questions. It should be a whale of a game.

Apache Notes:

Sanger will be looking for revenge after being dumped by Clovis last year in Sanger. Dos Palos does not look like a No. 1 team, at least at this stage of the season. If they are, the Apaches should be in the top five. Lindsay showed a strong line, but appeared no match for the classier Broncs and Apaches. Injury Check—Bruce Barnes has a slight leg muscle pull, but should be A-OK tomorrow. Two Apaches, Don Griffith and Tim Heizman, are both out for the year. Griffith has a knee injury, while Heizman suffered a broken ankle. Both were counted on by Perkins to play a lot of ball this year.

Probable Lineups

Tentative Apache starting lineups:

Offense—Split end, Gary

Gerner; tight end, Mark Wilson; tackles, Barnes and Fred Merlo; guards, Hal Summers and Adolph Medrano; center, Jim Merlo; quarterback, Craig Sonksen; halfback, Bob Boone; fullback, Alan Sherfield; and flanker, Paul Freiburger.

Defense—Middle guard, Ray Hernandez; tackles, F. Merlo and Steve Strobe; ends, Barnes and Wilson; linebackers, Ralph Bohannan, John Atondo and Jim Merlo; halfbacks, Ron Hirsaga and Freiburger; and safety, Boone.



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Clovis Slips By Sanger 12-7

By Bill Martin

Buoyed by a first half offensive and saved by a fourth quarter defense, the Clovis High School Cougars edged a determined Sanger Apache eleven by a 12-7 count Friday night.

Some slick passing by Phil Borjas and good running by Chris Lopez and Mel Hill got the Cougars 12 points in the first half, then the Clovis defenders

Statistics

	Clovis	Sanger
First downs	10	12
Yards rushing	107	96
Yards net rushing	78	47
Net yards rushing	89	27
Passes-completions	11-21	21-31
Yards passing	120	120
Total net yards	187	127
Interceptions by	1	1
Fumbles-lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties	4-18	2-20

stepped Sanger drives twice in the last two minutes of the game to save the win.

After Borjas and Lopez scored on first half runs for Clovis and Allen Sherfield tallied a second period touchdown for Sanger, the game settled down to a defensive battle. Clovis' deepest second half penetration was to the 10 after a fumble recovery, while the Apaches got to the Cougar 23 twice late in the game.

Both teams had offensive troubles, but both showed flashes of possible brilliance.

Clovis unveiled a butter-fir-

gered but potentially powerful offense with Borjas, Lopez, Hill and end Steve Mele playing standout rolls last night. In between fumbles — they booted five and lost three — the Cougars were a strong offensive unit, especially in the first half.

Borjas has the tools to develop into a top quarterback. He throws well from the rollout and can run when he has to. He was sharp in the first half last night, but was overthrowing receivers in the last half. Mele was his favorite receiver, catching three for 83 yards, all of them sure-handed grabs.

Sanger, too, has a good nucleus to work from. Quarterback Craig Sonksen connected on 11 of 20 passes for 120 yards and was hitting his receivers well.

Clovis marched 96 yards for its first touchdown, finally scoring when Lopez cut across tackle from five yards out. Borja hit Mele on 26 and 12-yard passes to set up the score.

The Cougars marched 50 yards in 12 plays for their second TD, with Borjas scoring on a rollout from the six. A 25-yard pass to Mele from Borjas was the big play in the drive.

Sanger took the ensuing kickoff and marched 80 yards to

See Clovis Page 4-B

Clovis

From Page 3-B

score. Sonksen hit on passes of 17, 21, 12 and 21 yards to pace the drive. Sherfield bulled over on a one-yard run for the tally.

The Cougar defense took the limelight late in the fourth period when Sanger threatened to score. Three passes by Sonksen put the Apaches in scoring position, but Colin Hintergardt picked off the next pass attempt on the goal line and ran it out to the 20.

Clovis had the ball for two plays, then fumbled and Sanger recovered on the 28.

Sonksen completed one pass for five yards, then, with 30 seconds left in the game Mike Bogosian and Dan Mele dumped him for a nine-yard loss. Time ran out before the Apaches could get another play started.

Clovis won the frosh-soph preliminary 19-6.

Sanger	0	7	0	0-7
Clovis	0	0	0	0-12
Clovis—Lopez	5	run	(kick failed)	
Clovis—Borjas	4	run	(kick failed)	
Sanger—Sherfield	1	run	(Barnes kick)	



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Apaches Downed 12-7 By Clovis; Bullard Next In Home Opener

By Carl Merz

The Sanger High School Apaches, who haven't beaten a North Yosemite League team in football in over two years, will try to snap that jinx when they face the Bullard Knights tomorrow night at the Sanger Grape Bowl Festival. The Apaches almost ended their skid against NYL opposition last Friday before bowing to the Clovis Cougars, 12-7, in a good opener for both teams. Sanger's defeat can be at-

tributed to three things: one very costly bad break, an inability to capitalize on a couple of Clovis miscues, and the officials not being in the right place at the right time. But make no mistake about it, Clovis has a fine football team and will be heard from before the NYL season is over.

Sanger kicked off to start the game and received its first real break when Clovis could not move and punted only 12 yards to the Cougar 37. The Apaches could not capitalize, as two running plays and an incomplete pass netted only two yards to the 35-yard line. Bruce Barnes, who had a fine night with his kicking, coffin-cornered his first punt out on the Clovis three-yard line to put the Cougars in deep trouble.

Break For Clovis

Clovis' big break occurred after three plays netted them nine yards to the 12-yard line. A Cougar line drive punt hit Paul Freiburger in the back as he was attempting to block downfield with the ball recovered by Clovis on the 50-yard line. It was a freak play, but it

provided the Cougars with some much needed momentum.

From the 50, Phil Borjas, the fine Clovis quarterback, hit Steve Mele with a 26-yard aerial and the Cougars were in business on Sanger's 24-yard line. Two running plays lost four yards but the Borjas-Mele combination clicked again for 23 yards, and Clovis was knocking on the door at the five. Chris Lopez ended the suspense by slanting off tackle for the score and a 6-0 Clovis lead with 3:20 left in the first quarter.

Following the kickoff, Sanger was unable to move and Barnes punted to the Clovis 44-yard line. From there the Cougars started a drive that eventually won them the ball game. With Borjas, Lopez, and Melvin Hill doing most of the work, Clovis moved steadily downfield and scored again with 8:05 left in the second quarter as Phil Borjas rolled around right end for the final six yards. The extra point was again no good, but Clovis had a 12-0 lead and appeared about ready to run away and hide from the Apaches.

But Sanger came back. From their own 20, following the kickoff, the Apaches started to move. Quarterback Craig Sonksen completed a 16-yard aerial to split-end Gary Gerner and Sanger had a first down on their own 36-yard line. Another pass, this time Sonksen to flanker Paul Freiburger, put the ball on Clovis' 41-yard line and the Apaches were rolling. A clipping penalty momentarily hurt Sanger's momentum, but they got all the yardage back and then some as a Clovis personal foul gave the Apaches a first down on the 26-yard line with 5:15 left in the half.

Two more Sonksen completions put the ball on the Clovis one-yard line from where, in two tries, fullback Allen Sherfield smashed over for Sanger's first score of the year. Barnes converted and with 2:25 to play in the half, Clovis held a slim five-point lead at 12-7.

Clovis mounted a mild drive just before the half ended as they punched out two first downs and had the ball on Sanger's 39-yard line, but Steve Strobe recovered a Cougar fumble to end the threat.

Apaches Dominate Half

The Apaches dominated play throughout the second half, but just couldn't put across the touchdown that counted. Sanger received the second half kickoff and moved from their own 22 to the 39-yard line with the help of a roughing-the-kicker penalty before Barnes was forced to punt. Clovis could not move and punted to the Apache 26-yard line. On Sanger's third play, Sonksen fumbled on a broken play and Clovis recovered on the Apache 37.

The Cougars, smelling pay-dirt again, started to move. Melvin Hill ran 18 yards to the Apache 16-yard line, but four plays only netted six yards and Sanger

took over on their 10-yard line. The Apaches punched out a first down to their own 23-yard line with Bob Boone and Sherfield contributing good runs as the third quarter came to an end.

55-Yard Punt

The fourth quarter opened as Bruce Barnes boomed a high, beautiful 55-yard punt that rolled dead on the Cougar 21-yard line. It could have been the turning point had Sanger been able to cash in on two chances.

Clovis couldn't move and punted to their own 43-yard line where the Apaches took over. Sonksen went right to work and hit Freiburger with a 23-yard strike and a first down on the Clovis 25-yard line. But that was as far as they got as Sonksen was dropped twice trying to pass and Clovis took over on their 36.

Clovis punched out two first downs, one on a broken play by Borjas, before Lopez fumbled and Fred Merlo recovered on the Apache 37-yard line. With 5:15 left in the game, it was now or never for Sanger.

After grinding out one first down on the ground, Sonksen went to the air for three straight completions to Boone, Freiburger, and Mark Wilson for a first down on the Clovis 10. It was here that the officials chose to look the other way and, in all probability, it cost Sanger the game. On two straight plays, Freiburger was grabbed by the shirt as he was going out for a pass. They were both obvious penalties, but the officials failed to see them.

The second time he was grabbed, Elias Rivas picked off Sonksen's pass at the goal line and returned it to the eight. An unsportsmanlike conduct penalty against Sanger Coach John Perkins gave Clovis a first down on the 23-yard line, and with only 55 seconds left, it looked like that was the ball game.

Last Chance

But the Apaches had one last chance as Fred Merlo again recovered a Cougar fumble on the 31-yard line. Sonksen hit Wilson with a five-yard pass, but lost four yards trying to pass. His third down pass was incomplete, and the Apaches were down to their last chance. But it was not to be, as Sonksen's swing pass to Boone was complete but for a loss of four yards and that was the ball game.

It was a thrilling way to start the season, but it is too bad Sanger had to lose. They dominated play in the second half and could have pulled it off had they been able to capitalize on the breaks. Bullard comes to town off a disappointing showing in the Fresno carnival, but is still considered a threat for the NYL title. It should be another close, hard-fought game, but with the home-field advantage, I am picking the Apaches to pull it out by a scant one point for their first 1968 win.

KMJ radio will broadcast the Sanger-Bullard contest in its series of valley coverage.

Statistics

	Clovis	Sanger
First Downs	10	13
Net Yds. Rushing	89	47
Passes, Comp.	11-6	21-11
Yds. Passing	98	120
Total Yds.	187	167
Penalties Yds.	4-50	2-30

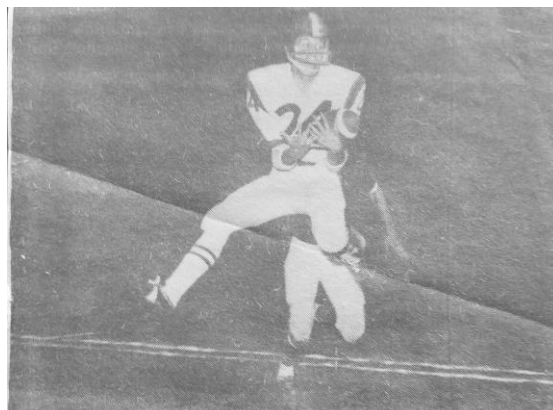


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Halfback Bobby Boone hauling in a pass from Quarterback Craig Sonksen on the Clovis two yard line. This play set up the solo Apache score which came via a line plunge by Fullback Alan Sherfield on the following play. In all, Boone accounted for 59 Apache yards in the opening game won by the Clovis Cougars by a 12-7 margin. Boone and company face the Ballard Knights in the Apache bowl tonight.

Vs Clovis



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Apaches, Braves Lose; Face Bullard Tonight

An intercepted pass in the end zone late in the fourth quarter proved to be the downfall of the Apaches last Friday as a 12-7 negative decision was the result of a hard-fought defensive tilt won by the Cougars of Clovis.



The upset-minded Apaches just about pulled it off after bouncing back from a 12-0 score, scoring one touchdown and coming within inches of another one. But the end zone interception stopped everything.

Halfback Bob Boone gave evidence that he will be the Apache to watch this season after his Clovis appearance. Gaining a total of 59 yards, including a pass reception on the two-yard line, which set up the lone Sanger tally, Boone was the Apache offensive threat that brought the game's verdict right to the final minute of play.

Fullback Allen Sherfield accounted for the Apache score with a two-yard plunge from scrimmage and the added point came via the extra-point kick of Bruce Barnes.

JV's Lose 19-6

Sanger High's JV squad

opened the 1968 season on a losing note as the Lotspeich led Braves were set back by the Clovis Cubs, 19-6, just prior to the varsity tilt.

The Braves tended to be inconsistent throughout the game. The Braves did have their high points but their bad moments (including those made so by penalties) tended to overshadow their bright spots.

Guy Tinoco, Russell Manfredi, Brent Hopper, and Lupe Velasquez made up the Braves' offensive backfield unit and gave evidence that the Braves could be the team to beat in this year's ESL race.

Manfredi, running from his fullback position, scored the Braves' only touchdown with a sweep around his own right end during the first quarter.

The Apaches and Braves will meet their Bullard counterparts tonight in the Apache bowl. Action begins with the Braves' tilt at 6:00 p. m.





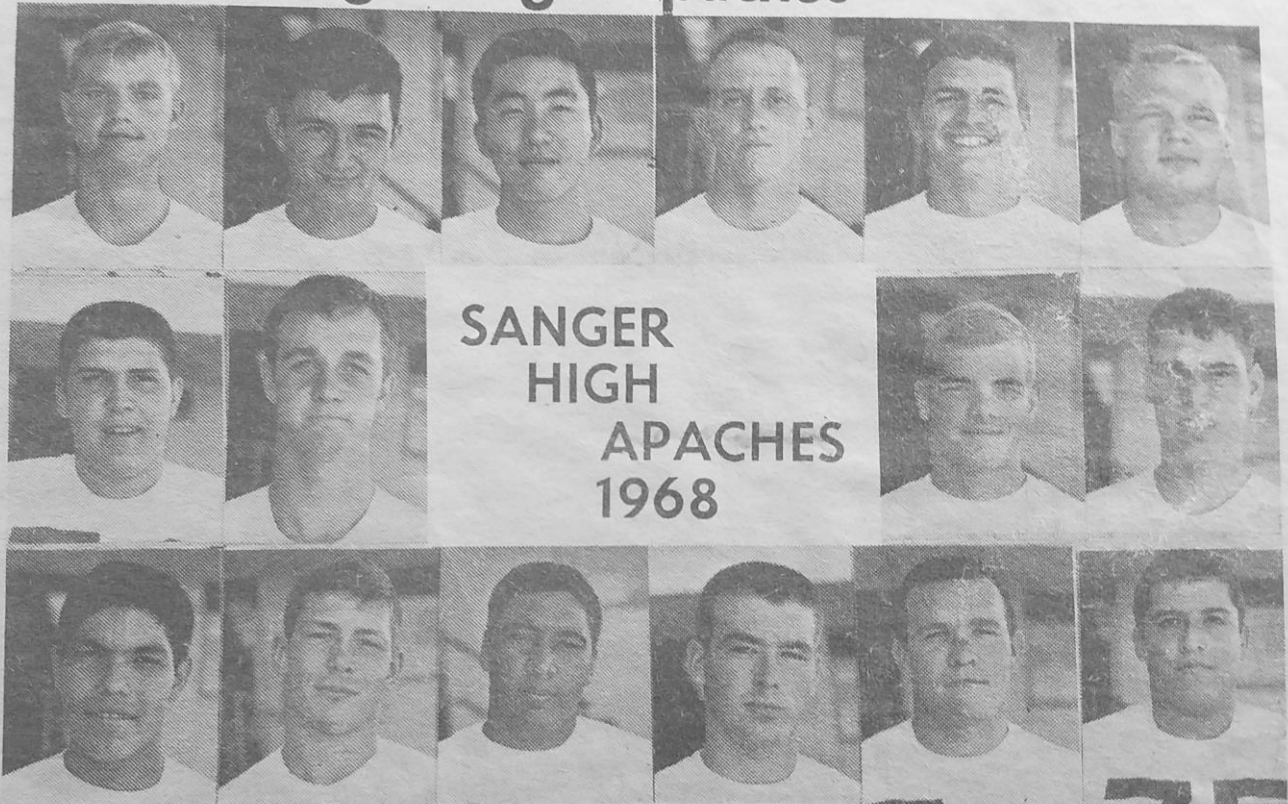
1968 Sanger Apache Football

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The 1968 Sanger High Apaches



Pictured above are the top Apaches who will face the Bullard Knights in tonight's non-conference tilt. From left to right in the top row are QB Craig Sonksen, HB Terry Kanagawa, HB Ron Hiraga, HB Bob Boone, E Ralph Bohannon, and FB Allen Sherfield. In the middle row are T Gene Branch, T Mark Wilson, E Paul Frieberger, and C Jim Merlo. In the bottom row are C John Atondo, G Steve Strobe, G Adolph Medrano, T Craig Leath, T Bruce Barnes, and T Ray Hernandez. Not pictured among the Apache starting units are T Fred Merlo and E Gary Gerner.



