Steel Valley vs Duluth

April 2, 1999

FINAL	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	TOTAL
Steel Valley	6	10	0	24	40
Duluth	0	20	14	13	47

SCORING SUMMARY

1ST :STV - Eric McGhee 9 pass from Carl Foder (kick failed)
2ND :STV - Foder 1 run (Bruce Reinecker kick))
DUL - Jo Jo Justice 18 pass from Bob DeMeyer (kick failed)
DUL - DeMeyer 1 run (Alex Stricker kick)
DUL - Ryan Hubbard 38 pass from DeMeyer (Stricker kick)
STV - Reinecker 40 field goal
3RD :DUL - Justice 7 pass from DeMeyer (Stricker kick)
DUL - Hubbard 13 pass from DeMeyer (Stricker kick)
4TH :STV - Reinecker 28 field goal
DUL - Justice 50 kickoff return (kick failed)
STV - Dejoeve Platt 25 pass from Foder (Reinecker kick)
DUL - Ricardo Jones 1 run (Stricker kick)
STV - Donald Ellis 25 pass from Foder (kick failed)
STV - Doby Howard 2 pass from Foder (McGhee pass from Foder)

TEAM STATISTICS

	STV	DUL
FIRST DOWNS	9	9
TOTAL NET YARDS	246	210
NET YARDS RUSHING	60	17
Rushes	22	11
NET YARDS PASSING	193	186
Completed-attempted	16-35	15-30
Had intercepted	1	2
Kickoffs-returns	6-185	6-131
Interceptions-returns	2-30	2-8
FUMBLES-LOST	0-0	1-1
TIME OF POSSESSION	32:42	27:18

PLAYER STATISTICS

Steel Valley rushing: Curt McGhee 7-20, Adam Burrell 2-2,
Carl Foder 2-(-5)

Duluth rushing: Ricardo Jones 11-29, Ray Betton 7-28,
Bob DeMeyer 2-5, JoJo Justice 2-(-2)

Steel Valley passing: Carl Foder 16-35-1, 193

Duluth passing: Bob DeMeyer 15-30-2, 186

Steel Valley receiving: Donald Ellis 5-67, Dejorne Platt 4-67,
Curt McGhee 3-28, Doby Howard 2-17, Anthony Savage 1-9, Joe Vincent 1-4

Duluth receiving: JoJo Justice 5-57, Tod Paige 4-32,
Ryan Hubbard 3-64, Ricardo Jones 2-24, Frank Jackson 1-9

Officials:
A: 5,240; T: 0:00.

Game Summary

Duluth, MN -- Duluth Lumberjacks receiver Jo Jo Justice said he was playing indoor football to "get some film."

That's footballese for a videotape resume he can use to impress higher-level pro teams. Justice compiled enough film on Friday night.

The former University of Minnesota player caught two touchdown passes and returned a kickoff 50 yards for another score in the Lumberjacks' 47-40 Indoor Football League victory over the Steel Valley Smash of Wheeling, W.Virginia, before an announced crowd of 5,240 at the DECC.

The Lumberjacks rebounded from a 13-0 first-quarter deficit to outscore the Smash 40-6 over the next two quarters. "There were some little kinks, but once we got them worked out we relaxed and took it to them," Justice said. "Our cohesiveness took some time, but we knew we would get on a roll."

As happy as the Lumberjacks were with Justice's performance, they understand he could soon be gone. Justice said after the game the Arena Football League's Florida and Albany franchises are looking at him, and he expected to hear next week if one would sign him.

"He's an exciting player who can make things happen," said Duluth quarterback Bob DeMeyer, who threw four touchdown passes and ran for another score. "We hope he's with us because he's got a shot in the Arena league. You want to see guys get the chance to move up, but it's hard to believe you could have more fun than this."

After a shaky start, DeMeyer, the 30-year-old school teacher at Northwestern of Maple, played nearly flawless football. DeMeyer had a pass deflected and intercepted early in the second quarter. The turnover led to a Steel Valley touchdown and a 13-0 lead. DeMeyer then threw his four touchdown passes and ran 1 yard for the other as the Lumberjacks went ahead 34-16 after three quarters.

"A lot of (the early mistakes) fall on my shoulders," DeMeyer said. "I had to settle down, watch things happen and let our players play. We had things the whole ball game, but we had some first-game jitters. Once we get on a roll, we have a lot of talent on this team."

Justice is about the best. He made a leaping catch on a fade pattern for the Lumberjacks' first touchdown in the second quarter. DeMeyer ran in the next Lumberjacks' touchdown, then threw a perfect 38-yard touchdown pass to Ryan Hubbard, who ripped the ball away from Steel Valley defensive back Curt McGhee for the[JU] score with 30 seconds left in the first half.

Wheeling opened the second half with a drive that ended when kicker Bruce Reinecker missed his third field goal attempt. Six plays later, Justice made a diving catch of a seven-yard DeMeyer pass that gave the Lumberjacks a 27-16 lead with 8:14 left in the third quarter.

The Lumberjacks defense made possible the team's rebound by holding the Smash to only a field goal the final 12 minutes of the second quarter, then shutting them out in the third.

Like the Lumberjacks offense, the defensive unit just needed some time to find a groove, linebacker Bryan Sandifer said.

"Everybody had jitters," Sandifer said. "A lot of our guys had never played before so there were a lot of pre-game nerves. "But once we got into the flow, we did what we knew we could do, and that's rock and roll. We knew we could, so we went out and got after them."

The Lumberjacks are at Topeka next Friday.