

West Branch cruises in key 1A matchup

Matt Mercer rushed 13 times for 126 yards and two touchdowns as Class 1A

AREA ROUNDUP

sixth-ranked West Branch defeated Pekin, 34-13, in a key District 6 prep football game last night in West Branch.

Quarterback Caleb Walter ran for three touchdowns for West Branch, which improved to 7-1 overall, 5-1 1A-6. Pekin fell to 7-2, 4-2.

WEST DELAWARE 56, SOUTH TAMA 13 — Nate Lynch rushed for 105 and two touchdowns on 15 carries and B.J. Hermesen passed for 149 and two scores as the Hawks improved to 7-1 overall, 5-1 in Class 3A 4 on senior night in Manchester.

West Delaware was up 21-0 after the first quarter and 42-7 at halftime.

Brian Darling scored both TDs for South Tama (1-7, 1-5) on 2-yard runs.

(Reported by news correspondent Bill Logan)

WAUKON 44, FOREST CITY 0 — Colin Egan scored two touchdowns for Class 3A sixth-ranked Waukon (8-0, 6-0 3A-3) at home.

POSTVILLE 48, WEST CENTRAL 26 — Sam Polfer rushed for 206 yards and two touchdown runs to lead Postville (7-1) at Maynard.

Darin Lockard led West Central with 140 yards on 18 carries, including a 35-yard touchdown run. Brad Westendorf completed 9 of 17 passes for 184 yards and 3 touchdowns for the Blue Devils (5-3).

DEWITT CENTRAL 48, CLEAR CREEK AMANA 6 — Todd Alexander had an 84-yard touchdown pass to Reese Bryson for Clear Creek Amana.

Dewitt Central improved to 6-2 overall, 5-1 in Class 3A District 5. Clear Creek Amana fell to 2-6, 1-5.

TRIPOLI 15, EAST BUCHANAN 13 — Joe Zhiif scored on a 1-yard run and passed six yards to Dylan Stanford for another score for East Buchanan (1-7, 1-6 A-5), but a two-point conversion proved the difference in Winthrop.

Brock Harms tied it 7-7 with a 69-yard run for the Panthers (2-6, 2-5). After an onside kick and subsequent drive, Drew Dettmaring sneaked in from a yard out to put Tripoli ahead, 13-7. The two-point conversion was good.

MID-PAIRIE 31, ALBIA 7 — Josh Showalter rushed for 114 yards and two touchdowns for host Mid-Prairie. Justin Harland passed for 170 yards, including an 80-yard touchdown pass to Davian Patterson for the Golden Hawks (6-2, 5-1 2A-7).

HIGHLAND 34, ENGLISH VALLEYS 15 — Jordan Westfall returned a fumble 50 yards for a touchdown for Highland (3-5, 3-3 A-7) at Riverside.

Tom Schott ran 57 yards for a touchdown and Spencer Miller scampered 70 yards for a score for Highland.

Pat Lalla ran for a score and threw a touchdown pass for English Valleys (0-8, 0-6).

VINTON-SHELLSBURG 14, BENTON COMMUNITY 12 — Ryan Barkdoll had 101 yards and a touchdown on 19 carries and

Stat leaders

Rushing and passing leaders as reported Friday night. See Sunday's sports section for a more comprehensive list (Coaches: Call 1 (800) 397-8258 or 398-8258 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. today)

Rushers		
Player	Yds	TD
Brent Miller, MFL MarMac	269	1
Sam Polfer, Postville	206	2
Tyler Steger, Maq.Valley	136	0
Darin Lockard, West Central	140	1
Broc Dobleng, Marion	138	2
Noah Sadewasser, C. Ridge	135	4
Reece Jedlick, Solon	128	1
Matt Mercer, West Branch	126	2
Josh Showalter, Mid-Prairie	114	2
Jake Soy, Durant	113	3
Taylor Galli, V-Shellsburg	106	0
Ryan Barkdoll, V-Shellsburg	103	1
Nate Lynch, West Delaware	105	2
Nate Lynch, West Delaware	105	2

