

Fielder leads Prairie to key 17-14 win

Blayne Fielder rushed for 112 yards and one touchdown as Cedar Rapids Prairie kept its playoff hopes alive with a 17-14 Mississippi Valley Conference prep football win over Dubuque Senior at Dalzell Field.

Fielder put the Hawks up 7-0 with a 23-yard run, but Senior came back to grab a 14-7 lead on Ron Egger's four-yard run and Shane Loney's 3-yard run.

Prairie's Justin Ward tied the game on a 39-yard pass from Grant Evers, and Brock Boettcher kicked the game-winning field goal with 7:24 left, nailing a 24-yard attempt.

The Hawks improved to 5-3. Senior fell to 4-4 and had its playoff hopes dashed.

Evers completed 10 of 15 passes for the Hawks for 103 yards.

PREP FOOTBALL

Prairie had 217 yards of offense, Senior 205.

■ **IOWA CITY WEST 23, C.R. REGIS 8** — Carlos Honore rushed for 253 yards on 32 carries as the host Trojans improved to 5-3 in the Mississippi Valley Conference to continue their bid for a playoff berth.

Ryan Hansen threw touchdowns passes of 21 and 15 yards for the Trojans.

Brian Andersen connected with Matt Friedman on an 11-yard pass for the Royals' lone touchdown. Andersen completed 16 of 33 passes for 197 yards.

Regis is 2-6.

■ **WATERLOO WEST 48,**

C.R. JEFFERSON 7 — De-Carlos Anderson carried the ball 16 times for 144 yards and three touchdowns as the host Wahawks improved to 3-5 in the Mississippi Valley Conference.

Anderson, who's averaging 124 yards rushing per game, surpassed the 1,000-yard mark for the season.

Corey Young scored on a 2-yard run in the second quarter to put the J-Hawks (0-8) on the board first.

■ **MOUNT VERNON 55, TIPTON 6** — Matt Meyer had touchdown runs of 20, 46 and 67 yards — all in the second quarter — as the host Mustangs improved to 7-1 overall and 5-1 in Class 2A District 6.

Meyer collected 229 yards on 11 carries.

Aaron Loan scored a pair of touchdowns for Mount Vernon in the first quarter on runs of 5 and 35 yards.

The Mustangs scored twice on interceptions. Luke McDermott intercepted a pass in the second quarter and returned it 90 yards for a TD. With 59 seconds left, Ben Pospisil scored on a 27-yard interception return.

With 17 seconds left in the half, Tony Gaul scored on a 12-yard pass from Josh Grau for Tipton's lone touchdown of the game.

■ **CENTER POINT-URBANA 49, CLEAR CREEK-AMANA 0** — Tom Haywood collected 95 yards and two touchdowns on seven carries as the Stormin' Pointers won a Class 1A District 6 game at Center Point.

Seth Rosendahl connected with Roger Brecht on a 15-yard pass and with Tim Whitehead on a 30-yarder

for touchdowns. The Stormin' Pointers rolled up 319 yards rushing and 45 yards passing.

■ **NORTH LINN 22, BELLEVUE 6** — Gabe Robinson collected 202 yards and one touchdown on 35 carries as host North Linn improved to 5-3 in Class 1A District 6.

Also for North Linn, Luke Haughenbury carried the ball 22 times for 113 yards and one touchdown. Sophomore Charles Mills completed four of 10 passes for 68 yards and one touchdown. Matt Robinson caught three passes for 50 yards and one touchdown.

■ **SOLON 53, CENTRAL CITY-SPRINGVILLE 0** — Jon Scranton rushed for 228 yards and three touchdowns on 18 carries as Class 2A top-ranked Solon blanketed Central City-Springville, 53-0. The game ended with 7:46 left

in the fourth quarter.

The Spartans (8-0) led, 37-0, at halftime and finished with 516 yards of total offense, 480 on rushing.

■ **LISBON 27, OLIN-O.J. 20** — Eric Phillips' 1-yard run in the fourth quarter help the Lions win in Class A-7.

Four different players scored for host Lisbon, including Rhett Bennett who kicked three PATs and recovered a fumble in the end zone for a TD. Aaron Nust and Todd Carter also scored on short runs for the Lions.

Casey Nebergall led Olin-Oxford Junction with 156 yards and one TD on 16 carries. Cahm Sauer scored twice for Olin-OJ and caught six passes for 168 yards.

■ **WEST BRANCH 56, ALBURNETT 6** — Chad Gade rushed 11 times for 177 yards and four TDs as Class 1A fourth-ranked West Branch improved to 8-0.

Lions: Fast start helped

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The Lions roared back on their next possession.

Again taking advantage of excellent field position, they marched 43 yards in seven plays to take a two-touchdown lead with 34 seconds left in the first quarter.

The final 12 yards were covered on a pass from Jared Morris to Maloney, who caught the ball at the 3, put his head down and found the end zone.

The Little Hawks finally got their offense going in the second period.

Pinned deep in its own territory, City High moved the ball 89 yards in 14 plays to get on the board with 2:28 left in the first half.

