

Eastern Football League begins with Randolph- Marlboro showdown

RANDOLPH - For the Randolph Oilers, it's the first game of the season which will be an immediate test.

The Oilers, coached by Braintree's Bob Turner, kickoff the 1991 season this Friday at 7:30 p.m., taking on rival Marlboro at the Randolph High School field.

The Marlboro Shamrocks have a new coach this year in Bob Brennan, but they have many returning veteran players who gave the Oilers a run for their time and money last season.

Randolph is the defending EFL champ and they also have a strong nucleus returning. They finished 12-0 overall last year, including a 27-21 victory over Marlboro in the playoff final.

The Oilers also defeated second-place Marlboro by scores of 7-3 and 21-18, the latter being a last-second victory engineered by backup quarterback John Pina.

Bob Turner is in his third year as head coach, compiling a 20-3 record in the past two seasons.

Three players from last year have called it a career as far as placing on the pads - Ed Penn, Jack Mitchell, and Bill Turner - but the trio will be on the sidelines as assistant coaches.

Paul Killinger, Fred Turner, and Rick Rodman also are serving as assistant coaches for the Oilers.

A strong group of veteran players return to the Oilers to try to defend their championship, which was the first league title in their 17 years (this is the Oilers' 18th season). The Oilers scored a total of 252 points last year, while allowing only 47. The returning veterans include: quarterback Bob Witt; receivers Mark Harding, Rick Witt, Ron Cassford, Greg Martello, and Jim Clifford; running backs Jay McGee, Mike Waith, Terry Branch, and Sean Crowley; offensive linemen George Fopiano,

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Kirk Curcuru, Norm Eliason, John Boughner, Tony Rhee, Jerome Penn, and Tony Monaco; defensive linemen Bob Burr, Pat Hart, Bob Locanto, Rick Santos, Rich Lacara, and Aaron Hollins; linebackers Tom Kirllis, Bubba Pina, Arthur Cohen, Leo Cooney, Don Asack, Dave Adams, and John Gates; backs Sean Frazier, Tom McLaughlin, Tom Dennehey, Lester Pina, John Pina, Brian Pagel, and Ernie Light;

also Brian Trundly, Tom Evans, Fauri MacDonald, and Kevin Harding; kicker Ray Almeida; punter Rick Witt.

There are two new teams which have been added to the league beginning this season - the Maine Lions and the Methuen Outlaws.

Other EFL games on tap this weekend include - Friday: Hyde Park Cowboys at Worcester Tigers, 8 p.m.; Hockomock Colts at Charlestown Townies, 8 p.m.; Methuen Outlaws at Middleboro Cobras, 8 p.m.; and on Saturday: Maine Lions at Rhode Island Ocean State Bucaneers, 7:30 p.m.