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Sanger Ends North Yosemite Drought With 13-6 Win Over Fresno's Bullard

By Carl Merz

Well, the drought is over. After falling prey to North Yosemite League teams for over two years, the Sanger High School Apaches put it all together last Friday night to upend last year's NYL co-champs and this year's ninth ranked Valley team, the Bullard Knights, in a 13-6 stunner before an almost packed house at the Sanger stadium.

The win must have been a most satisfying one for Head Coach John Perkins and his crew as it evened their record at one win and one loss, and helped to atone for last week's galling defeat at Clovis. Bullard, meanwhile, slips to no wins and one loss in their first game following a disappointing showing in the Fresno Carnival.

The Apache heroes were many and varied. Bruce Barnes, voted earlier as the

Valley Player of the Week for his great play, was, needless to say, outstanding both offensively and defensively. But he had help. One of his chief supporters was halfback Bob Boone, another two-way performer, who smells goal line every time he gets the ball. Other offensive stars included fullback Allen Sherfield, who blocked and ran well, center Jim Merlo, whose blocking and linebacking was a major contribution, and flanker Paul Freiburger, another good two-way performer.

Hard-Nose Football

Defensively, the Apaches contained the Knights by playing good, hard-nose football that forced three fumbles, all recovered by the home team. Barnes, Boone, Merlo, John Atondo, Ralph Bohannon and John Branch were all singled out by Perkins as having good games last week.

Sanger started out as if

they were going to run the Knights clean out of the stadium. After John Atondo booted a low, line-drive kickoff out of bounds on the Apaches' 13-yard line, Sanger began to roll. Sherfield picked up 10 yards to the 23-yard line for a first down on the first scrimmage play of the game, then, after a plunge netted two yards, Bob Boone ripped off a beautiful 52-yard run up the middle to Bullard's 23-yard line, but a clip nullified part of the run and the Apaches had to settle for a first down on their own 41-yard line.

Craig Sonksen, Sanger's junior quarterback, then hit Mark Wilson for 12 yards, and Gary Gerner for 10 and a first down on the Knight 29-yard line. Terry Kanagawa then ripped off 21 yards, after a five-yard loss, to the 13-yard line, but that was as far as the Apaches got in the drive as three passes and a plunge lost five yards and Bullard took over on their own 19-yard line.

Hit Paydirt

But the Apaches were not to be denied. A penalty on Bullard took the ball back to the 14-yard line where Bruce Barnes recovered a fumble on the next play and Sanger was knocking on the door once again. This time they cashed it in on the first play. Sonksen rolled right and behind good protection, hit Freiburger for 14 yards and the jackpot. Barnes converted and Sanger led 7-0 with 5:20 left in the first period.

Following the kickoff, Sanger again recovered a Bullard fumble on the first play at the Knight 25-yard line. Two motion penalties hurt the Apaches' chances for another score, however, and Bullard took over as Steve Bisceglia intercepted an errant Sonksen aerial and returned from his own 10-yard line to the Sanger 43 and a big break for Bul-

lard. But the Apache defense stopped them without a first down, and the Knights punted to the nine-yard line as the first period ended.

Sanger couldn't move to open the second quarter and punted with Bullard taking over on the Apache 40. Joe Lamoure, the Knight sophomore quarterback, then went to work.

With Bisceglia, Gordon Webster and Mike Clements doing most of the carrying, the visitors drove to two first downs at the Apache 14. Lamoure then wasted little time in hitting his big end, Cary Dressler on the next play for the score, and with 8:45 left in the half, Bullard had pulled to within one point at 7-6.

Both teams started mild drives but neither could capitalize, and the teams remained one point apart as the half ended.

The third quarter was all Sanger. Following a short Bullard punt to the 39-yard line, the Apaches took over and drove to the 13-yard line but again couldn't capitalize and the Knights took over on downs. After driving to midfield Bullard punted to the Apache 18, and Sanger again started to move. Bob Boone capped the drive by scooting 37 yards with a screen pass but it was nullified by a motion penalty and the drive stalled as Barnes punted to the Knight 13-yard line. But Bullard was detected for roughing the kicker and Sanger had a first down on the 26 as the period ended.

Sonksen opened the final stanza with a strike to Gerner and the Apaches had a first down on Bullard's 12-yard line. Two plays netted only two yards and with third and eight from the 10, Sonksen completely crossed up the Knights with a tackle-eligible strike to Barnes and Sanger now led 13-6. The extra point was no good but the Apaches led with 10:45 to go in the game, and they smelled victory.

Neither team seriously threatened after that, although Jim Merlo did recover a fumble on the Bullard 29-yard line, and as the gun sounded, Sanger had their first win of the year, and their first over an NYL team in quite a while.

COACH'S CORNER: "I should never watch films, I guess, because there are always things that I thought looked good, but on film, they don't," stated Perkins. "Take our pass protection blocking. At the game, I felt they did a good job, but after watching the films, we were pretty bad at times in that respect. . . . Bullard made some tactical errors on defense and it cost them the game. They played an

over-shifted 5-4 defense and were were able to run quite easily. . . .

"Our offensive line did a good job opening holes for our backs. . . . We got entirely too many penalties last week, especially for moving before the ball was snapped."

Sierra comes to town Friday with a perfect 2-0 record after dumping Kerman and Parlier by big scores. Their fullback, a boy by the name of Joe Robinson, is 195 pounds of dynamite, and is one of the best backs in the Valley. It should be another good game, but maybe Sierra will be a little light-headed from last week's win. I'm picking the Apaches by two touchdowns over the Chieftains.

Sanger-Bullard Statistics

	Sanger	Bullard
First Downs	13	7
Yds. Rushing	148	56
Yds. Passing	88	98
Total Yds.	236	154
Punts, Avg.	5-22	5-30
Fumbles Lost	3-1	3-3
Penalties, Yds.	10-60	8-80



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Apaches Dump NYL Knights For First Win

Four thousand seven hundred spectators saw Junior Craig Sonksen complete 16 passes for 208 yards, including two TD tosses, to lead the Apaches to a 13-6 upset victory over the Bullard Knights in the Sanger Bowl on September 27.

The TD tosses were to flanker end Paul Frieberger, who accounted for the second six-pointer with a diving catch in the end zone; and to tackle-turned-end Bruce Barnes, who hauled in the first TD toss on a tackle eligible play.

Throughout the contest Sonksen looked good as he had little trouble hitting his ends, while Bobby Boone, running from his halfback spot, kept the ball moving on the ground. Boone himself just about hit the scoring column as he rambled for 42 yards and a score, only to have it nullified due to a Sanger penalty.

Boone again was the leading Apache ground gainer as he scampered for 124 yards against the tough Bullard eleven.

In the JV contest, the Braves ran up against a good Bullard defense, who limited them to 83 yards rushing, half of which were garnered by Fullback Russell Manfredi.

Assisting Manfredi with the offensive chores for the Braves was Frosh Brent Hopper who chalked up 37 yards from the line of scrimmage. Manfredi was credited with total yardage of 43.

The Knights, in handing the Braves their second loss in two contests, scored on a nine yard end sweep and a 27 yard TD pass play.

The Apaches face the Washington Union Redskins tonight at Washington Union.

Sanger Slips By Bullard 13-6

By Randy McFarland

Fresno Bee prep writer

SANGER — Bad things came in threes for the Bullard High School Knights Friday night.

The North - Fresno eleven watched the Sanger High School Apaches entertain a Sanger Grape Bowl Festival crowd of over 4,700 on the high side of a surprising 13-6 non-league decision.

Three elements worked against the No. 9-rated Knights: fumbles, defense on plays up

Craig Sonksen, threw 27 times but completed only 12 for 90 yards. But he did have two touchdown passes to his credit.

Defensively, Bruce Barnes was the central figure in an impressive Sanger showing which promises to raise all sorts of problems for the offensive squads of all Apache opponents.

Both Sanger touchdowns can be directly traced back to Bullard mistakes.

Midway through the first quarter, Bullard's promising sophomore quarterback Joe Lamoure fumbled at the Knight 14 after the Apaches had just been stopped at the 13.

That Sanger drive featured three consecutive runs through the center of the Bullard defenses, one by Boone going for 45 yards and another by Terry Kanagawa good for 20.

After Barnes recovered the fumble, Sonksen, throwing to the right, hit halfback Paul Frieberger for the first Sanger score.

The winning Sanger score came just moments into the final period. Sonksen fired on a tackle-eligible, slant-in pattern to Barnes for a ten-yard scoring play.

The same pattern, with split-end Gary Gender slanting in front of the defensive halfback on a previous key play, was good for 14 yards.

The drive began at the Apache 27. It appeared the Knights had held at their own 42; but Barnes, attempting to punt, was roughed and Sanger was given the ball at the Bullard 26.

Bullard's touchdown, a sharp 17-yard pass from Lamoure to split end Cary Dressler, came in the second period.

Lamoure completed only six of 19 passes but tossed for 108 yards. In an effort to spur the Bullard offense, Lamoure took to the air in the second half but was not sharp.

Bullard, led by Mike Clements' 41 yards in nine carries, gained only 56 yards on the ground. Steve Bisceglia was held to a net gain of two yards in his five carries. Gordan Webster gained 16 yards in four tries.

Sanger is now 1-1 while the Knights, having competed in the Fresno Carnival last week, are 0-1.

Bullard won the junior varsity game by a 12-0 count. Mark Fields, a halfback, scored the game-winning touchdown on an eight-yard run after a 45-yard pass play from Mark Yordon to Chris Yocum.

Tim Savona intercepted a pass and ran it back 25 yards for the other Bullard touchdown.

Bullard 0 6 0 0-6
Sanger 7 0 0 0-13
Sanger-Frieberger 14 pass from Sonksen (Barnes Kick).
Bull-Dressler 17 pass from Lamoure (kick blocked).
Sanger-Barnes 10 pass from Sonksen (kick blocked).

Statistics

	Bullard	Sanger
First downs	7	12
Yards rushing	77	208
Yards lost	21	28
Net yards rushing	56	180
Passes-Completions	19-4	27-12
Passing yardage	108	90
Total net yards	164	170
Interceptions by	1	1
Fumbles Lost	3-3	2-1
Penalties	8-80	5-75
Punts	5-31.4	5-20.2

the middle and pass defense on short, slant-in patterns late in the game. And they all contributed directly to the Sanger scoring.

But the Apaches also had a large hand in designing their first victory of the season.

Short and speedy halfback Bobby Boone, the latest Apache addition from the traditionally talent-laden J. R. Boone clan, was the offensive standout for Sanger coach John Perkins' squad.

Boone, who measures just 5-foot 8 and weighs 145, used every conceivable move to gain 116 yards in 13 carries to lead the Apache ground-gainers.

Fullback Allen Sherfield, who at 5-foot-9 is no giant, picked up an additional 36 yards in 11 carries as the chief Sanger short-yardage man.

The Apache quarterback,

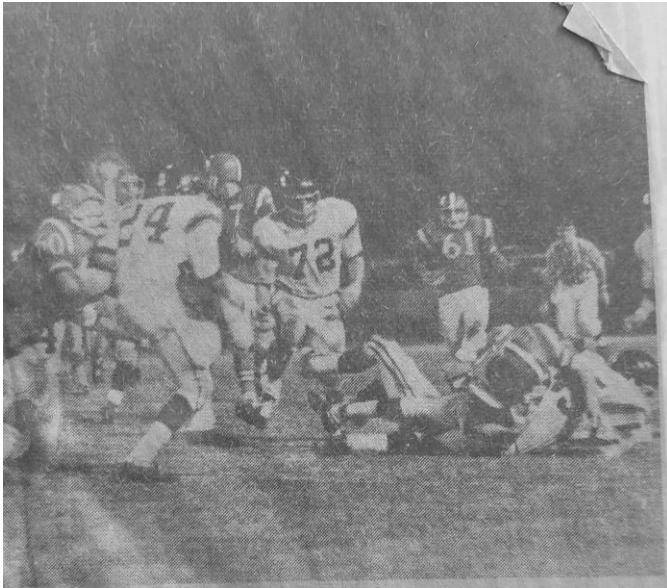


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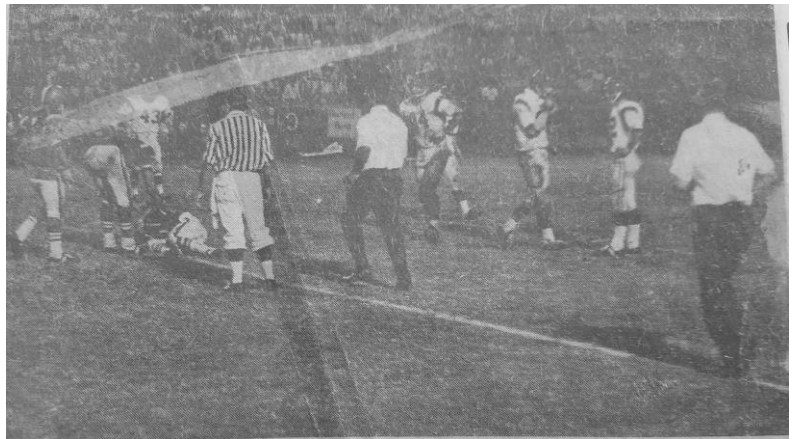
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TERRY KANAGAWA lays on two Bullard tacklers after picking up 21 yards to the Bullard 13 yard line early in the first quarter Friday night before a Grape Bowl Festival crowd estimated at close to 4,700. Blocking for the Apaches in the dark jersey is No. 60, Steve Strobe, and No. 61 is Adolph Medrano. Sanger failed to score on this penetration of Bullard territory but came on later in the period for a 7-0 lead.



ALL APACHE PLAYERS came out of Friday night's winning contest with Bullard in good physical shape but this was a common scene during the hard-fought game. Here halfback Paul Frieberger lies in pain after getting dumped

illegally by a Bullard player. The 15 yard penalty gave Sanger a first down on the Sanger 45 during the second half. Head Coach John Perkins is at right.





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Sanger Surge In Third Period Sinks Sierra

McClatchy Newspapers Service

SANGER—Sanger High School won its second game in three starts by overwhelming Sierra 34-6.

The Apaches' offense could not get going in the first half but they scalped the Chiefs with 20 points in the third period. Sierra has also won two of three starts.

Sanger outgained Sierra 350 yards to 79 and held the Chiefs to minus 19 yards rushing. Only Rick Pamplin's 85-yard kickoff return in the closing minutes prevented a shutout.

Alan Sherfield scored twice for Sanger as did Bob Boone. Ron Hiraga plunged one-yard for the fifth Sanger touchdown.

Sierra's Wayne Robinson, the valley's leading rusher was held to 12 yards in six carries by the stingy Sanger defense.

Sanger also won the JV game 19-0.

Sierra	0	0	0	6-6
Sanger	7	0	20	7-34
San—Boone 5 run (Barnes kick)				
San—Sherfield 8 run (kick wide)				
San—Sherfield 2 run (Barnes kick)				
San—Boone 2 run (Barnes kick)				
San—Hiraga 1 run (Macias kick)				
Sie—Pamplin 85 kickoff return (kick wide)				



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SHS Apaches Post Two Wins; Tonight's Another 'Toss-Up'

Going after three in a row is the task of Coach John Perkins and his SHS Apaches who face the Washington Union Panthers in Easton tonight.

"It will be another Bullard game," commented Coach Perkins when asked about Sanger's chances of winning three in a row. The coach also added that, "It will be a rough game and could go either way."

Last year the Apaches posted a 20-7 win over the Panthers, but last week's Panther 20-7 win over Selma indicated that they have an improved squad and another close game is on tap for the Apache fans.

Apaches Dump Sierra

Coach John Perkins' SHS Apaches made it two in a row last Friday in the Sanger Bowl as a strong second half offensive effort on the part of the Apaches proved to be the downfall of the Sierra Chieftains who were downed by a 34-6 margin.

The first half play featured strong defense on the part of both squads. Apache fullback Allen Sherfield pushed across for the lone first half tally with a 5-yard plunge after the ball was brought into scoring position on a 23-yard Craig Sonksen to Mark Wilson pass play.