Thein, who carried nine times during the seven-minute drive, took an option pitch from Grabinski on the right side and went the final 6 yards for the touchdown.

Morris completed all five of his first half pass attempts for 62 yards.

City High tied the score at 14 with 8:19 left in the third period on a 6-yard touchdown pass from Grabinski to Jesse Fisher. But Linn-Mar regained the lead six minutes later when Maloney scored his third TD of the night, this one on a 2-yard run.

City High's final scoring drive covered 80 yards in 10 plays, capped by Grabinski's 1-yard sneak.

Biedenbach takes over in rout

By John Shipley
Gazette sportswriter

Jared Biedenbach ought to write a book. He ought to call it, "How to Single-Handedly Break Open a Close Game."

The senior from Cedar Rapids LaSalle forced a fumble, intercepted a pass and scored three touchdowns Friday night as the Lancers broke away in the second half and crushed Northeast, 44-13, in a Class 1A District 6 matchup at Lancer Field.

The book would begin inauspiciously, with Biedenbach muffing the game's first punt, leading to a Northeast touchdown and a 7-0 deficit. Then Biedenbach would sadly relate how he ran three only times for just five yards the rest of the half, as his team held onto a 14-13 lead at intermission.

Then, a few minutes into the third quarter, Biedenbach starts emerging as the hero.

Teammate Ignacio Riera kicks a 35-yard field goal to give LaSalle a 17-13 lead. But Riera knocks the ensuing kickoff out of

bounds, and the Rebels set up at their own 35. On the first play from scrimmage, Northeast tailback John Molk breaks left on a sweep.

Molk gets by Biedenbach and sees daylight, but the plucky linebacker knocks loose the ball and teammate Gene Formanek falls on it.

"In our drills we're taught to try and strip the ball," Biedenbach explains.

After taking over at Northeast's 36, LaSalle quarterback Tony Fandel hands off to Biedenbach, who darts untouched into the end zone for a 23-13 lead.

"He could only do that because the line blocked," LaSalle Coach Duane Schulte said.

Later, with time running down in the third, Northeast is faced with a second-and-third at its own 29. Biedenbach breaks through the line and throws Molk for a three-yard loss. On third-and-long, Northeast quarterback Chris Lee looks to pass.

He finds only Biedenbach, who grabs the

pass and falls down at Northeast's 29. Seven plays later, Biedenbach snares an overthrown screen pass from Fandel and runs 14 yards for a touchdown. After Riera's PAT, the Lancers lead 30-13.

On the Lancers' next series, Biedenbach sweeps right on second-and-8 and doesn't stop until he has covered 42 yards and scored another touchdown. Another Riera kick and it's 37-13 LaSalle.

Fandel adds a 19-yard TD run with just over two minutes left, and the book ends, with LaSalle winning 44-13. Thanks, in large part, to Biedenbach, who finished with 84 yards rushing on eight carries, but whose presence was felt on both sides of the ball.

"Other than that punt he botched, he played great," Schulte said.

The Lancers improved to 2-4 in district, 3-5 overall as they prepare for next week's battle No. 4 West Branch, which whipped Alburnett Friday, 56-6, and has won 43 consecutive regular-season games.

Wahlert handles Kennedy

By Jeff Johnson
Gazette sportswriter

The prep football postseason doesn't officially begin for another couple weeks, but it actually started Friday night for Dubuque Wahlert.

"This was our playoff," Wahlert Coach Mike Cooper said after his Golden Eagles dismantled Cedar Rapids Kennedy, 35-7, at Kingston Stadium.

The victory gives Wahlert a 6-2 record and all but assures it of a playoff berth. The Golden Eagles had a sense of urgency about last night's contest since they finish the regular season next week against Class 4A top-ranked Iowa City High.

Kennedy, with no playoff aspirations, dropped to 3-5.

"They're a good football team and deserve to be in the playoffs," Kennedy Coach Don Knock said of Wahlert.

"This feels real good after not being in there the last two years," Cooper said.

The story of the game was Wahlert's ability to run the ball, and Kennedy's inability to stop another opponent in the second half. The Golden Eagles rushed 43 times for 319 yards and pulled away from a 14-7 game at halftime with three scores.

"I thought they were definitely in control at halftime, even though we were ahead," Cooper said. "They really kicked us around in the second quarter. We just talked with the kids about what we had to do."

"We're getting a little thin. We've got some owees," Knock said. "We're banged up, people limping."

"We couldn't convert some first downs (in the second half). You've got to get first downs if you're going to score."

Senior Mike Welsh led Wahlert's ground assault with 152 yards and a pair of touchdowns on 18 carries. Fellow back Nate Kluesner chipped in 83 yards and a pair of scores on 13 rushes.

Even though Wahlert led, 14-7, at halftime, Kennedy played heads up with the Golden Eagles.

Mike Specht's interception of Kennedy quarterback Brad Kellogg's pass at midfield set up Wahlert's first score, a 17-yard run by Welsh with 4:07 left in the first quarter.