Passers		
Player	Yds	TD
Calvin Rea, Cascade	287	2
Ben Welsch, Monticello	282	3
Josh Busenbark, Marion	210	5
Chad Kraklio, Durant	187	4
Brad Westendorf, W.Central	184	3
Justin Harland, Mid-Prairie	170	1
Trent Rasmussen, Lisbon	169	3
B.J. Hermesen, W.Delaware	149	2
Drake Austin, Wilton	119	1

Receivers		
Player	Rec	Yds TD
Nate Meyer, Cascade	9	151 0
Danny Freese, Monti	3	126 2
Allen Reisner, Marion	4	80 2
A.Vartenhagen, Durant	4	100 2
Zach McCool, W.Del.	4	60 1
D. Patterson, Mid-Pra.	3	97 1

Taylor Galli added 106 yards on 18 rushes to lead Vinton-Shellsburg (3-5, 2-4) at home.

WACO 69, IOWA VALLEY 15 — Austin McBeth completed two passes, both for touchdowns, as WACO (8-1, 5-1 A-7) won at home.

BELLEVUE 20, ELKADER CENTRAL 8 — Ben Tubbs put Bellevue ahead for good in the fourth quarter, catching a 51-yard scoring pass at Elkader.

Ryan Horan caught a 24-yard touchdown pass, and Dillon Budde ran 2 yards for a score for Bellevue (5-3, 3-3 1A-5). Jared Burkle passed 15 yards to Preston Brink for the Warriors' (2-6, 2-4) score.

CASCADE 44, CAMANCHE 16 — Calvin Rea completed 17 of 29 passes for 287 yards and two touchdowns to lead Cascade at home.

Rea threw a 20-yard touchdown pass to Andy Beck and added a 31-yard touchdown pass to his brother Collin Rea for Cascade. Brennan Melloy added three rushing touchdowns. Nate Meyer caught nine passes for 151 yards, and returned a blocked field goal 74 yards for a touchdown for the Cougars (3-7, 2-4).

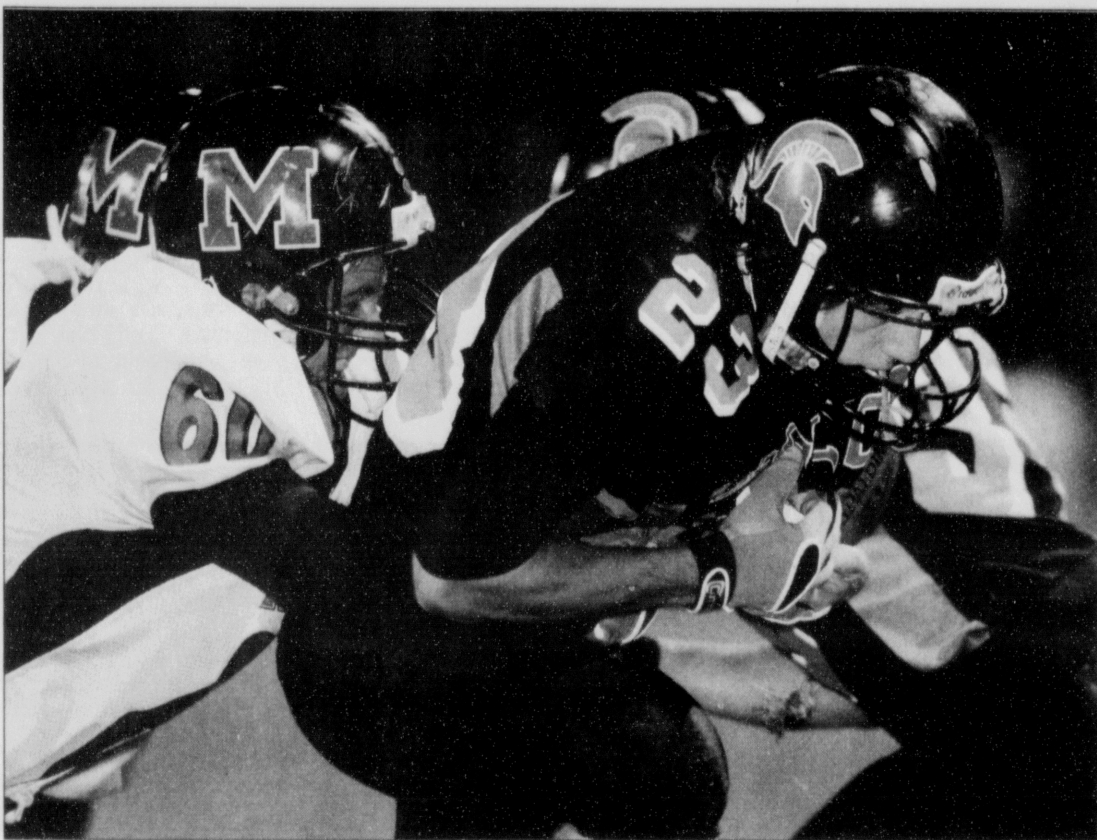
WESTERN DUBUQUE 42, WEST LIBERTY 6 — Austin Simon jump-started a 28-0 run for Western Dubuque with a 43-yard fumble return for a TD as the Bobcats created eight turnovers at West Liberty.