After the intermission it was all Sanger. Bobby Boone scored twice, Sherfield added another to his second quarter touchdown, and Ron Hiraga scored his first touchdown of the season.

Bruce Barnes from his tackle spot, Jim and Fred Merlo from their defensive center and tackle positions, and Ralph Bohannon, defensive fullback, were the outstanding Apache defensive players.

The Sanger High School Apaches, coming off two tough games against North Yosemite League opposition, found the North Sequoia League's Sierra Chieftains much easier to handle by powering past their outmanned foes, 34-6, before about 3,000 fans in Sanger Stadium.

The win leaves Coach John Perkins crew with a two win, one loss record in pre-season play with two, tough non-league foes to go, Washington and Tulare, before they start playing them for keeps on October 25 at Corcoran.

Again, it was the same cast of characters that spearheaded the Apaches to their latest win. Halfback Bob Boone intercepted two passes, scored twice, and generally played a fine, all around game. Quarterback Craig Sonksen, fullback Allen Sherfield, (who also scored twice,) halfback Ron Hiraga, and ends Gary Gerner and Mark Wilson also turned in strong performances as Sanger dominated play from start to finish.

Defense Improving

The Apache defense also are in for their share of accolades as they completely shut off Sierra's offense for the entire game. Tackles Fred Merlo and Steve Strope, and linebackers

John Atondo and Jim Merlo spearheaded the "Angry Apaches" to their latest success. They seem to be improving with each outing.

Generally, the first half was a listless affair that found both teams very flat. The Apaches received a big break immediately after the opening kickoff as Boone intercepted a Gil Davis pass on Sierra's third play from scrimmage and returned it to the visitors 16 yard line. But Sanger couldn't capitalize as a fourth down pass to Mark Wilson was short of a first down and the Chieftains took over on their own 10 yard line.

After punching out one first down, the Apaches held and a Wayne Robinson punt was returned to the Sanger 30 yard line by Paul Freiberger. This time Sanger began to roll. Sherfield, running hard, picked up eight yards and 20 yards in two successive carries to give the Apaches a first down on Sierra's 42 yard line. Boone then hit for four yards, took Sonksen's screen pass to a first down on the 31 yard line and Sanger was touchdown bound.

Boone Scores

A penalty ate up five yards to the 27, from where Sonksen hit Wilson with a strike for 19 yards and a first and goal at Sierra's



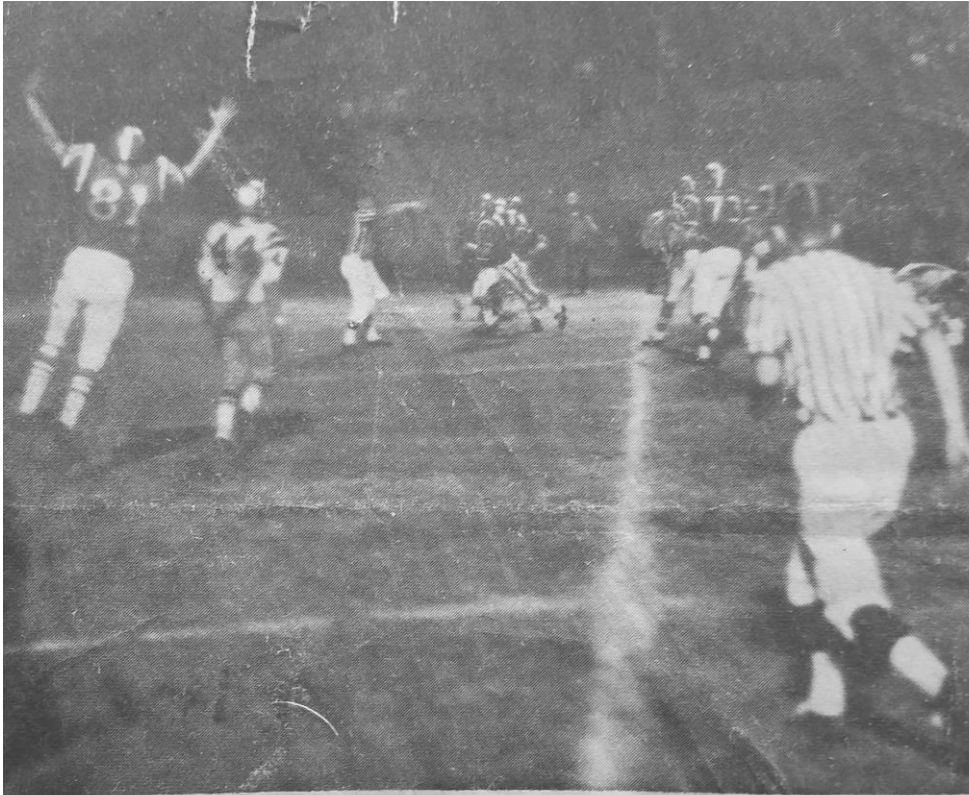


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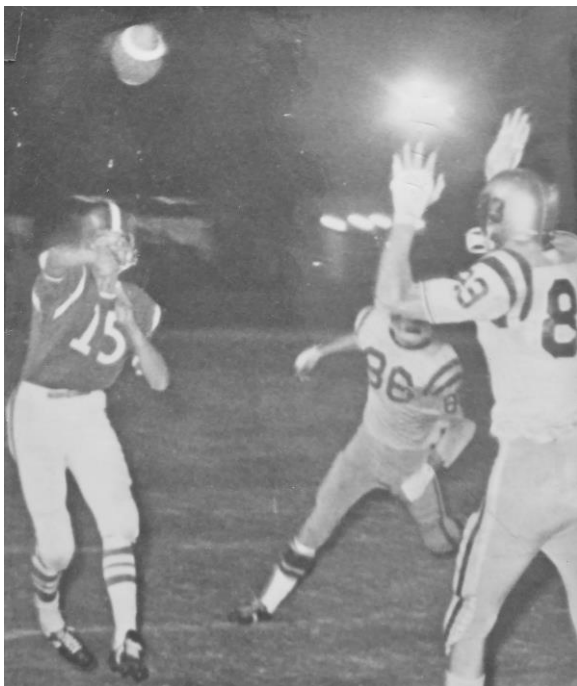
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SANGER'S ALLEN SHERFIELD breaks the Sierra line from the two to score his second touchdown and give the Apaches a commanding 20-0 lead late in the third period. The jubilant number 81 is Gary

Gerner. Sherfield and Bob Boone were the leading ground gainers in the Sanger rushing attack that gained 248 yards to a minus 19 for Sierra.



Vs Sierra



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Vs Sierra



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QUARTERBACK CRAIG SONKSEN seconds before he tossed a 25 yard pass to halfback Bobby Boone who was stopped on the five yard line. Sonksen has been

outstanding for Coach Perkins in leading the Apaches to their 3 win, 1 loss record in four contests.

10th Ranked Apaches Down Washington 27-6; Tulare Next

The Sanger High School Apaches, 10th ranked and looking better each week, made it three straight wins and second in a row over North Sequoia League opposition by defeating Washington Union 27-6, in a bruising football contest before 2,500 fans at Easton. The win solidifies the Apaches' hold on their Valley poll ranking and it could move them up a notch this week.

Sanger's win last week was a little different from their previous two as, for the second time this season, they found themselves behind early in the ball game. The Apaches received the opening kickoff, couldn't move and were forced to punt from their own 25 yard line. Bruce Barnes' punt rolled dead on Washington's 44 and the Panthers had the ball for the first time.

The Panthers couldn't move either on this series but the second time they got the ball the Panthers went all the way in two plays as a short pass gained five yards, and an inside reverse to speedster Larry Battle completely fooled the Apache defense as he raced 47 yards untouched for Washington's only score of the night. The extra point was no good and with 6:28 left in the first period, Washington led 6-0.

Finding themselves behind, the Apaches still couldn't get untracked as Sonksen fumbled on the second play following the kickoff, and the Panthers recovered on Sanger's 26. But turnabout is fair play as Ralph Bohannan recovered Claude Westmoreland's bobble on the 20 yard line, and

Sanger got their first break of the night.

Break Comes

After being embedded deep in their own territory for most of the first quarter, one play got Sanger out of their own territory and into Washington Union's lair for the first time. It was a big play and might have been the turning point in the ball game. After punching out a first down to their 34 yard line, Sonksen lobbed a screen pass to Bob Boone, who raced, behind good blocking, all the way to Washington's 42 yard line. That one play completely turned the tables around and for the first time, the Apaches were driving and Washington Union was in a hole.

On first down from the 42, Sonksen's pass was intercepted by Battle and the Panthers took over on their own 19 yard line, momentarily stalling the Apaches goal line march. From the 19, Washington went straight back as Sanger's defense led by Steve Strophe, Jim Merlo, Ralph Bohannan, and Fred Merlo forced them to punt from their own 12.

Paul Freiberger returned the punt 11 yards from mid-field to the Panther 39 yard line but a personal foul on Washington Union gave Sanger a big scoring opportunity as they had a first down on the 24. Another personal foul penalty on the Panthers moved the ball to the 12, from where Allen Sherfield picked up 11 yards and a first down at the one yard line. With time running out in the first period, Boone smashed over and following Barnes' conversion, Sanger led 7-6 with only 41 seconds left in the quarter.

Washington Union returned the kickoff to their own 45 yard line and moved to a first down on the Apache 44 as the quarter ended. Jim Merlo ended that threat with a pass interception and returned to the Panther 41

APACHE NOTES: The Washington Union-Sanger game was the roughest, toughest 27-6 game I've ever seen. Those Easton-based Panthers hit very hard . . . If Washington Union could straighten out their personnel problems and their offense, they could give Lemoore fits tomorrow night . . . Can't say enough for the way the Apache defense came through last Friday. Jim Merlo and Mark Wilson were really outstanding . . . Only Craig Weber remains on the doubtful list for tomorrow night's game. Bob Boone is O.K. after spending last Friday night in the Sanger Hospital for observation . . . The Sanger Braves continued their winning ways with a 13-7 win over Washington Union, and are now 2-2 on the season.

How The Top Ten Fared

The Fresno Bee's top ten high school football teams did not fare well last night. This is how it went:

1. Bakersfield beat Porterville, 41-19.
2. Lemoore beat Coalinga, 23-10.
3. Fresno beat McLane, 20-7.
4. Coalinga lost to Lemoore, 23-19.
5. Tulare lost to East, 35-14.
6. Dos Palos lost to Roosevelt, 20-14.
7. South beat Delano, 28-0.
8. Foothill lost to Arvin, 21-13.
9. McLane lost to Fresno, 20-7.
10. Sanger beat Washington, 27-6.



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plays gained 2 yards to the 26, from where Battle raced 74 yards for a score that was nullified by a personal foul, and the Panthers wound up with a first down on Sanger's 36 yard line.

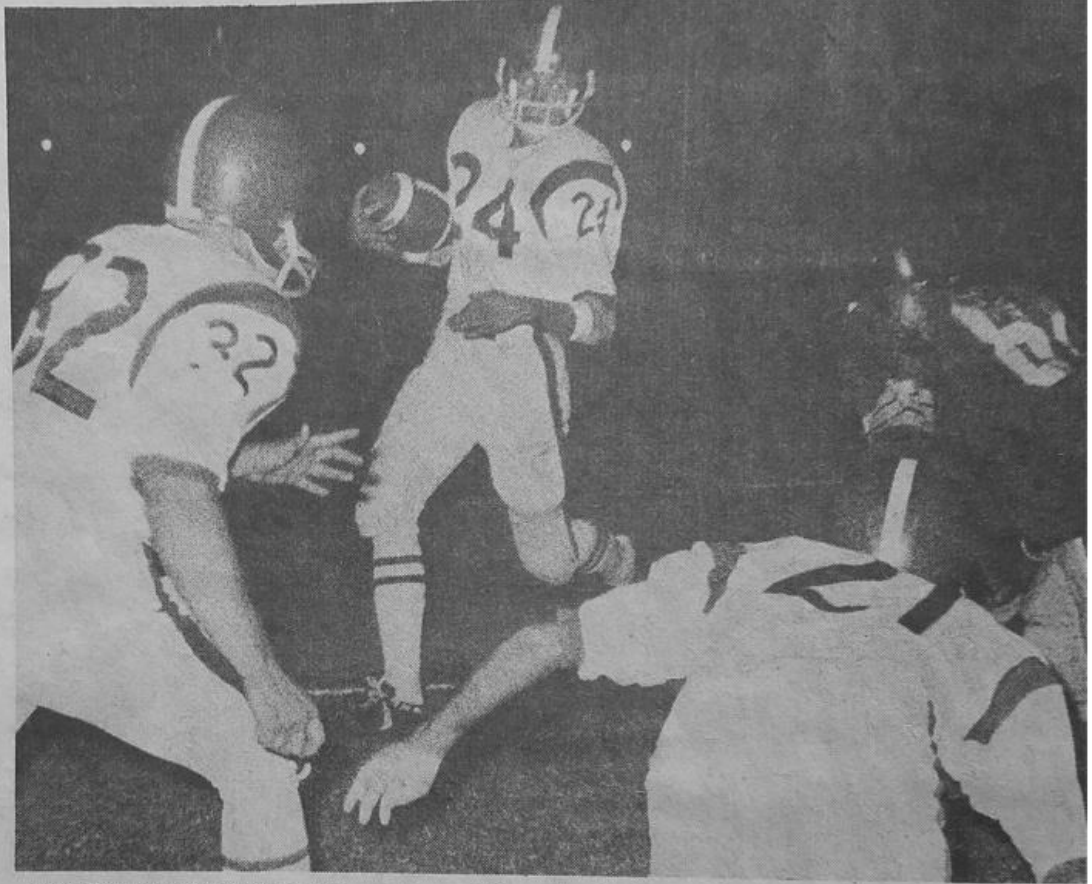
With Battle and Bill Prater running hard, Washington punched out a first and goal at the Apache 7 yard line, but that was as far as they got as Ralph Bohannon picked off a fumble in the air and returned it to the 25 yard line. It ended the last threat of the half, and Sanger kept their 14-6 lead at the intermission.

The first half was costly to both teams. Bob Boone was knocked cold on the last play of the half and did not return, while Bruce Barnes, suffering from hyperventilation, played only sparingly in the second half. For Washington Union, two first stringers, Claude Westmoreland and Robin Golden, were both bounced from the game for personal fouls and did not play the rest of the night.

Apaches Dominate

The second half was all Sanger as the Apache defense led by Jim Merlo, Fred Merlo, Bohannon, Ray Hernandez, and Mark Wilson completely bottled up the sputtering Panther attack. There was no scoring in the third quarter, but just as the period ended, Wilson blocked a punt and Sanger had a first down on Washington's 20.

Bruce Barnes returned long enough to take an 18 yard tackle eligible pass



BOBBY BOONE (24) on his way to a TD against the Washington Union Panthers. Here Boone is pictured on a five yard scoring play. On the previous play he hauled in a 25 yard pass from Quarter-

back Craig Sonksen to set up this scoring play. Currently Boone is the leading ground gainer for Coach John Perkins' Apaches.

from Sonksen for the Apaches third score and Sanger led 20-6 with 11:16 left in the game.

Washington Union couldn't move following the ensuing kickoff and after an unsuccessful fake punt try, the Apaches took over on the Panther 39 yard line. With Terry Kanagawa and Ralph Bohannon carrying for good gains, Sanger drove to a first down on the six Kanagawa drove to the two, fumbled, and Freiburger recovered in the end zone for

the score to make the final score Apaches 27, Washington Union 6.

Tulare comes to Sanger for the Apaches final pre-season encounter tomorrow night at 8:00 p. m. The Redskins have a 3-1 record, but are coming off a disappointing 31-14 loss to East Bakersfield. The game should be the best of the season so far, as both teams will be looking for a victory to go into their league season on a winning note. The encounter is rated dead even and it should be a good one.



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Sanger Socks Washington

By Daryl Kelley
Fresno Bee prep writer

EASTON — The Sanger High School Apaches won their third straight game last night by a score of 27-6 over a determined Washington High team that put up quite a "Battle."

The battle came in the form of 155-pound speedster Larry Battle who does just about everything for the Easton-based Panthers. Battle is a tough competitor who runs, passes, punts and plays a very hard-nosed brand of football.

Battle turned in a great one-man performance for the Panthers, but it in no way came close to matching the overall strength of the powerful Apaches.

Sanger relied mostly on stand-outs Craig Sonksen and Bob Boone for their offensive spark, while the defense was headed by Jim Merlo and Fred Merlo, a pair of 180-pound tigers. This pair, along with 230-pound

Jim Merlo made a leaping interception to turn the ball over to the Apaches. Two Sonksen-to-Boone passes followed, including a 19-yarder for a touchdown. Barnes added one of his three extra points and the Apaches had a 14-6 lead at half-time.

