



Mount Union Football



RAIDERS Newsletter

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
*9 Time Division III Football National Champions
1993, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2006*

JUNE & JULY 2007

Memory Lane

Memory lane is where we will look back at a game in Mount Union history. This month, we go back to Saturday, September 21, 1968, when Mount Union opened up their season against Franklin in a record setting way.

The Raiders played host in this season opener against Franklin College of Indiana in the Annual Hall of Fame game. Mount Union's 20-0 victory was sparked by an unbelievable defensive effort, led by Perry Bourn who intercepted six passes. This was the first season opener that the Raiders won in eight years.

Bourn got started right away, intercepting a pass in his own endzone on the very first Franklin possession of the game. After three plays, Mount Union fumbled the ball to give Franklin great field position, but the Raider's defense forced a punt. After an exchange of two punts for each team, Franklin gathered a small drive which ended in another Bourn interception in the endzone.



Mount Union College's Perry Bourn is seen above taking a pass away from Franklin College's Bruce Hickman.
Review Photo—Thomas Brown

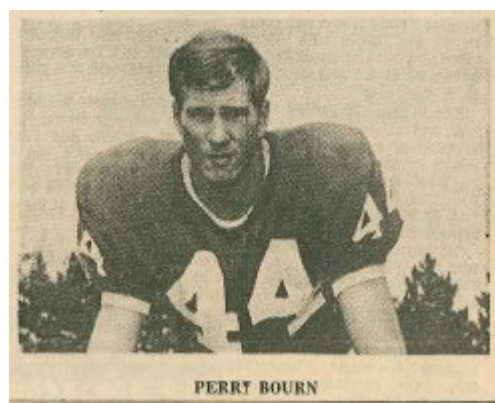
Memory Lane

The Mount offense could not get things going again and was forced to punt. The Franklin offensive effort was short lived as Mount Union's George Bigham intercepted a pass and returned it to the Franklin seven yard line. On third down, Jim Little took a pitch into the endzone for the first score of the game.

Perry Bourn intercepted his third pass of the game during the next series which led to a Mount Union field goal.

The very next Franklin possession was again interrupted by a Perry Bourn, as it looked like the Raiders might start to run away with the game.

With time winding down in the half, the Raiders offense sputtered again and was forced to punt the ball, and some momentum back to Franklin. On the very first Franklin play, Harry Owen intercepted a pass to give Mount Union great field possession with 38 seconds remaining in the half. Jim Brocker kicked a 32 yard field goal to close the half with a 13-0 Raider lead.



George Bigham of Mount Union is seen dashing to the Franklin College seven yard line with an intercepted pass. Jim Chester is leading the blocking against Franklin defenders Jean Gardner (79) and John Buerger (24). Also identifiable is the Raiders' Carson Brown (60).
Review Photo—Thomas Hogan

Mount Union received the second half kickoff, but was forced to punt. Bourn intercepted his fifth pass of the game on the second Franklin play of the possession.

After a Mount fumble and an exchange of punts, the Raiders put together an offensive drive which ended in a Ron Stucky 13 yard touchdown run.

Memory Lane

After another exchange of punts, Bourn intercepted his record sixth pass. His 6 interceptions is still an NCAA single game record.

Harry Owen intercepted his second pass late in the game to help the Raiders seal the game.

“Coach Lynn and Tressler challenged us to be the best defensive football team in the conference from the first day of camp. They instilled in us the importance of teamwork, and that each individual was vital to the success of the defense. By the end of August camp and heading into our first game with Franklin, we felt we were up to the challenge.

The Franklin game was a record setting day. The defensive line and linebackers put so much pressure on their quarterback which was instrumental in helping the defensive backs intercept 9 passes that day. I was lucky enough to intercept 6 passes that day which I think is still an NCAA record for one game.

When thinking about the record, two thoughts come to mind. The record has stood for almost 40 years and may never be broken because of the higher skill level of the quarterbacks today. Also, today’s coaches would substitute a new quarterback into the game before that many interceptions could be thrown.

We had a great defensive backfield that year with Scotty, Laks, Harry O., Jim Chain, and myself. A prelude to the great teams of today at Mount Union.”

~ **Perry Bourn**

“I remember being very emotionally high for this game. Franklin was a new opponent and it was the first game of my senior year. We certainly didn't want to lose our opener out of conference. The game was played on a warm, September evening before classes started with a near full house for Hall of Fame night. Franklin kept throwing and Perry Bourn kept picking them off -- Six times for Perry, nine for the team. It was a good start after having led the nation in pass defensive yardage in 1967. The next week against Kenyon, we picked off four or five more passes so in the third game against Wooster, they only threw once for an incomplete pass and zero yards passing for the game.”

~ **Dave Lakso 1968 Tri Captain**

“Perry played an unbelievable game. Most DB’s are fortunate to make 6 interceptions in a career, let alone 6 in a game. Perry was a real good athlete, but more than anything he was a smart player. He always put himself in the right position to make the play. It was a great team effort!”

~ **Scotty Wolpert**