David Harbaugh, Jim Brown and Ryan Besler had touchdown runs for Western Dubuque (3-5, 3-3 3A-5).

Ruben Galvan scored on a 1-yard run for the Comets (2-6, 1-5).

MAQUOKETA VALLEY 8, TIPTON 6 — Brian Jacobs scored on a 4-yard run in the second quarter and added a two-point conversion that stood.

Tipton scored in the fourth quarter on a 4-yard pass from Nick Grimoskas to Max Petersen, but the two-point conversion failed.



Liz Martin/The Gazette

Monticello stuns Solon

By Jeff Linder

The Gazette

SOLON — Get the calculators out and get ready to do some figurative scoreboard-watching.

The Class 2A District 5 football race is going down to the last week.

Ben Welsch threw three touchdown passes in the final 13 minutes as 10th-ranked Monticello rallied to stun No. 2 Solon, 25-18, last night at Spartan Stadium.

"We kept our heads up, and we knew we weren't out of the game," Welsch said. "We proved that we have a good team."

And a ton of guts. The Panthers (7-1 overall, 5-1 district) faced an 18-3 deficit late in the third quarter before turning it around.

As a result, the district race is a three-team tizzy heading into Week 9. Monticello, Solon and Dyersville Beckman stand at 5-1 in the district.

Solon (7-1 overall) still appears to have the advantage in point differential heading into its regular-season finale

at Camanche.

Monticello, which is at Maquoketa Valley next week, needs a win — and probably some assistance — to make the playoffs.

If it doesn't work out, the Panthers will always have this comeback to remember.

"We've been waiting four years for this," said Zach Utter, who was a menace defensively for the Panthers. "We've been a second-half team all year."

The Spartans were one play away from breaking it open. They failed to do so and paid the price.

Collin Sleeper's 61-yard run off a fake punt — and Reece Jedlicka's two-point conversion — gave the Spartans an 18-3 lead with 4:11 left in the third period. The Panthers fumbled away the ensuing kickoff and appeared to be headed to a one-sided defeat.

But when Todd Tuetken intercepted a pass in the end zone, they still had life.

Then came the air raid.

Welsch connected with Danny Freese for a 32-yard touchdown pass with 1:18 left

Regional game of the week



Gazette graphic

in the third period to get the Panthers within 18-10.

Welsch hit Freese again on a jailbreak screen, and Freese turned a short gain into an 81-yard touchdown. Drew Ball added the conversion run by inches to tie the game, 18-18, with 6:18 left.

After another fake-punt attempt came up short, the Panthers took the ball at their own 31 with 1:20 remaining. Three plays later, Welsch connected on a 73-yard bomb to Travis Larson

Monticello's Kyle Husmann (60) tackles Solon's Jason Castle (23) during the first quarter of their game last night at Solon. Ben Welsch threw three touchdown passes in the final 13 minutes as 10th-ranked Monticello rallied to stun No. 2 Solon, 25-18, at Spartan Stadium. The Panthers (7-1 overall, 5-1 district) faced an 18-3 deficit late in the third quarter before turning it around.

for the game-winner with 32 seconds left.

Welsch faked a screen pass before hitting Larson along the far sideline, and Larson outran the coverage from there.

"That screen really set up that last pass," Welsch said. "Everybody executed it great. All I had to do was swing the ball out there."

Matt Morrison's pass to Reece Jedlicka got to the Monticello 13 as time expired.