A blocked punt by Wilson early in the fourth quarter set up Sanger's next touchdown, which came on a beautifully executed tackle eligible play with Sonksen hitting Barnes for the touchdown from 18 yards out.

Sanger scored again with 6:56 left in the game when Paul Frieberger recovered a fumble in the Panther end zone.

Washington had several scoring opportunities, but costly fumbles, interceptions and penalties ruined each.

The win improved the Apaches' record to 3-1 while the loss evens the Panthers' record at 1-1-1.

The Sanger frosh-soph won 13-7.

Statistics

	Sanger	Washington
First downs	8	4
Yards rushing	93	181
Yards lost	33	47
Net yards rushing ..	60	134
Passes-completions .	8-15	4-12
Passing yardage ...	114	1
Total net yards	174	135
Interceptions by ...	2	1
Fumbles - lost	3-2	3-3
Penalties	7-95	8-80
Punts	5-151	3-100

bruiser Ray Hernandez, tough defensive end Mark Wilson and multi-talent Bruce Barnes make up the nucleus of what is one of the top defensive units in the

Apaches Get Third Victory

The Washington Union Panthers were scalped by the Apaches in Easton on October 11 by a 27-6 margin. This made it three in a row for Coach Perkins and his Apaches.

It was a total team effort that gave the Apaches the win

with the usual team leaders, Bobby Boone, Craig Sonksen, Jim and Fred Merlo, Bruce Barnes, Allen Sherfield, and Mark Wilson doing yoeman work.

Not-so-ordinary plays proved the difference: Bruce Barnes' tackle-eligible TD play, Wilson's block of a Washington punt to set up a Sanger score, and Paul Frieberger's recovery of a fumble (Sanger) in the end zone for a TD all led to Sanger's impressive victory.

Replacing Fullback Allen Sherfield in the second half, Ralph Bohannon turned in an outstanding performance for Coach Perkins, as did Terry Kanagawa running from his halfback position.

Scoring for the Apaches against the Panthers were Halfback Boone on two TD running plays, Barnes on his tackle-eligible play; and Frieberger's fumble recovery TD play. Barnes accounted for two of the Apache extra points and Carlos Macias garnered the third PAT.



Vs Washington Union



1968 Sanger Apache Football

Sequoia Division Valley Champions

#2 VALLEY RANK by Fresno Bee

East Sequoia Champions

Apaches Open League Play Friday After Winning Thriller

The Sanger High School Apaches, sixth rated team in the valley and looking better each week, completed a most successful non-league schedule last Friday night by defeating the Tulare Redskins, 7-0, in a rugged defensive battle before a near capacity crowd of over 4,000 at Sanger stadium.

The win leaves the Apaches with a final pre-season mark of four wins and only one loss, but more important, they are currently riding the crest of a four-game winning streak that should give them plenty of momentum as they open the 1968 East Sequoia League campaign in Corcoran tomorrow night.

Sanger's latest conquest was achieved on the strength of their rugged defensive unit. Standout performances by linemen Bruce Barnes, Steve Strobe, Ray Hernandez and Fred Merlo, linebackers Jim Merlo, John Atondo and Ralph Bohannan, and halfbacks Sam Champion, Paul Freiberger and Bob Boone held the powerful Redskins to a mere 48 yards net on the ground. Tulare's air game worked a little better, but interceptions by Ralph Bohannan and Paul Freiberger (2) helped to keep the visitors in check throughout most of the hard fought game.

Offensively, the Apaches were led by substitute fullback Ralph Bohannan, who picked up 50 yards in 16 carries for the absent Allen Sheffield. Craig Sonksen didn't have his greatest night of the year, yet managed to complete five of 11 passes for a net 43 yards. But as has been the story in previous Apache games this year, the offense again missed chances to score given them by the defense, and this could be costly in future league games.

The first half was a rugged scoreless defensive battle, with each team missing scoring opportunities in the first 24 minutes. Tulare was the first one to get a break and it happened in the first quarter. After an exchange of punts to open the game, the Redskins found themselves with a fourth and four situation on Sanger's 48 yard line. With quarterback Dave Picanso back to punt, a high pass from center forced him to run and it couldn't have worked better as he ran for 19 yards and a first down on the Apache 29 yard line.

Faced with their first test of the night, Sanger's defense went to work. With Strobe, Atondo and Bohannan making key tackles, Tulare wound up with a fourth down on the Apaches' 31 yard line and Picanso punted into the end zone to end the threat.

The second break was Sanger's. With one minute left in the first quarter, Picanso threw into a crowd on his own 34 and Bohannan made the interception that gave the Apaches a first down at that point.

But two runs and an incomplete pass netted but one yard, and the first Sanger threat was turned away as Barnes' punt just barely missed going out on the 'Skins' one yard line. Tulare took over on their own 20 yard line.

The second half saw Sanger score the first time they got their hands on the ball. Barnes kicked off for the Apaches, but Tulare couldn't move and Picanso punted from his own 45. Paul Freiberger took the punt on his own 32 and, behind beautiful blocking, returned it 34 yards all the way to Tulare's 34.

This time the Apaches went to work. Boone picked up nine yards, and Bohannan made six more and a first down on the visitors' 21 yard line. Ron Hiraga moved the ball seven yards to the 14 and Bohannan picked up three more to fall short of the first down. But Sonksen took care of that on a quarterback sneak good for five yards which made it first and goal on Tulare's six. Three plays later Sanger had their only score of the game with Bob Boone carrying the final yard for the touchdown. Carlos Macias' point try was good and with 5:11 left in the third period, the Apaches had a 7-0 lead.

Sanger again received good field position as the 'Skins couldn't move and were forced to punt from their own 45 yard line. Boone went 20 yards on a second down reverse and the Apaches had a first down on Tulare's 35. Bohannan picked up 11 yards on two carries and Sanger had another first on the 24 yard line. Sonksen kept the drive going by scrambling 14 yards on a third and eight situation all the way to a first and goal at the eight yard line on the first play of the fourth quarter.

But the drive ended as Barnes' attempted field goal from the 17 was wide to the left and Tulare took over on their own 20 yard line.

With time running out late in the game, the Redskins and Picanso went to the desperation pass and it almost worked. But the final gun sounded as Picanso could find no one open on a pass try and was dropped trying to run by Atondo and that was the ball game as Sanger won 7-0 in a game that left everyone in the stadium limp from excitement.

The Apaches travel to Corcoran tomorrow night for their first ESL game of the season, and from now on they all count. Corcoran comes into the game with a 3-2 mark so far, but it was achieved against much weaker opposition than the Apaches have faced. The Panthers come off a disappointing 20-14 loss to little McFarland, and on paper appear to be no match for the bigger Apaches. Although anything can happen, especially in high school football, Sanger looks like a solid two touchdown choice to nail down their fifth straight and first league win.

	Sanger	Tulare
First Downs	8	10
Net Yds. Rushing	112	49
Passes-Comp.	11-5	30-11
Yds. Passing	160	242
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	2-1
Punts	7-32.5	5-33
Penalties-Yds.	4-40	5-59



1968 Sanger Apache Football

Sequoia Division Valley Champions

#2 VALLEY RANK by Fresno Bee

East Sequoia Champions

Apaches Make It Four In A Row

Boone, Merlo, Barnes Lead Way SHS Apaches Topple Redskins; Valley Ranked SHS Squad In Quest Of Fifth Straight

Coach John Perkins and his SHS Apaches received a scare last Friday evening in the Apache Bowl, but went on to make it number four in a row as they out-fought a tough tribe of Indians from Tulare for a 7-0 victory.

ESL play begins tonight for the Apaches, who have posted a 4-1 record in non-league play. On the basis of their wins over Bullard, Sierra, Washington Union, and Tulare, the Apaches are ranked sixth in the Valley by the Fresno Bee.

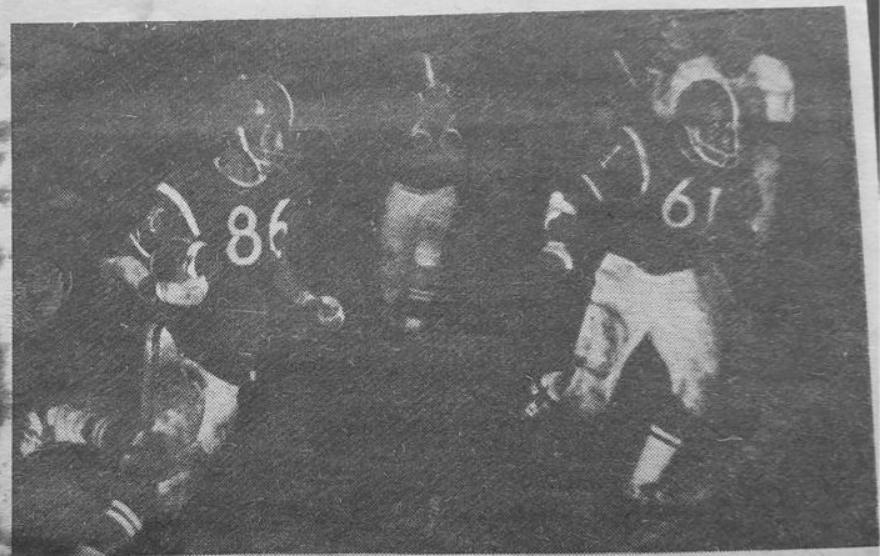
It was a defensive battle all the way last Friday evening as the Apaches were held to one lone tally and an extra point, and the Redskins from Tulare could not muster a score and were held to 49 yards rushing from the line of scrimmage.

A third quarter 35-yard punt return was the turning point of the game, as from that point the Apaches moved the ball into scoring position where Bob Boone punched it over for the only score of the contest.

The Apaches were apparently not hurt by the absence of starting fullback Allen Sherfield. Substitute fullback David Bohannon was the leading ground gainer for Coach Perkins and was a defensive stand-out as well.

APACHE *we're number*
SPORTS 6
Oct. 25th

Apache Action



Apache Mark Wilson is pictured above after catching a Sonksen pass to help the Apaches garner a 7-0 win against the Tulare Redskins.



1968 Sanger Apache Football

Sequoia Division Valley Champions

#2 VALLEY RANK by Fresno Bee

East Sequoia Champions

Freiberger Fires Apaches Past Tough Tulare 7-0

By Bob McCarthy
Fresno Bee sports writer

SANGER — Unheralded Paul Freiberger is the toast of Sanger High School football fans today.

Freiberger was only one of many Sanger stars last night but the slick 155-pounder came up with the play that turned the tide against tough Tulare High School.

Freiberger dazzled the visitors with a 34-yard punt return deep into Tulare territory and Sanger went in for the score

Statistics

	Tulare	Sanger
First downs	10	8
Yards rushing	66	144
Yards lost	17	32
Net yards rushing ...	49	112
Passes-completions ..	30-11	11-5
Passing yardage	193	48
Total net yards	242	160
Interceptions by	1	3
Fumbles-lost	3-1	1-0
Penalties	5-59	4-40
Punts	5-35.8	7-32.5

that beat the Redskins 7-0 before more than 4,000 emotionally-drained fans.

Before Freiberger's third-period sprint turned things around for Sanger, it appeared the game would end in a scoreless deadlock. The reason was some of the finest defensive play anyone could expect from prep footballers.

Sanger's magnificent defens-

ive unit smothered two deep Tulare drives late in the game when the issue was still in doubt. And Tulare stopped Sanger five yards from the touchdown that would have put matters out of the Redskins' reach.

But once Freiberger got the Apaches rolling there was no stopping sixth-ranked Sanger from posting its fourth straight win.

Freiberger took Dave Picanso's punt on his own 32, sidestepped a Tulare defender and cut to the left sidelines, picking up several key blocks. He was finally overhauled at the Tulare 34 and Sanger went to work.

Quarterback Craig Sonksen kept the Apaches on the ground, alternating carries to standout halfback Bob Boone and Dave Bohannon. Sanger surged to the Tulare one in seven plays and Boone dove in for the winning margin. Carlos Macias' conversion made it 7-0.

Not only did Freiberger light the fuse, he was highly instrumental in blunting Tulare threats. The 5-foot-8 safety intercepted two passes and made numerous key tackles for a fine over-all performance.

There were others. Bohannon, who earned the starting fullback nod when regular Allen Sher-

field was lost to an FFA convention in Kansas, was Sanger's top ball carrier with 50 yards in 16 cracks and picked off a Tulare aerial while playing superbly on defense.

Sanger had plenty of heroes in the trenches. Tackle Bruce Barnes was his usual devastating self but the biggest terror for Tulare was Fred Merlo, a crunching 180-pound tackle who harassed quarterback Picanso all night.

Sanger's front-liners Barnes, Fred and Jim Merlo, Steve Stroupe, John Atondo, Ray Hernandez and Mark Wilson all had a hand in limiting Tulare to only 49 yards on the ground.

With the overland trail blocked, Picanso took Tulare to the air in spectacular style. The talented senior completed 11 of 29 aerials for 193 yards to keep the Sanger secondary busy. But as sharp as he was last night, Picanso could not deliver a touchdown.

Tulare's deepest penetration was to the Apache nine with just seconds left in the first half. But a field goal attempt went awry at the gun and Sanger twice stopped Tulare inside the Apache 20 in the final period.

After Sanger took the 7-0 lead, the Apaches began another drive for what appeared a certain score. Sanger moved 53 yards to the Tulare three early in the final period fore the 'Skins stiffened and Barnes' 27-yard field goal attempt sailed wide to the left.

Tulare won the junior varsity game, 14-9.

Tulare	0	0	0	0-0
Sanger	0	0	7	0-7
San—Boone 1 run (Macias kick)				

