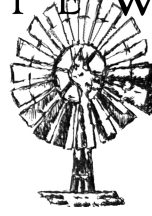


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The Dustbowl (1937)

Pat Kourt

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The Dustbowl (1 9 3 7)

by Pat Kourt

Angry brown clouds roar onto the rugged field-
Tackling the sluggish, depressed opposition.

Leaning, gray outhouses
Weakening, barbed-wire fences
Sagging frame farm houses
Slumping, toil-worn farmers
Rolling, aimless tumbleweeds

Racing and charging toward the goal line!

Slipping through aging wall cracks
Shadowing dim kerosene lamps
Blocking sad, confused children
Crippling farm-to-market travel
Holding ripped, worthless screen doors

Penalizing with desolation, drought, and despair

A painful, but historic, touchdown
Dust Storm 7 Plains 0

Retreating tiredly off the field, the losers head west
To the next contest and become O

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PAT KOURT, a regular contributor to *WESTVIEW*, is a free-lance writer and public-school librarian in Thomas.