A 60-yard gallop by Welsh set up Wahlert's second score, a 13-yard option run from Kluesner with 10:11 left in the second quarter.

Kennedy took the ensuing kickoff and drove 65 yards on 13 plays. Aaron Johanns' 2-yard run and Ryan Ray's subsequent extra point making it 14-7 with 5:44 left. The Cougars converted a pair of fourth down plays on the drive, the first on a Nick Morio 16-yard run off a fake punt.

Kennedy drove to the Wahlert 35 toward the end of the half but turned the ball over on downs when a fourth-down run from Morio was inches shy of a first down.

Welsh's prettiest score came with 1:45 left in the third quarter when — on third-and-goal from the 11 — he took a pitch-out, juiced a defender and scored on a play that was supposed to be a halfback pass.

Kluesner scored in the fourth on a 25-yard run and Cory Bausch on an 8-yard TD run for the final margin.

"I think our tradition is still there," Knock said. "Our freshmen are having a winning season and our sophomores are still having a winning season. I think it goes back to weight room and offseason conditioning, and I'm not sure we totally have that."

"But I think we'll be back."

Indians finally frolic, 46-7

By Bob Hilton
Gazette sportswriter

Marion football coach Dave Messerli figured his players were "due to have a little fun." Friday night at Thomas Park they had it, at the expense of a Camanche team that has had even less fun this fall than the Indians.

Turning four interceptions into touchdowns, Marion built a 39-7 halftime lead and went on to win, 46-7. Camanche is 0-6 in Class 3A District 5, 0-8 overall.

Coming after a 32-15 upset victory at Maquoketa, Friday's win put Marion (2-4, 3-5) in a fair way to finish with a three-game win streak. The Indians go to 2-4, 2-6 Monticello for their finale next Friday.

"If we play the way we did tonight," Messerli said, "we can win it." And that, he acknowledged, would be a fine way to wrap up a season in which Marion suffered four losses by eight points or less.

"The kids were ready to play. There was lots of intensity. We had an excellent first half."

Messerli said running back-linebacker Kane Lakose had "his best game of the season," and quarterback Jeff Kinney "threw well."

Lakose made Marion's first two interceptions, just four plays apart; scored on a 13-yard pass from Kinney and a 4-yard run; set up the Indians' final TD with a 63-yard punt return; and rushed for 43 yards on six carries, all in the first half.

Kinney completed 3 of 5 passes in the first half, all four touchdowns. He laid a 25-yarder in the arms of Josh Claypool striding across

the end zone on the first play after Lakose's first interception, and he found Jeremy Steepleton on the left sideline for a 73-yard hookup after a Kinney interception with four minutes left in the half.

Given a little more time to reflect, Messerli would have cited Brad Holub, who ran for 106 yards and two TDs on 14 first-half carries.

Messerli did cite offensive tackle-defensive end Dave Werneberg — "We think he's an all-stater again this year" — and asked recognition of assistants Tim Dirks and Dick Sloan, who "did a great job all season getting these kids ready to play."

Camanche Coach Mark Metzger noted that after spotting Marion a 6-0 lead, his troops bounced back to go ahead, 7-6 — then began making the mistakes from which Marion profited so handsomely.

"They've got enough offense that if they'd got 20 yards to go to score, they'll score," Metzger said, "They've been productive."

Holub made a nifty 31-yard run down the right sideline to finish a seven-play, 74-yard Marion TD march on its first possession.

Four plays later, Marion's defender fell while pursuing John Naeve on a deep pass route, and Camanche quarterback Mike Duritz hit Naeve in stride for a 64-yard touchdown. Nick Jensen's kick put Camanche ahead with 5:37 left in the quarter.

A short kickoff put Marion at its own 48, a Lakose went in from the Camanche 4 behind Mike Kalkwarf eight plays later. Kalkwarf ran for the extra points.

Bulls: Kemp leads Sonics

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how he pictured himself as a pro. Growing up in Detroit, he probably structured his game after a guy like Isiah Thomas. We weren't looking for that from B.J. We wanted a defender and a shooter who could subliminate his game to our system.

"B.J. persevered. He won a spot on our team, and he won a spot in our fans' hearts. He's been playing a very major role for us for a number of years."

Seattle had the NBA's best record last year at 63-19, won the first two games of its best-of-five first-round playoff series against heavy underdog Denver, then dropped the next three for one of the league's most embarrassing postseason flops.

"Individual attitudes deflected

some of our success last year," said Sonics Coach George Karl. "I think this year we'll have greater maturity."

Seattle has vast talent with the 6-foot-10 Kemp, point guard Gary Payton, swingman Detlef Schrempf and guard Sarunas Marciulionis, acquired from Golden State. The Sonics also have Bill Cartwright, a mainstay on Chicago's title teams.

Chicago went 55-27 in its first post-Jordan season, but now must further retol.

"I think, all things considered, we can still contend in this conference," Jackson said. "I don't think we're the first team in peoples' minds to win the conference championship. But this team is not bare-bones."

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