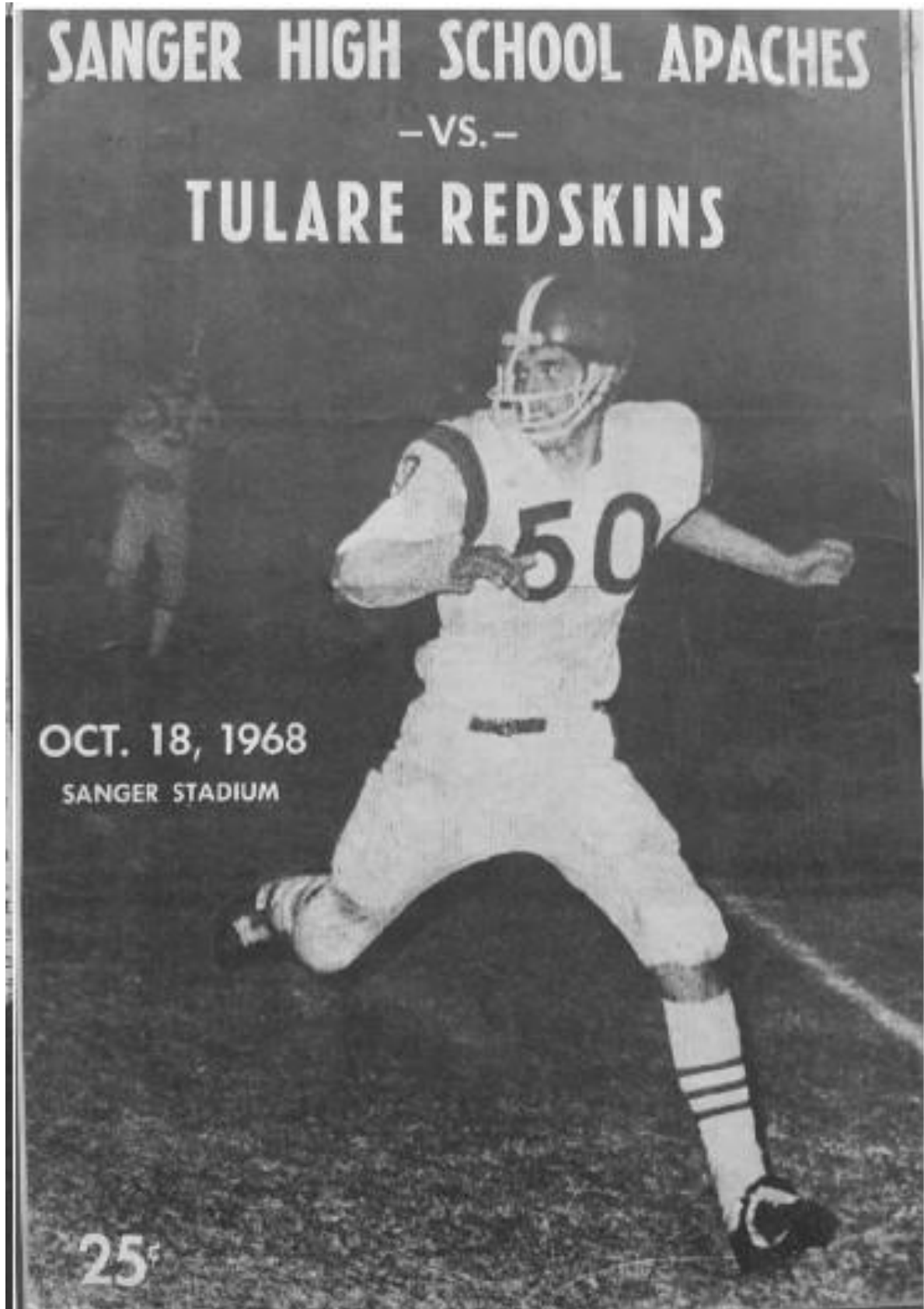


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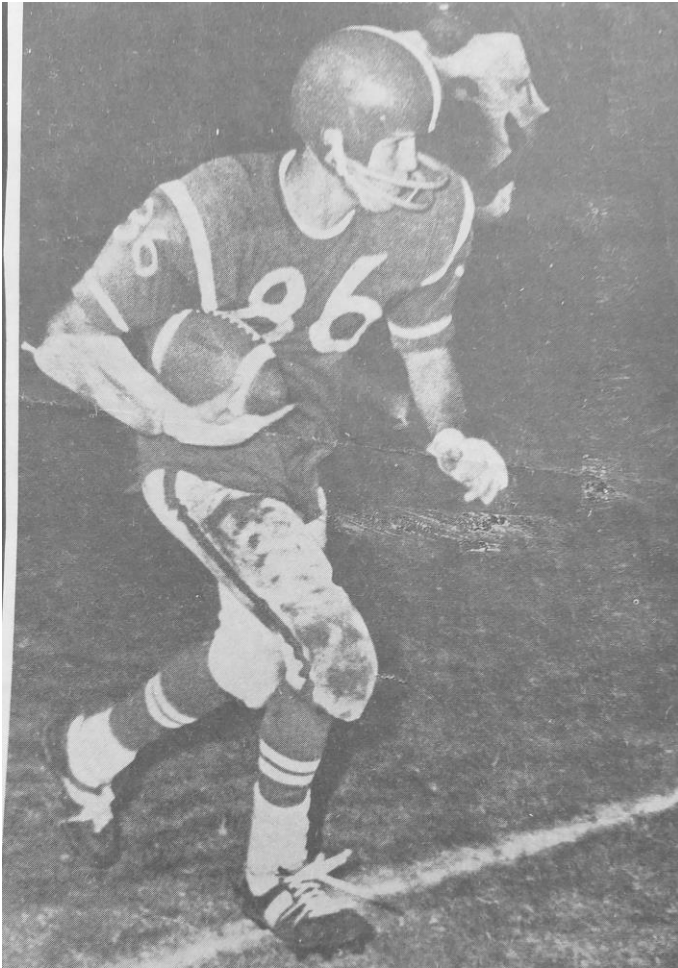


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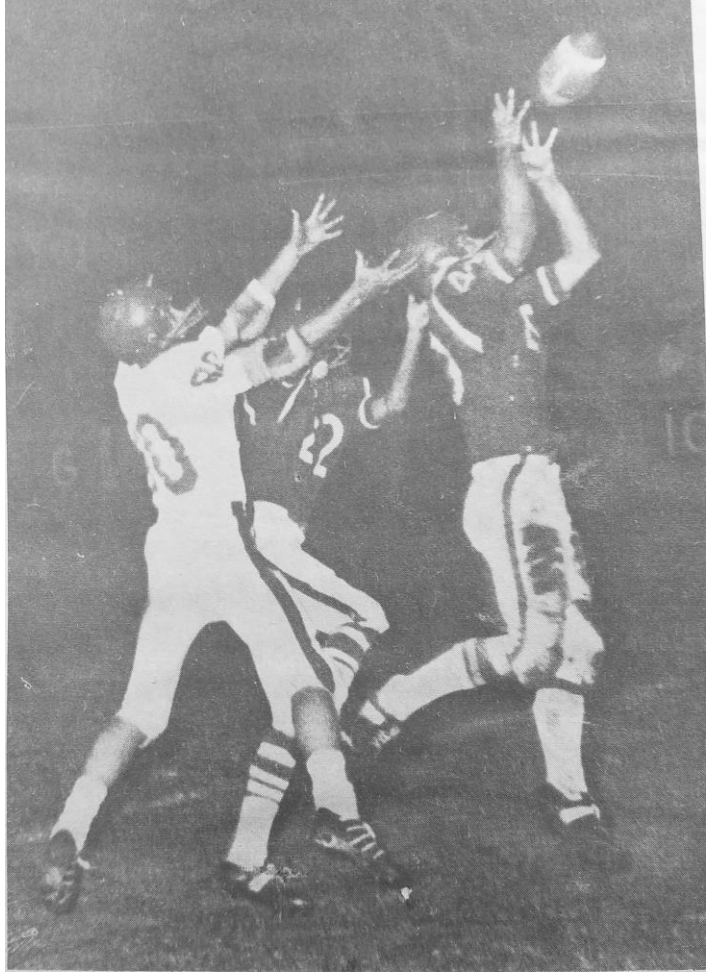
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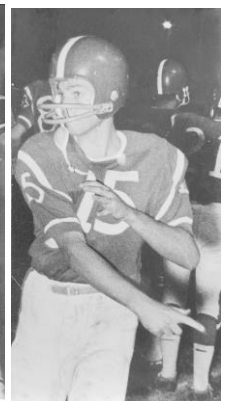
END MARK WILSON turned in his best game of the season and helped the Apache offensive unit get the ball into scoring position to defeat the Tulare

Redskins 7-0 last Friday evening in the Sanger Bowl. This was win number four for the Apaches, who open league play tomorrow night in Corcoran.



PAUL FRIEBERGER intercepts a Tulare pass to stop a Redskin threat in last Friday's non-league tilt. Frieberger was the outstanding Apache of the

week as his 35 yard punt return set up the lone Apache tally of the game, which was all that was needed to make it four straight for the Apaches.



Vs Tulare Union



1968 Sanger Apache Football

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Apaches Meet Reedley Friday After Winning League Opener

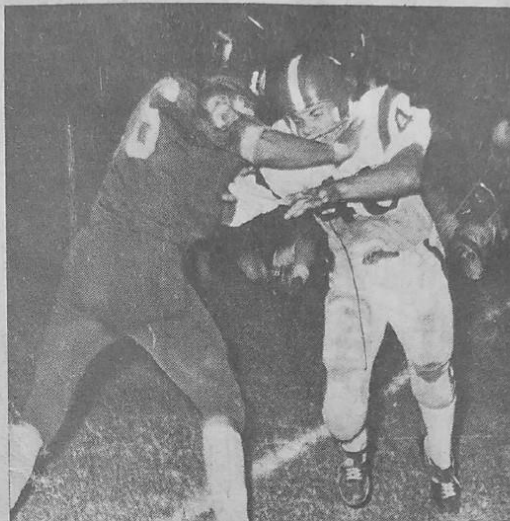
It wasn't exactly what you would call an artistic success, but thanks to some heroics by quarterback Craig Sonksen, halfback Bob Boone, and an alert defense led by Bruce Barnes, the Sanger High School Apaches eased past Corcoran last Friday night, 21-6, for their first East Sequoia League win and fifth straight after an opening 12-7 loss to Clovis.

Looking rather flat and somewhat weary after a stiff non-league schedule that included toughies Bullard and Tulare, the sixth-ranked Apaches still were sharp enough to get the job done against the out-manned Panthers.

Boone, enjoying one of his best nights of the season, ran through the out-manned Panthers for a net 128 yards, including touchdown runs of 20 and five yards. Sonksen also enjoyed one of his better nights by completing seven of 12 passes for 129 yards and a 49-yard scoring strike to flanker Paul Friberger for the Apaches' first score of the night.

On the other side of the ledger, the Sanger defense continued their mastery of the opposition by holding Corcoran to a mere 69 yards on the ground and 24 yards in the air for another fine night's work. Barnes was the workhorse in this department as he was in on many tackles and brought down the huge 231-pound Panther fullback, Larry Syra, a number of times with unassisted stops.

As has not been the case this year for the Apaches, they scored the first time they got their hands on the ball last week. Mark Wilson took a short Corcoran kickoff and returned it 15 yards to Sanger's 43-yard line. Aided by a five-yard



PAUL FRIEBERGER (40) caught by the Apache camera in last Friday's tilt in Corcoran. The Apaches made it five wins in a row last Friday and are currently rated sixth in the Valley in the prep rankings.

penalty, the Apaches moved to the Panther 49-yard stripe from where Sonksen hit Friberger with his scoring strike and, after Barnes converted, Sanger had a 7-0 lead early in the first quarter.

Following the kickoff, Corcoran was unable to move and was forced to punt. Randy Malanax got off a beautiful 40-yard boot that Friberger bobbled with the Panthers recovering on Sanger's 23-yard line. The hometown Panthers took advantage of the break by driving in to score with James LeMay going the final five yards for the TD. The extra point was no good, but the Apaches led by only one point and knew they were in for a tough night's work.

There was no further scoring until late in the second stanza when Boone, running beautifully all evening, capped off a short drive by sprinting 20 yards. Carlos Macias added the extra point and the Apaches led 14-6 at the intermission.

With Barnes, Jim Merlo, Fred Merlo and Steve Strobe doing what comes

naturally (or so it seems), stopping opponents without much yardage, Corcoran managed to gain but 34 yards during the entire second half and never did get close to threatening Sanger's goal line.

The Apaches, meanwhile, were moving the ball well at times, but only put the ball in the end zone once more as Boone again put the finishing touches on a drive. On the first play of the fourth quarter, he slanted five yards for his second touchdown of the night and a 20-6 Sanger lead. Macias again split the uprights to make the score 21-6.

One of Sanger's main ESL rivals, Reedley, comes to town tomorrow evening for an 8:00 p.m. game in Sanger stadium. They are coming off a heart-breaking 7-6 loss to Tulare Western last week, when the Westerners scored in the final 20 seconds to snatch the win.

No. 6 Sanger Booms Past Corcoran 21-6

McClatchy Newspapers Service

CORCORAN — The Sanger High School Apaches opened their East Sequoia League season last night with a 21-6 win over the Corcoran High Panthers.

The Apaches rode to victory on the passing of Craig Sonksen and the running of Bob Boone. Sonksen, a talented passer and signal caller completed seven of 12 passes for 126 yards and one touchdown. Boone ran for the other two Apache scores, as he piled up 119 yards in 13 carries.

The Apaches jumped to an early first quarter lead as Sonksen combined with Paul Friberger for a 49-yard touchdown pass.

Corcoran fought back and scored its only TD late in the initial period when Dick LeMay rambled over from the five-yard line.

Sanger took the lead in the second stanza when Boone broke loose on a 20-yard scoring run and never relinquished it as the defense, headed by Bruce Barnes, Jim Merlo and Fred Merlo, held Corcoran in check.

The win brings the sixth-ranked Apaches record to 5-1, while the loss moves the Panthers' record to 2-4.

The Sanger frosh-soph team won 39-19.

Sanger	7	7	0	7-21
Corcoran	6	0	0	0-6
San — Friberger	49 pass from Sonksen (Barnes kick).			
Cor — LeMay	5 run (kick failed).			
San — Boone	20 run (Macias kick).			
San — Boone	5 run (Macias kick).			



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Lose Early Lead

Corcoran Loses To Sanger, 21-6

CORCORAN — Corcoran made a contest of it for one quarter but faded in the drive to lose an East Sequoia League contest to a strong Sanger eleven, 21-6 before a disappointed home audience Friday night.

The win was Sanger's fifth against a lone loss while Corcoran was going under for the fourth time in six outings. Next week, the Panthers take on Selma, a loser Friday night to Lemoore.

A Craig Sonkin to Bruce Barnes aerial covered 49 yards for the first score which came with just 31 seconds played in the game. Barnes also got the extra point.

Corcoran came right back however, on James Lemay's five yard run after a fumble recovery on the Sanger 14 yard line.

Halfback Bob Boone, the workhorse of the winners, set up the decisive score with a 20 yard thrust that preceded a Sonkin to Paul Froeberger pass of 25 yards for the marker. Carlos Marcias booted the extra point for a 14-6 halftime lead.

Boone got the final six points in the last quarter of action on a five yard scamper. Sanger re-

covered a Panthers bobble on the 26 to set up the play.

Coach Ed Stevens of Corcoran counted numerous injuries after the game.

"Looks like Joe Ashford is out for the season," Stevens said. Ashford, a 232 pound tackle, reinjured his knee. Also on the doubtful list for next week are end Ed Stewart, defensive halfback-utility man Randy Mulanax and fullback Larry Syra.

Boone topped all ground gainers with 121 yards on 13 carries with Syra, bad knee and all, logging for 45 yards on 15 attempts. Jerry Stephens chipped in with 11 for 40 yards.

Standouts on defense for Corcoran were defensive ends Manny Porras and Randy Whitfield and Mel Connley.

How The Top Ten Fared

Here is how the Top Ten Fresno Bee prep football squads fared in this weekend's action:

- (1) Bakersfield beat Foothill, 21-13.
- (2) Lemoore beat Selma, 45-0.
- (3) Fresno beat Clovis, 41-0.
- (4) South beat East Bakersfield, 21-0.
- (5) Colton beat Kingsburg, 35-7.
- (6) Sanger beat Corcoran, 21-6.
- (7) Bullard lost to McLane, 34-0.
- (8) East Bakersfield lost to South, 21-8.
- (9) Caruthers beat Kernan, 35-0.
- (10) Memorial beat Sierra, 25-0.



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TWO OF COACH JOHN PERKINS' Sanger High Apaches are pictured above in action against Corcoran. Bobby Boone (24) is the leading offensive player on

the Apache squad and is being led around end by defensive standout Bruce Barnes.

Vs Corcoran



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Apaches Travel T

The Sanger High School Apaches, riding the crest of a six-game winning streak and a 2-0 East Sequoia League record following their 35-7 romp over Reedley, puts it all on the line tomorrow night at Lemoore when they take on the former number two ranked and once-beaten Tigers, in what should be one of the great San Joaquin Valley games this year.

The Apaches, ranked number six in the Valley last week and almost a cinch to move up a notch or two in the ratings for this week, warmed up for their big ESL showdown with Lemoore by completely outclassing the undermanned Pirates in what certainly was one of their sharpest efforts of the year.

If Sanger was looking ahead toward tomorrow's game with Lemoore, they certainly didn't show it last week as the Apaches completely manhandled Reedley from start to finish. With Craig Sonksen, Bob

Boone, Allen Sherfield, Ralph Bohannon, and Paul Freiberger putting on a fine offensive display, and with the Apache defense, led by Fred and Jim Merlo, Bruce Barnes, John Atondo, Steve Strobe, and Sam Champion, playing its usually great game, the Pirates were never in the contest last Friday.

Opening Score

After taking the opening kickoff on their own 22, the Apaches immediately showed they meant business. Sonksen passed to tight end Mark Wilson for a first down on their own 34-yard line and Sanger was off and rolling. With third and four from the Apache 40, Ralph Bohannon went 35 yards on a beautiful draw play and the Apaches were in scoring position with a first down on the Reedley 25-yard line. Three plays later, Sanger had its first score as Sherfield went eight yards up the middle to cap an eight-play, 78-yard drive. Carlos Macias add-

ed... tra... led... first... The... after an... as Sange... Reedley's... in the sec... Fred Merlo... errant Pir... Three plays... plowed over... for his second s... Apaches led 14-0... left in the first hal...

Sanger scored again before the half on a 62-yard drive that culminated on a beautiful Sonksen to Freiberger slant pass for 48 yards and the touch-down. Freiberger took the pass on Reedley's 40-yard line, broke in between two defenders, and raced untouched the rest of the way to score. Macias' third PAT made it Sanger 21, Reedley 0 at the intermission.

Apaches Pour It On

The story remained the same in the second half as Sanger continued to pour



BOBBY BOONE (24) being dumped by three Pirates from Reedley last Friday. Boone accounted for...

yards to lead the local effort. Tomorrow night Boone and company face the tough Lemoore Tigers in Lemoore.

