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# Winning Attitude Prevails in USIU Tilt

By Ernie Yarbrough

There are few things better for a football team than winning its opening game. The USIU Westerners achieved just that when they defeated Cal-State of Los Angeles 20-7 in Balboa Stadium last Saturday.

There was a definite air of victory after the game ended yet, each USIU coach and team member knew they would need many extra hours of hard work in the upcoming week to get ready for bigger and better things to come namely, Puget Sound University of Tacoma, Washington.

## **USIU Attitude**

The LA game proved to be a typical opener for both clubs, as each team had numerous mistakes which kept the game from being a more polished battle. One thing was evident never-the-less, this was the "WINNING ATTITUDE" which coach Mary Braden, and his staff, have installed in the 1971 Westerners. The Diablo squad rarely got up off their bench to yell words of encouragement to their teammates. But the home team side of the field was filled with the type of spirit that can turn a close game around into a great victory.

The opening quarter got underway with starting USIU quarterback, Wayne Obereuter, guiding an offensive march that covered 70 yards. Obereuter climaxed the drive with a 5 yard scamper into the end zone for the initial USIU touchdown of the season. David Schminke converted the extra-point and the Westerners grabbed an early 7-0 lead.

## **Second Score**

LA State was stalled on their first opportunity with the ball, and the USIU squad

wasted little time in getting on the board again. With less than 12 minutes gone in the first quarter Obereuter again started a charge which second half with yet another netted 73 yards and six points. As before, it was Wayne's running skill that carried off a 37 yard scoring play to pay dirt. With another successful PAT the scoreboard read USIU 14, LA State 0.

After both teams had exchanged punts early in the second quarter, the Diablos started using the and with the exception of "Human Battering Ram" in the person of Jim Terrells, 6'4" and 240 lbs. State moved 60 yards to send tailback Auzie Houchins over for their first score.

## **Pass Attack**

Next, offensive coach Lew Erber stuck to his game plan and inserted Jeff Attebery to do the signal calling. Jeff proved he could move the team well, but through a different route. He went to the air with precision passes to both Jeff Baker and Bruce Rogge.

Attebery's first drive was stalled after having a first-and-goal at the Diablo four yard line. LA State again started a good drive but the USIU defense dug in and halfback Robert Red fell on a Diablo fumble.

Not to be discouraged, Attebery went right back to the air with long gainers. But once again, his drive was foiled after a completed pass was jarred loose with State falling upon the free ball. The first half ended with the Westerners leading 14-7

LA State opened the second half with yet another good drive, but safety Bobby Lent halted the march when he picked off a Jimmy Sander's aerial.

Defense Shines In the third quarter the USIU offense bogged and couldn't mount anything that resembled a drive. Now the defense had to show what they were made of and with the exception of a few missed assignments, they stood strong, and shut the Diablos out in that period.

Both defenses were the heroes of the final period. USIU could build up only one drive and it was stopped with a pass interception. The Diablo quarterback Sanders, started finding the range hitting his big tight-end Bill Berof off on numerous occasions. But again, the USIU defense caused a turnover as Dick Throne pounced on a State fumble.