Welsch completed 12 of 21 passes for 282 yards, including 229 in the second half.

Jedlicka rushed for 117 yards in the first half but was contained to 11 after intermission.

"We made some hard hits on him," said Utter, who had more than his share. "They moved me from nose tackle to defensive end this week. It was a tough move, but it worked out."

Monticello took an early 3-0 lead. Solon scored the next 18 points before the Panthers scored the final 22.

Contact the writer: (319) 368-8857 or jeff.linder@gazettecommunications.com

Lisbon makes quick work of Garwin GMG

Trent Rasmussen completed 11 of 16 passes for 169 yards and three touchdowns as Lisbon blanked Garwin GMG.

LINN COUNTY ROUNDUP

36-0, in a Class A District 6 prep football game last night in Lisbon.

(7-1, 6-1 A-6). Jordan Bakke rushed for 100 yards on 11 carries and returned an interception 46 yards for a touchdown for the Lions (7-1, 6-1). Garwin GMG fell to 1-7, 1-6.

MOUNT VERNON 28, MAQUOKETA

0 — Jake Ryan rushed for 130 yards and two scores and Curt Kimm and Kaiden Kuntz each added 71 yards on the ground for the host Mustangs.

Mount Vernon improved to 5-3 overall, 5-1 in 3A-5. Maquoketa dropped to 3-5 and 3-3.

NORTHEAST 21, ALBURNETT 18 — The Northeast defense held Alburnett out of the end zone eight straight plays inside the 10-yard line to close the game as the Rebels (6-2)

preserved the victory.

Dylan Dietrich threw two touchdown passes to Logan Near and ran for a 1-yard touchdown to provide the scoring for Northeast.

Cody Young ran for 166 yards and a touchdown for Alburnett (4-4).

CENTER POINT-URBANA 36, SOUTH WINNESHIEK 21 — Jake Fangmann rushed for 162 yards and two touchdowns on 23 carries and Garrett Smith passed for 184 yards and a touchdown for Center

Point-Urbana.

Ryan Monroe ran 32 times for 156 yards and three touchdowns for South Winneshiek (0-8).

EDGEWOOD-COLESBURG 44, NORTH-LINN 6 — Justin Machacek scored on a 63-yard hook-and-ladder to provide the scoring for North-Linn.

CEDAR FALLS NU HIGH 28, SPRINGVILLE 6 — Andy Port passed for 133 yards and ran for a touchdown as Springville (1-7 A-6) lost at home.

C.R. Kennedy cruises past Rams

The Guy Martino Show, co-starring an impressive array of pass-catchers, had Dubuque Senior football fans

C.R./I.C. ROUNDUP

reaching for the clicker last night at Dalzell Field.

From the Rams' perspective, it was painful to watch as Martino threw for 263 of Cedar Rapids Kennedy's 277 yards passing in a 37-7 victory over out-manned Senior.

The game was all but over at halftime, with Kennedy boasting a 23-0 lead.

Teddy Shonka scored on 53- and 16-yard passes from Martino, Tim Johnson added a 10-yard run, Martino a 2-yard run and Herve Cantrell capped things with a 53-yard pass from Martino.

"Guy was throwing the ball great today," Shonka said.

"We have four guys we

wanted to get the ball to tonight and for the first time we actually kept track of touches," Kennedy Coach Tim Lewis said.

"Guy just keeps getting better."

(From Bill Speltz of the Dubuque Telegraph-Herald)

IOWA CITY REGINA 35, WAPELLO 0 — Five different players scored touchdowns and the Regal defense posted a shut-out as Iowa City Regina won at Wapello.

Wesley Klein-Cook, Ryan Murphy, Bobby Johnson and Nick Merlino all scored on the ground for Regina, which accumulated 246 total rushing yards. Jeff Pacha also snagged a 12-yard Klein-Cook pass to complete the scoring.

In addition to the shutout, the Regals only allowed Wapello 102 total yards of offense.

Hawk Thoughts...

GARY DOLPHIN,
the voice of the Iowa Hawkeyes, will be sharing his thoughts on Iowa football **EXCLUSIVELY** with GazetteOnline readers throughout the season.

Take a look...
and **let the games begin!**

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HAWKEYE RADIO