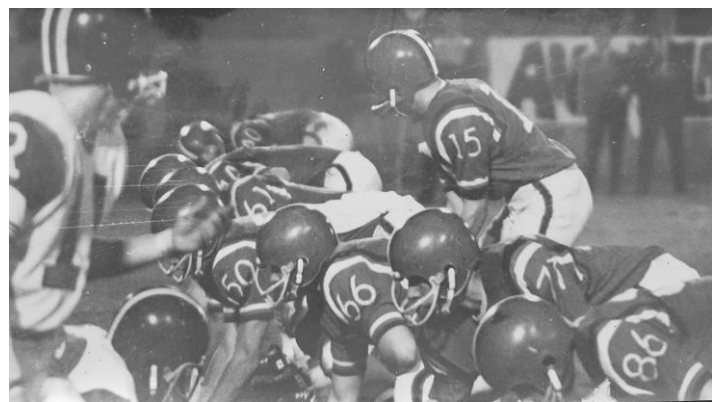


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Vs Reedley



1968 Sanger Apache Football

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Apaches Defeat Corcoran, Reedley; Crucial Game Tonight

Tonight's tilt with the Lemoore Tigers in Lemoore must be rated as the top contest in the San Joaquin Valley this week.

Valley rankings, the ESL title, and preservation of Sanger High's best won-lost record in several years are all at stake.

In last week's contest the Apaches had little trouble in

dumping the Reedley Pirates 35-7. At the same time the Number 2 team in the Valley (Lemoore) was being upset by the Tulare Western Mustangs.

Up to this point the "battle of the ESL" was to pit two unbeaten teams. Now, the Tigers have a "must win" on their hands if they are to remain in contention for the ESL crown.

"This is the best team I've ever had," commented Coach Perkins when asked about his fighting Apaches.

Corcoran Dumped

Summarizing the games since our last edition, the Apaches outpointed Corcoran 21-6 two weeks ago and overran Reedley 35-7 last Friday evening.

In the Corcoran contest, Halfback Bobby Boone accounted for two TDs on runs of 25 and 22 yards and Paul Frieberger hauled in a Sonksen pass for a 50-yard score, accounting for the other TD.

Defensively at Corcoran it was a team effort, but singled out for special plaudits are

Steve Strope and Ray Hernandez who joined the usual defensive standouts in turning in outstanding performances.

Reedley Loses

The Apaches did it again. They have defeated the Reedley Pirates again and did it handily. Reedley may win in basketball, but on the football turf it's all Sanger.

It was a total team effort on both offense and defense in this contest as Fullback Allen Sherfield scored twice, Paul Frieberger, Gary Gerner and Mark Wilson got one TD each on tosses from Craig Sonksen. Defensively everyone turned in good performances in holding the Pirates to one touchdown.

Tonight's the contest though. The Sanger Apaches vs. the Lemoore Tigers.

JV's Win

The Braves evened their won-loss record at 3-3 and opened ESL play with an impressive 39-19 win over the

Lotspeich as was Pat Condor and Alfred Gonzalez.



Vs Lemoore

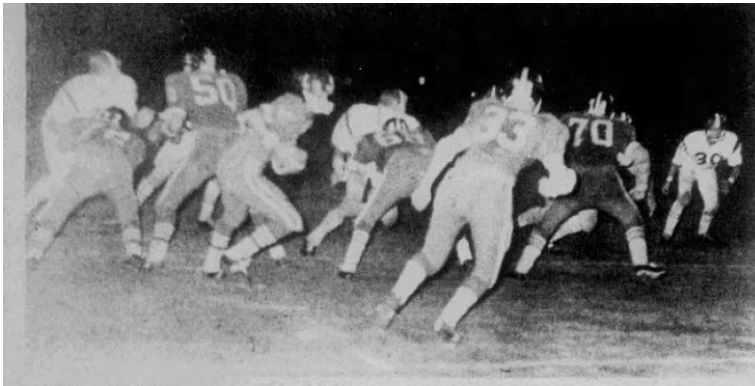


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ON THEIR TOES MOST OF THE TIME — in Friday night's game with Sanger, the Tigers made a spirited effort to stop the husky Apaches but, for once, couldn't register on the scoreboard, and the Apaches recorded a league upset.

GREATEST UPSET SINCE "CASEY AT THE BAT" AS LHS TIGERS LOSE

by KEITH BERGER

Coming off a stunning upset by Tulare Western that broke their 30-game winning streak in league competition, the Lemoore Tigers tried to rebound against sixth-ranked Sanger last Friday night, but ran into a band of Apaches on the war-path. The result was Sanger scalped the Tigers, 21-0, to take sole possession of first place in the East Sequoia League.

A capacity crowd at the Lemoore Bowl watched unbelievably as the Sanger defense, led by safety Bob Boone and tackles Bruce Barnes and Fred Merlo, shut out a team that was averaging 43 points per game and hadn't been shut out since 1962.

The big standout for Sanger on both offense and defense had to be Boone. Lemoore couldn't stop the 142-pound junior halfback as he twisted his way for 103 yards in 18 carries to set up two of Sanger's touchdowns and intercepted two passes to halt Lemoore comebacks.

Larance Jones, Dan Woolley, Jess Parmer, Roger Braddon, Randy Rodrigues, and the entire Lemoore defense did a great job of holding Sanger to six points for the first three quarters. But with quarterback Pat Miguel unable to operate at even 75 per cent efficiency, the Tiger attack never could

give the defense anything to work with.

The first quarter was a seesaw battle with both teams showing ragged edges. Near the end of the first quarter Vernon Young intercepted a pass from Sanger quarterback Craig Sonksen and returned it

to the Sanger 40. Lemoore lost the ball just three plays later, though, as Steve Strobe recovered a fumble. The Apaches capitalized on numerous Tiger errors near their goal during the game.

Merlo opened the second (Continued on Page 2)

GREATEST UPSET

(Continued from Page 1) quarter by tearing his way through to block a punt by Mike Gallagher, who was taking over the punting chores for the injured Miguel. Merlo's brother, Jim, recovered the ball on the Lemoore 14.

Boone took the ball down to the one-yard line where Sonksen took it over on a keeper to give Sanger six points. The conversion failed. The crowd relaxed during halftime and buzzed excitedly about the close 6-0 score.

Late in the scoreless third quarter, another Lemoore drive was halted by Boone as he intercepted a Miguel aerial on a fourth down faked punt and returned it to the Lemoore 29.

The valiant Tigers got the ball back in the fourth quarter as they recovered an Apache fumble on the four-yard line and stopped an almost sure touchdown. But on the next play, Barnes, 215 pounds of aggressive tackler, broke through and nailed Jones in the end zone for a safety and two more points.

That blow seemed to be the turning point of the game. The Tigers still had a chance to catch up, but fate seemed to

be against them. So did the Sanger Apaches.

Sanger took the kickoff and immediately got into scoring position on the strength of fullback Ralph Bohannon who plowed through for 25 yards to the 11-yard line. Four plays later Sonksen hit halfback Paul Freiberger from the five for the score. Carlos Macias kicked the extra point to make it 15-0.

But the humiliation of Lemoore was not yet complete. With only two minutes left to play, Barnes, whose booming 40-yard punts had kept Lemoore in the hole all night, put it through the air 46 yards to the eight-yard line.

The unyielding Apache defense then threw John Oliveira for a four-yard loss and two plays later Fred Merlo pounced on a loose ball in the end zone for Sanger's last six points. The conversion missed.

GAME STATISTICS

	Sanger	Lemoore
First downs	12	9
Yards rushing	188	77
Yards lost	30	32
Net yds. rush.	158	45
Passes-Compl.	13-7	20-7
Passes-yardage	60	92
Total net yds.	218	137
Interceptions	3	2
Fumbles-lost	2-2	2-2
Penalties	10-99	7-64
Punts	5-42 6	4-27 2

Sanger	0	6	0	15-21
Lemoore	0	0	0	0-0
San—Sonksen	1	run	(kick failed)	

San—safety, Barnes tackled Jones in end zone.

San—Freiberger 5 pass from Sonksen (Macias kick)

San—F. Merlo recovered fumble in end zone (kick failed)

East Sequoia League

	W	L	T
Sanger	3	0	0
Selma	2	1	0
Tulare Western	2	1	0
Lemoore	1	2	0
Corcoran	0	2	1
Reedley	0	2	1

Sanger 21, Lemoore 0.
Corcoran 0, Reedley 0, tie.
Selma 26, Tulare Western 7.

STATE'S PLANS

(Continued from Page 1) property is directly across from the golf course. However, the extensive freeway with high overpass widely separates the state's plot from the far north corner of the municipal course.

Engineer Bogosian felt that, although the new state buildings will be across from the southern tip of the Lemoore High School property, they will be in artistic design and thus far more attractive than the weeds which have been covering the plot for so many years.

Ingrim also expressed some fear that if the state were permitted to build at this location, other contingent properties might ask for a commercial zoning which could change the character of that part of the Lemoore com-



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Sanger, Porterville kings

Sanger and Porterville high schools took over sole possession of their respective leagues Friday night as both scored big wins over top-rated foes.

Porterville took over the leadership in the Central Yosemite League by knocking Tulare Union out of the first spot with a 36-13 win at Porterville.

A huge crowd turned out for the CYL clash and it took almost an hour to clear the parking lot.

Sanger blanked free-scoring Lemoore in a stunning 24-0 triumph at Lemoore. The loss drops the highly-rated Tigers to a dismal 1-2 league slate, practically eliminating them from the ESL title chase.

Selma, which surprised Tulare Western 26-7 at Tulare, and Western are still in the ESL title picture with 2-1 marks.

Reedley and Corcoran, both of whom are mathematically eliminated from the race, played to a scoreless tie at Reedley.

Delano, Mt. Whitney and Hanford have all been eliminated from the CYL title chase. Redwood and Union, hoping now for the miracle that Porterville will get upset in the last two games,

are close at 2-1.

Mt. Whitney registered its first win of the CYL campaign Friday night with a 17-7 victory over hapless Hanford at Hanford.

The Pioneers struck for both their TDs in the third quarter on a one-yard run by David Moos and a 35-yard run by Pat Fischer. Fischer's TD was set up by a Pioneer fumble recovery on the Hanford 35.

Mike Askea booted both the PATs for Whitney.

The Hanford Bullpups tallied their lone TD on a 16-yard run by outstanding running back Fred Leathers. Jim Verboon kicked the PAT good.

Askea finished off the scoring with a field goal in the last period.

Redwood, aided by four interceptions and three fumble recoveries, ran up its second highest point total of 68 Friday night, trouncing Delano 38-14.

Delano didn't get on the scoreboard until the final quarter with the score already reading 38-0.

Redwood tallied its first TD on a two-yard run by Jim Collins. A 30-yard run by Milt Edwards to the Delano two-yard line set up the score.

A fumble recovery set up Redwood's second score. Milt Edwards tallied the TD on a 15-yard run.

Another fumble recovery ended a Delano drive and gave Redwood its final TD of the

first half. Nick Navarrette scored the six points on a 21-yard run.

Redwood added to its 25-0 half-time lead with two more TD courtesy of Daryl Porter. After a blocked punt, Porter on a reverse raced 18 yards into the end zone for a TD. Porter later intercepted a pass and ran the ball back 66 yards for Redwood's final TD.

Quarterback Derrick Snider gave Delano both its TDs on a 46-yard pass to Bert Mostaho and 19-yard pass to John Cartwright.

Lemoore was stunned by Sanger 21-0. The Apaches held the Tigers to just 36 yards rushing and 100 yards passing. Sanger, meanwhile, totaled 146 yards rushing and 62 yards passing.

Sanger led in first downs, 12-9.

Bob Boone scored the only TD in the first half on a two-yard run.

There was no scoring until the final period.

Larance Jones of Lemoore was tackled into the end zone for a safety in the final period. Craig Sanksen tossed a 5-yard TD pass to Paul Freiburger and Sanger recovered a Pat Miguel fumble in the end zone for its last TD.

The Reedley-Corcoran match was really an even one. Corcoran ran 41 plays for 149 yards rushing and Reedley ran 40 plays for 130 yards rushing.

In passing, both clubs had equally terrible times. Reedley attempted 19 passes and completed only four for just 17 yards, and Corcoran hit on but two of seven for only 15 yards.

Reedley's Jack Lawson was

the game's top ball carrier with 76 yards in 22 attempts.

Reedley came close to scoring in both the third and final quarters. In the third quarter a 49-yard TD pass play from Mike Eaton to Guy Jackson was called back because of illegal procedure on Reedley's part.

In the final 46 seconds of the game, Reedley recovered a fumble on the Corcoran 30-yard line. Three incomplete passes moved the clock along and then Lawson sped 23-yards on a draw play to the Corcoran seven.

Reedley tried a run on the next play and was stopped with a one-yard gain as the gun sounded.

James Le May led Corcoran's rashers with 59 yards in five attempts.



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Bears Will Face Sanger Apaches Friday Evening

Agile, tough, quick, strong, experienced. Take your pick of adjectives and you can bet they'll still fit Sanger's varsity grid squad. The Apaches lead the East Sequoia League with a perfect 3-0 record and are the favorites to capture the league crown.

The Selma Bears will travel to Sanger tomorrow night to do battle with the Apaches and are hoping to continue their winning ways in the ESL.

Sanger's biggest roadblock on the path to the title was hurdled Friday night when they battered Lemoore, 21-0. It was the first shutout the Tigers had experienced in six years, but it was their second straight loss and dropped them out of contention for the title.

Sanger has good size and they are quick. Bruce Barnes, a fast 205-pound tackle, is regarded by Selma coach Allen Cropsey as the best lineman in the San Joaquin Valley. "He's really a good one," Cropsey said of Barnes.

The Selma Bears will have their work cut out for them, too, in handling Bob Boone, 142 pounds of spring steel. Boone, a junior halfback, ripped up the Lemoore defense Friday night for 103 yards in 18 carries. He also intercepted two Tiger passes to cut off Lemoore threats.

Fullback Allen Sherfield is a strong 185-pounder who led the Apaches last year in rushing with 493 yards. He, along with Boone and quarterback Craig Sonksen, comprise the mainstay of the Apache offense. Sonksen is a good ball handler and an excellent passer.

Sanger coach John Perkins has 14 lettermen back from last year's squad. One of the out-

standing features of the 1968 edition of the Apaches is a big, powerful line.

Up front with Barnes, an all-valley candidate, are brothers Jim and Fred Merlo. The former tips the scales at 175 while the latter checks in at 180. Also expected to see action on the line are 230-pound Ray Hernandez, 190-pound Craig Leath and 165-pound Steve Strope.

Gary Gerner, who missed last season with an injury, will be helping to fill a hole at split end. Other pass receivers will be Ron Hiraga and Paul Freiberger.

Turn about may be fair play for the Bears, however. Lemoore trounced Selma, Tulare Western edged Lemoore and Selma smashed Tulare Western. Now the Bears have some momentum and will be hoping to carry the "turn-about" rule further by adding an Apache scalp to the Bear den.

Game time will be at 8 p.m. with the preliminary contest set for 6 p.m.



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East Sequoia Champions

Apache Defense Shuts Out Selma

By Ron Hurrle
Fresno Bee prep writer

SANGER—Sanger Head Coach John Perkins was in great spirits when he talked about his team's 28-0 blitzing over the Selma High School Bears.

"Defense is key to our whole season," Perkins said. "Our defense is one of the best in the

Statistics

	Sanger	Selma
First downs	13	3
Yards rushing	198	22
Yards lost	34	91
Net yards rushing	164	-69
Passes-completions	15-7	14-7
Passing yardage	83	45
Total net yards	247	-24
Interceptions by	3	1
Fumbles - lost	1-1	0-0
Penalties	3-25	5-52
Punts	3-26.0	5-35.8

valley. I'll be willing to match it with any other defense in the valley."

It is indeed true that defense is the key to Sanger's 8-1 East Sequoia League record. Sanger has held its opponents to a scant 30 points in nine games, one of the lowest totals in the valley.

Sanger did not change its defense attitude against Selma either. The Bears were held to a minus 69 yards rushing and a minus 24 yards total offense.

There are 740 pounds of good reason why the Apache defense is effective. That 740 pounds

of 170-pound Mark who blocked a punt and had it 10 yards for the

Apaches first touchdown; 175-pound Jim Merlo, who intercepted one pass to set up a Sanger score; 180-pound Fred "Chickenman" Merlo; and, 215-pound Bruce Barnes.

The four made sure that their defensive record would not be spoiled. Fred Merlo had only two unassisted tackles, but on many occasions, it was Fred who was stopping the interference, so others like Wilson could make the tackles. Wilson had seven tackles in the game.

After Wilson scored his touchdown John Antono picked off a Mike Girazin pass, and returned it to the Selma 23-yard line. Six plays later, fullback Ralph Bohannon scored his first touchdown of the year with a one-yard plunge.

Two minutes later, Sanger was again knocking at the scoring door. Jim Merlo intercepted a pass at Selma's 43-yard line. With Bobby Boone, who gained 95 yards in 11 carries on the night, leading the way, the Apaches drove all the way in three plays. Boone gained all 43 yards, and capped the drive with a two-yard dive. Barnes kicked his third of four conversions.

After a scoreless third period, Sanger quarterback Craig Sonksen unleashed his passing arm throwing five straight times for 34 yards. The final pass was good for a seven-yard touchdown to Gary Gerner.

In the second half, Selma ran only 13 plays from scrimmage, and did not gain one yard rushing. Sanger ran 33 plays, and controlled the ball for 21 out of 24 minutes.

The Apaches face a showdown with Tulare Western next week to determine the ESL championship. The Sanger squad has not won a championship since 1963.

The junior varsity game resulted in a 14-14 tie.

Sanger	7	14	0	7-28
Selma	0	0	0	0-0
San—Wilson 10 run with blocked punt (Barnes kick)				
San—Bohannon 1 run (Barnes kick)				
San—Boone 2 run (Barnes kick)				
San—Gerner 7 pass from Sonksen (Barnes kick)				



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Sanger Apaches Rip Bears To Win, 28-0

Anyone with even a nodding acquaintance with military matters knows that tanks come in three sizes...light, medium and heavy. Football players can be classified along the same lines. But if you asked the Selma Bears they might tell you they were playing against tanks Friday night.

The Sanger Apaches took the measure of the Bears Friday evening and the Bears were as cold as the fog that rolled over the Apache field in the fourth quarter. The big Sanger line held the Bears to a minus two yards while the Injuns were rolling up 231 net yards.

"There's not much to say," said Coach Allen Cropsey. "We just got beat by a better team." Cropsey said he felt Sanger has its best team in 13 years. "They've got the defense," he said, "and that's what it takes to win ball games."

The Sanger defense not only held the Bears to minus yardage, but it also scored one of the four Sanger touchdowns. It was just seven plays after the opening kickoff when Don Nelson went back into his own end zone to punt. Mark Wilson, a 170-pound Sanger end, came charging over the line, blocked Nelson's punt and carried it into the end zone with over eight minutes left in the first period.

The second Apache score came just after the start of the second period when fullback Ralph Bohannon shoved it over from the two. The point after was blocked, but a roughing the kicker penalty on the Bears gave the Apaches another try and it was good.

The Bears took the ensuing kickoff and ran two plays before a Mike Girazian pass was picked off by Jim Merlo on the Sanger 49 and ran it back to the Selma 42. In three plays, Bobby Boone, a rough and tough 142-pound halfback, rambled to the 19, to the two and then over for the TD.

The second half saw the Bears stiffen considerably on defense with the Apaches only scoring one more touchdown. That came in the fourth period on a six-

yard pass from Craig Sonksen to Gary Gerner.

There was little joy on the Bear side of the stadium as Selma spent most of the night inside its own 40-yard-line trying to keep away the raiding Apaches. Selma never really threatened to score. It just wasn't their night as three aeriels were intercepted and Selma runners slipped and fell several times on the wet turf.

Steady Jim Wilkins, usually the team's top offensive man,

got a workout on defense and turned in an excellent performance. Wilkins made seven tackles, assisted in one other, recovered a fumble, intercepted one pass and knocked down another.

Clifton Trask, Nick Quintana, Lorenzo Haros, Ron Eknoian and Ed Viau also turned in fine defensive work for the night. In fact, defensive coach Dick Ravallin said the performances of Wilkins, Trask, Quintana and Haros were "brilliant."



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Must Win Or Tie

Sanger vs Tulare Western In Final

The Sanger High School Apaches rolled to their eighth straight victory last Friday night by chewing up the Selma Bears to the tune of 28-0, before a packed homecoming night house in Sanger stadium. The win leaves Sanger alone in first place in East Sequoia League play with a perfect four-win, no-loss record, and sets up tomorrow night's must game against second place Tulare Western (three wins, one loss) perfectly.

Over-all, the Apaches are 8-1 on the season and have a number four San Joaquin Valley prep rating as a tribute to their fine all-around play so far this year, but they must either win or tie against Tulare Western or kiss the East Sequoia League title and a spot in the Sequoia League playoffs goodbye for another year.

Typical Win

Last week's win was a typical 1968 Apache grid victory, as their great defense once again rose to the occasion, this time holding Selma to 24 total net yards gained and you can't do much better than that.

Each week, it seems like a different Sanger defense man gets into the act, and against Selma, it was Mark Wilson's turn to shine. The young defensive end made seven unassisted tackles to lead his mates in that department, and also blocked a punt and scored Sanger's first touchdown of the night as he scooped up the loose pigskin and went ten yards to paydirt.

As always, there is plenty of supporting help and the Selma game was no excep-

tion. John Atondo, for instance, set up the second Apache score by picking off an errant second quarter aerial and returning it to the Bear 23-yard line. Jim Merlo, as fine a prep linebacker as there is in this Valley, also got into the act as he too intercepted a pass to set up Sanger's third score of the happy night. Add fine play by old reliable Bruce Barnes, Fred Merlo, and unsung Gene Branch and it is plain to see why the Apaches have only allowed two touchdowns scored against them in league play so far.

Offensively

Offensively, Bob Boone continued his fine play from his halfback spot by gaining 95 yards in 11 carries and scoring one touchdown on a two-yard plunge. Ralph Bohannan, Terry Kanagawa, and Allen Sheffield also contributed good runs throughout the night as the Apaches picked up 164 net yards rushing. Craig Sonksen chipped in with seven completions in 15 attempts for 83 yards for a total of 247 yards gained.

Sanger tucked the game away in the first half by scoring three times for a 21-0 intermission lead, with all three scores set up by the defense. Midway through the initial quarter, Mark Wilson broke through to block a Selma punt with the ball rolling free on the Bear 10-yard line. The alert Wilson scooped up the elusive ball and rambled the remaining 10 yards for the touchdown and a 6-0 lead. Barnes kicked the first of his four conversions and the

Apaches led 7-0.

The next big break for Sanger came early in the second period as John Atondo picked off a pass deep in Selma territory and the Apaches took over with a first down on the 23-yard line. Six plays later, fullback Ralph Bohannan scored his first six points of the season to up the count to 14-0.

Interception

Minutes later, Jim Merlo got into the act as he intercepted another errant Mike Girazin aerial and returned it to Selma's 43-yard line. This time it was Bob Boone's turn to do his stuff and he fared quite nicely, gaining 25 yards up the middle, 16 yards around end, and two yards again up the middle for still another score that made it 21-0 at halftime.

The Apaches settled down after their first half onslaught and, with Coach John Perkins substituting freely, no further scoring resulted in the third period.

Final Score

In the fourth stanza, Sanger drove for their final score of the night, only this time it was through the air as Sonksen hit on five straight passes, the last of which went to Gary Gerner for seven yards and the touchdown that made the final score Sanger 28, Selma 0. It indeed was sweet revenge for the 41-7 pasting the Apaches took last year in Selma.

And so, the stage is set for Sanger's biggest game since they last won the ESL title in 1963. Tulare Western comes here 3-1 in league play, but only 4-5

over-all, and has strictly been an in-and-out team this year. The Apaches have played a much tougher non-league schedule, and based on comparative league scores, Sanger appears a shoo-in to win tomorrow night. But, as has been reported many times before, anything can happen in high school football, and the Mustangs' 26-20 win over Le-moore earlier in the year certainly proves that fact. Tulare Western has 21 let-termen from last year and are reported to have fine over-all team speed and a tough line.

Statistics

	Sanger	Selma
1st Downs	13	3
Net Yds. Rush.	164	-69
Passes-Comp.	15-7	14-7
Net Yds. Passing	83	45
Total Net Yds.	247	-24
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0
Punts-Avg.	3-26	5-36
Penalties-Yds.	3-25	5-62



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TW loses ESL title to Sanger

By JOHN MULLEN

Two fumbles and three pass interceptions got Sanger High School over the "psychological hump" and it was all downhill after that as the Apaches wrapped up the 1968 East Sequoia League football title Friday night with a 42-7 win over second place Tulare Western.

The ESL title showdown was played before 4,000-plus — the biggest crowd of the year at Sanger High School stadium.

The win gave Sanger a perfect 5-0 ESL slate and boosted the Valley's No. 2 ranked Apaches to a 9-1 record and into the valley playoffs against Coalinga next Wednesday.

The loss put Western into a final three-way tie for second place with Selma and Lemoore. All three ended up with 3-2 league slates.

The second place finish was the best ever for a Western varsity grid team since it entered the ESL in 1965.

For the most part, Western outplayed Sanger in the first half, although the Mustangs trailed at the intermission 16-7. Western is that first half led Sanger in total net offense 80-63 and in first downs 5-4. However, two interceptions and two fumbles hurt the Mustangs dearly.

A fumbled punt set up Sanger's first TD on the Western 48. The Apaches drove in seven plays for the score. Ralph Bohannon scored the six points on a one-yard run. Bob Boone with three carries for 28 yards led the quick drive.

Bruce Barnes failed on the kick and Sanger led 6-0 with 4:49 left in the first period.

Right after the ensuing kickoff, Western fumbled again and Barnes picked up the loose ball on the TW five-yard line.

A three-yard rush by Bohannon and a two-yard carry by Boone gave Sanger an easy TD and a sudden 13-0 lead with 2:16 left in the first period.

A three-yard rush by Bohannon and a two-yard carry by Boone gave Sanger an easy TD and a sudden 13-0 lead with 2:16 left in the first period.

Western to lead off the second quarter drove from its own 13 to the Sanger 36. A spectacular leaping catch of a pass by wing back Leonard Webb for 33 yards sparked the drive.

Tailback Mike French also looked good on the drive picking up 18 yards on four booming runs through the middle of the exceptionally tough Sanger defense, rated tops in the Valley along with South Bakersfield.

The drive was killed, however, when Sam Champion intercepted a Manuel Costales pass on the one-yard line. Both Champion and Webb came down with the pass, but the referee awarded the ball to Sanger.

Western, however, got the ball right back as Bohannon fumbled on the next play and Costales recovered for Western on the Sanger one-yard line.

After a run to the middle was stopped for a loss, Costales tossed a quick look-in three-yard pass to end Willie Alexander for the TD.

Costales added the PAT and Western trailed by only 13-7 with 7:05 left in the half.

Another pass interception and a 45-yard punt by Barnes put Western in the hole on its two-yard line near the end of the half.

Western punted out and then would have had Sanger stopped with a fourth down on the TW 34 had it not been for a piling-on penalty whistled by the ref.

The crucial penalty moved the ball to the TW 19 and put Barnes within field goal range. Barnes then toed the ball through the uprights from there as the gun sounded ending the half, and Sanger ran off the field jumping up and down with a 16-7 lead.

That last-second field goal dampened the spirit of the fighting Mustangs a bit, but not as much as the interception that Sanger got to open the second half.

After a runback of the kickoff

by French to the TW 30, Bohannon picked off a Western pass on the second scrimmage play and zoomed into the end zone from 35 yards out.

That big TD gave Sanger a 22-7 lead with only 39 seconds gone in the third quarter. The sudden TD, together with the unfortunate happenings of the first half, threw Western into a tizzy and the Mustangs weren't the same after that.

In fact, the rest of the way Western gamered only one first down.

The game plan of a balanced rushing and passing attack that worked so effectively in the first half for Western had to be thrown aside for an all-out "catch-up" passing attack.

The passing attack by the Mustangs in the second half was completely ineffective as the Sanger defense "knew" what was coming.

In that disastrous second half, Western completed only one pass for two yards and quarterback Costales was thrown for a net loss of 68 yards in attempting to pass.

In all, no other Mustang back—aside from the Western quarterback—handled the ball on a scrimmage run in the last two quarters.

While the Western offense floundered, Sanger, led by Boone's 56 yards in eight carries in the second half, rolled through a disheartened Mustang defense for three more easy TDs.

Boone was the top ball carrier for the night as he rushed for a total of 104 yards in 14 attempts. Boone, however, once felt the sting of the hard-hitting Mustang defense. On one play the 5-8, 145-pound fullback was whacked hard, got up in a com-

plete daze and had to be guided to the sidelines.

Big 215-pound tackle Bruce Barnes—an All-Valley candidate for Sanger—also was smacked hard in the opening quarter and hobbled for the entire first half with a painful leg.

Wayne Barleson and Frank Souza were exceptional defensive standouts for Western. Both were all over the field.

French, who looked good on offense, also played a good game at defensive halfback.

Webb also had some people talking about his speed and excellent "pass-catching" hands.

The game climaxed a crazy, exciting season for Western and first-year coach Dave Curry. The Mustangs failed to win their first five preseason games, salvaging only a 7-7 tie with Mt. Whitney of Visalia.

Western then turned around to win three of four of its league games to go into Friday's game with a chance to win the big ESL prize — something that few people at the beginning of the year thought could happen and that almost nobody at the end of the first five games on Oct. 18 ever even dreamed of.

The spirited Mustangs didn't defeat the Valley's No. 2 ranked team Friday night, but they did defeat another No. 2 ranked club in Lemoore on Nov. 1. That maddening 16-21 "upset of the year" started Lemoore's downfall and prevented the Tigers from winning their sixth straight ESL title. And it also assured Western a second place finish—its best-ever in the ESL.

Sanger also won the preliminary junior varsity contest, Friday night, as the Braves got past Western's JV team, 33-25.

Not this bad

	TW	S
First downs	5	12
Net yards rushing	-37	134
Net yards passing	58	59
Total net offense	21	193
Passes attempted	19	14
Passes completed	4	7
Passes had intercepted	3	0
Fumbles lost	2	1
Penalties (No-yds.)	4-49	6-80
Punting (No-yds.)	7-25.6	4-35.5

Score by quarters:
Tulare Western 0 7 0 0—7
Sanger 13 3 12 14—42
Tulare Western TD—Willie Alexander (Three-yard pass from Manuel Costales); PAT—Costales (placement).

Sanger TDs—Ralph Bohannon 2 (One-yard run and 35-yard return of pass interception); Bob Boone (Two-yard run); Terry Kanagawa (13-yard run); Allen Sherfield (Five-yard run); Paul Frelberrer (27-yard pass from Craig Souksee). Field goal—Bruce Barnes (36-yard placement). PATs—Barnes (placement); Carlos Macias 2 (placements).

Top Ten

1. South sliced Bakersfield 27-21.
2. Sanger socked it to Tulare Western 42-7.
3. Coalinga bye.
4. Fresno fractured Hoover 39-14.
5. Memorial lost to Dos Palos 27-13.
6. Porterville powdered Hanford 20-12.
7. Dos Palos dashed Memorial 27-13.
8. East plays tonight.
9. Bakersfield lost to South 27-21.
10. Lemoore conked Corcoran 44-0.



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East Sequoia Champions

Sanger Puts Crush On Coalinga 20-0

By Terry Betterton
Fresno Bee prep writer

COALINGA — Defense is the name of the game at Sanger High School and the Apaches proved it again Wednesday.

Led by a strong pass rush and drive-stopping blitzes; Sanger advanced to the finals of the Valley Sequoia Division football playoffs by blanking Coalinga's Horned Toads 20-0 last night.

Coach John Perkins and his Apaches were on hand today in Bakersfield to watch Dos Palos and Garces decide who would be the next target of the Apache defenders.

"We have relied on our defense all year," Perkins said

Statistics

	Sanger	Coalinga
First downs	6	10
Yards rushing	165	97
Yards lost	41	25
Net yards rushing	124	72
Passes-completions	8-5	19-4
Passing average	66	54
Total net yards	210	71
Interceptions by	2	0
Fumbles-lost	5-2	2-1
Penalties	7-45	5-35
Punts	2-27.4	4-26.8

happily after the game. "This is a great group of kids. They are not big but they really like to hit."

"Sanger is by far the best defensive team we have played all year," remarked Coalinga mentor Chuck Garten. "Anybody will have a tough time beating them."

There were many individual standouts, including Fred Merlo, Bruce Barnes, Jim Merlo, Steve Strope and Mark Wilson. But the star of the evening was the entire Sanger defensive unit.

The hard-charging Apaches limited the potent Coalinga offense to a net 17 yards on the ground and put a merciless rush on Horned Toad quarterback Chris Cassidy. Cassidy, who threw for 1,023 yards and 17 touchdowns during the season, was held to four completions in 19 tries for 34 yards.

Everytime Coalinga would get some kind of drive going, the Apaches would dig in with its rock-hard defense. Five times the Toads were stalled deep inside Apache territory. Coalinga losses totaled 75 yards.

Offensively the Sanger squad had a tough time breaking down the strong Coalinga defense. Only quarterback Craig Sonksen had consistent success against the Toads.

Sonksen completed five of eight tosses for 86 yards and a touchdown. The Apache defenders set up one touchdown and the other came on a wild 64-yard run by fullback Ralph Bohannon.

After Sanger took a 7-0 lead early in the second quarter on a two-yard pass from Sonksen to Paul Freiberger, the Apache defense got its first real test.

Cassidy passes to Ed Bourdeau and Ward Glazebrook moved the ball to the Apache 31. But Fred Merlo and Barnes dropped Cassidy for a 10-yard loss and Bobby Boone stopped the drive for good with an interception.

Coalinga battled back gamely, moving to the Sanger 21 on its next series. But Wilson stopped this threat by catching Cassidy for a nine-yard loss and knocking down a fourth-down pass.

The heart breaker for the Toads came early in the third quarter. Cat-like defensive end Tom Leroux wrestled the ball away from Sonksen and raced for the goal line. His touchdown was called back because of an unnecessary clip but still Coalinga had the ball on the Sanger 24.

Glazebrook picked up four and Sanger was called for offsides. With second and one on the 15, John Bourdeau was caught by Jim Merlo and Barnes for a four-yard loss and a big rush caused Cassidy to miss on two passes.

Early in the fourth quarter Coalinga drove to the Sanger 16 but Fred Merlo and Wilson dropped Cassidy behind the line of scrimmage to stop the threat.

Coalinga moved to the Sanger four late in the game but the Apaches were not about to let a

Sanger

From Page 1-C

shutout slip through their fingers. Jim Merlo caught John Bertsche for a loss of three and then dropped Cassidy for another nine-yard loss. Freiberger clinched the shutout by intercepting a pass on the four on the next play.

Sonksen and Freiberger set up the first Sanger score with a 30-yard pass play. From the two, Freiberger made a diving catch on the left sideline for the touchdown and Barnes converted.

Sanger made it 14-0 at halftime on Bohannon's 64-yard run through the surprised Coalinga team on a draw play.

Sanger	0	14	0	6-20
Coalinga	0	0	0	0-0
San — Freiberger, 2 pass from Sonksen (Barnes kick).				
San — Bohannon, 64 run (Barnes kick).				
San — Boone, 8 run (pass failed).				

See Sanger Page 7-C

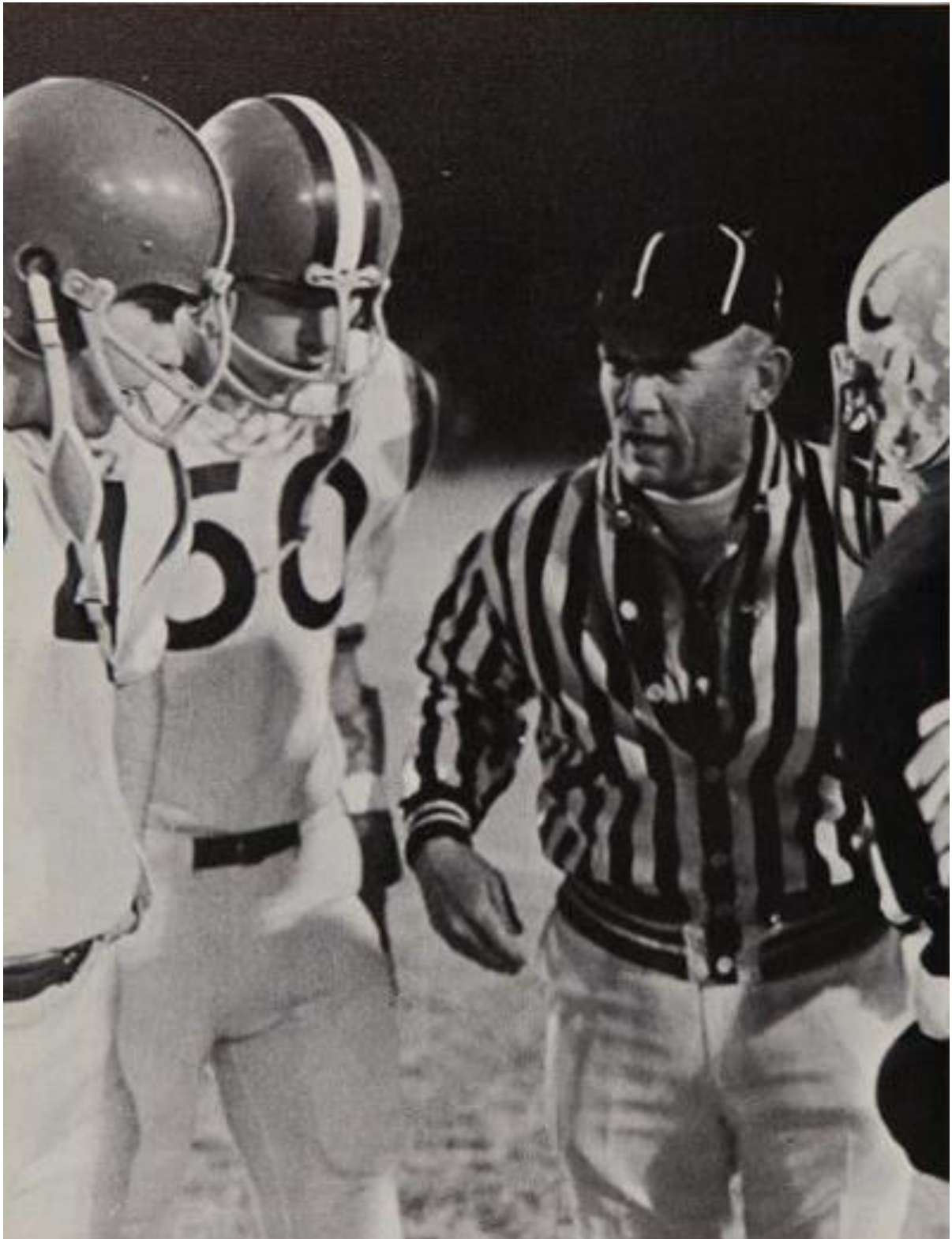


1968 Sanger Apache Football

Sequoia Division Valley Champions

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East Sequoia Champions



Vs Coalinga



1968 Sanger Apache Football

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Sanger Trips Garces

Apaches Score Two Quick Tallies Then Rely On Defense

By Terry Betterson
Fresno Bee sports writer

SANGER — The Garces High School Rams found out what the 10 previous Sanger opponents learned—do not try to play "catch up" football with the Apaches.

Sanger got two quick touchdowns in the second quarter and then ran out the clock in the final half to earn the Sequoia Division Valley championship with a 13-0 victory over Garces Friday before a capacity crowd of 5,000 in the Sanger Stadium.

Once again it was Sanger's hard-hitting defense, which scored shutouts in the last two contests, doing the job for coach John Perkins' Apaches.

"When we have a lead," said a smiling Perkins, who was soaked from a victory shower, "we like to see that clock moving around."

That is why the Apaches threw only three times in the

second half while the hustling Rams from Bakersfield put the ball in the air 17 times in the final half.

Sanger's heralded defense, led by tackles Fred Merlo and Steve Strope, end Bruce Barnes and linebackers Jim Merlo and John Atondo, kept the pressure on Ram quarterback Steve Schmedding while backs Sam Champion and Paul Freiberger picked off passes in the second half.

Sharing hero honors with the Apache defenders was junior quarterback Craig Sonksen, who passed for both Sanger touchdowns—in a matter of 25 seconds.

"Sonksen impressed me with his passing," said Garces coach Gary Ogilvie after the game. "He found our weakness and took advantage of it. Sanger got the lead and we were forced to play catch up."

Sonksen completed a dozen of 18 attempts for 114 yards. He hit Freiberger with a touchdown strike from five yards out and tossed a 20-yarder to Gary Gerner on the next play.

Garces was blowing its linebackers in the first half but still Sonksen was able to complete 11 of 15 passes. Despite the heavy rush, the cool junior racked up 104 yards through the air in the first two quarters.

In the second period, Perkins kept tight-end Mark Wilson out of the pass patterns to afford maximum protection but still the Rams were able to keep Sonksen under pressure. Sanger finished the season

with 11 straight victories after losing the opener to Clovis 12-7. The Apaches were a perfect 5-0 in the East Sequoia League.

Ogilvie had every reason to be proud of his Rams, the winners of the South Sequoia League. Forced to throw out of respect for the defense of the Apaches, Schmedding hit Steve Eyherabide, Jim Mechaley and Mike Fanucchi for 147 yards.

Garces stopped Sanger drives four times inside the 35-yard marker and picked off a pair of Sonksen passes.

Sonksen did the offensive damage all in the second quarter. He passed the Apaches the final 34 yards of a 40-yard drive, hitting Freiberger over the middle with 5:10 left in the half.

Fanucchi could not get his hands on the kickoff and Champion pounced on the loose ball at the 20. On the first play, Sonksen hit Gerner on the five and the 155-pound end eluded one tackler and slid past two more at the two for the touchdown.

After that the Sanger defense took over.

Garces drove to the 17 with the second half kickoff before Strope, Wilson and Jim Merlo held on fourth down.

Early in the fourth quarter Wilson stopped the scrambling Schmedding just inches shy of a first down on the Apache 13. Late in the final period, Freiberger intercepted a bomb on the one-yard-line to save a Garces touchdown.

A heavy fog settled in the Sanger Stadium most of the game and the final five minutes kept the fans in suspense. The fog dropped to the floor of the field and coaches and players could not see the width of the field, let alone the clock in the North end zone.

The disappointed Ram fans could only hear the cheers from the Sanger side of the stadium when the Sequoia championship trophy was presented to Perkins.

Garces 0 0 0 0-0
Sanger 0 13 0 0-13
San—Freiberger, 5 pass from Sonksen (Barnes kick).
San—Gerner, 20 pass from Sonksen. (Kick failed).

Statistics

	Garces	Sanger
First downs	15	11
Yards rushing	112	165
Yards lost	5	16
Net yards rushing	107	149
Passes—completions	30-14	18-12
Passing yardage	147	114
Total net yards	254	263
Interceptions by	2	4
Fumbles—lost	2-2	1-0
Penalties	6-68	2-30
Punts	2-30.5	5-27.8



1968 Sanger Apache Football

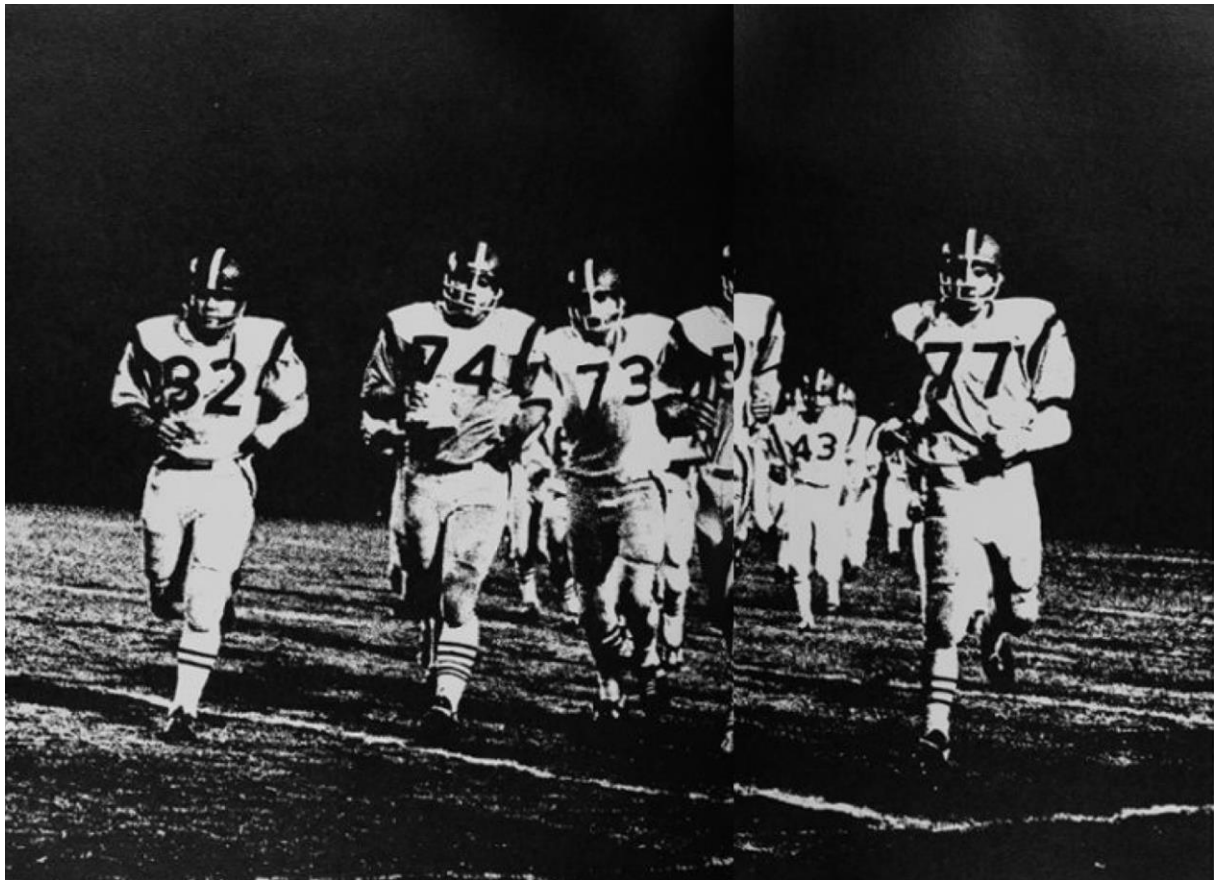
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Available Statistics – 1968

<u>Games</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Total Points</u>		<u>Avg Points</u>		<u>Avg Point Difference</u>	<u>Shutouts</u>
		<u>Scored</u>	<u>Allowed</u>	<u>Scored</u>	<u>Allowed</u>		
12	11-1-0	268	50	22.3	4.2	18.2	5





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Epilogue

Two Sanger Jewels

OUR NEIGHBOR SANGER would have been proud of two of her sons Saturday in the UCLA-Stanford game. Bruin Bruce Barnes punted well, but two yards under his season average of 44.6, which is second in the nation. And Jim Merlo, the Stanford linebacker, was the only Card getting any defensive-player-of-the-game votes from the LA area press. He was a tiger, making 11 solo tackles and helping on three others.

But Jim didn't make his old Sanger Apache teammate Barnes very happy when he picked USC over UCLA in the



Bruce Barnes

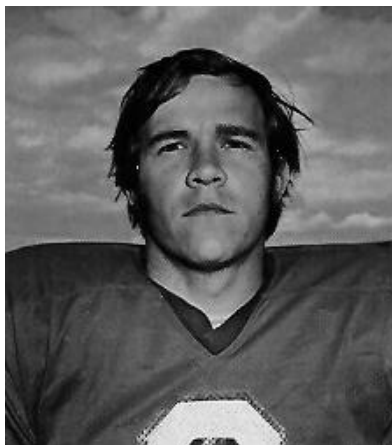


Jim Merlo

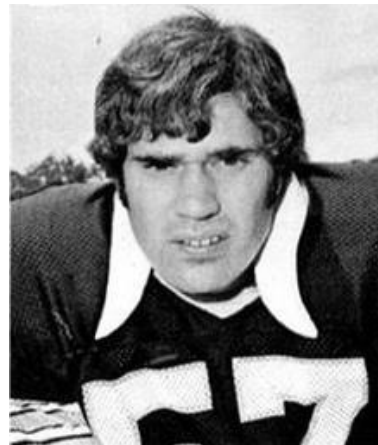
Nov. 18 Rose Bowl decider because, "UCLA just doesn't have a defense."

Funny statement, since Bruin coach Pepper Rodgers called it his team's "best defensive game" of the season. Jim probably meant USC's defense is tougher. It is.

It will warm a lot of Sanger people to recall that foggy, chilly night of Dec. 6, 1968. That was when Barnes, an end, and Merlo, a linebacker, and coach John Perkins' hard-nosed defense stopped Garces of Bakersfield 13-0 to win the Sequoia Division Valley championship. Two of the Apaches' finest, Barnes and Merlo.



Bruce Barnes ('73-'74)
New England Patriots (NFL)



Jim Merlo ('73-'79)
New Orleans Saints (NFL)