

Crystal LoGiudice/The Gazette

Linn-Mar running back Jer Garman races for a touchdown against Cedar Rapids Kennedy in the first half last night at Kingston Stadium in Cedar Rapids. Garman scored twice in the fourth quarter as Linn-Mar rallied to beat Kennedy, 21-17.

# Lions storm back, nip Gougars

By K.J. Pilcher

CEDAR RAPIDS - The fireworks came at just the right time for the Linn-Mar Lions,

Forget about the show visible from Memorial Stadium after the Cedar Rapids Kernels baseball game. Jer Garman provided his own.

Garman exploded for two touchdowns in the fourth quarter, powering the Lions to a 21-17 victory in a Mississippi Valley Conference game last night at Kingston Stadium.

The game was scheduled for Friday but was moved when Armstrong Field became unplayable because of flooding from Indian Creek.

Garman scorched the Cougars for a 1-yard plunge and a 64-yard

#### Stat highlights

First downs: C.R. Kennedy 16,

Team rushing: C.R. Kennedy

Team passing: C.R. Kennedy 19-25-1-153, Linn-Mar 10-18-

● Top rusher: C.R. Kennedy — Royce Bell 16-120; Linn-Mar Jer Garman 26-244, 3 TDs

Top passer: C.R. Kennedy Jed Haycraft, 14-17-114; Linn Mar — Will Roth, 10-18-181 Top receiver: C.R. Kennedy

- Max Martino 9-73-0; Linn-Mar

- Josh Montague 7-113-0

scamper within a minute, scoring the decisive TD with 3:01 remaining.

The Lions (1-0) trailed 17-14 and received the ball after holding Kennedy as it attempted to milk the clock. On the first play, Garman ran left, made a couple of cutbacks and

then was off to the races for his third touchdown.

His second TD came after the Lions appeared to be stopped on 4th-andgoal from the 1, but a Kennedy personal foul gave the Lions new life. It was indicative of a tightly called game in which both teams had more than 10 penalties.

Garman, who finished with 244 yards on 26 carries, put the Lions on the board with a 44-yard run two plays into Linn-Mar's second possession. He broke off left tackle and zipped down the sideline for a 7-0 lead they held through halftime

That's when Royce Bell and Kennedy took control until the final minutes.

Bell bursted for runs of 65 and 33 yards to set up Kennedy's first scores.

Bell ran right and

exploded past Linn-Mar defenders all the way to the 5-vard line. Kennedy (0-1) stalled but got on the scoreboard with Erik Boyer's 25-yard field goal.

The Cougars' next possession resulted in a Jed Haycraft score and Kennedy's first lead. Bell set up the touchdown with runs of 33 and 19 yards. Bell finished with 120 yards on 16 carries.

Justin Simmons added a touchdown with a 62yard run in the opening minute of the fourth.

The Linn-Mar defense contributed when needed. The Lions stuffed Kennedy late and forced the Cougars to settle for a field goal after having first-and-goal from the 5, thanks to two sacks and an interception by Mark Atwater, who had one of the sacks.

Contact the writer: (319) 398-

8259 or jeff.johnson@gazcomm.com

REWIND

# Vikings get new era off to rousing start with rout of S. Tama

By Jeff Linder

Pat Farley got the job he wanted. And the debut.

Vinton-Shellsburg kicked off the Farley foot ball era Friday at home with a 51-21 victory over South Tama.

"I hope it's the first of many victories to come,' said Farley, who had served as an assistant at Fort Dodge St. Edmond the previous eight years.

Farley, a distant relative to UNI Coach Mark Farley, applied for five

"This is the one I really hoped I would get," he

A challenge awaits. The Vikings went 1-8 last year, winless in their dis-

"The biggest obstacle is reversing the psychology of losing," Farley said.

Friday was a start. The Vikings clung to a 22-21 halftime lead before blowing it open.

Clint Ferguson rushed for 190 yards and three touchdowns, and Jordan Barnes collected two sacks.

#### Comeback kids

Special teams and defense took Mid-Prairie back from a 19-0 deficit, and the Golden Hawks edged Williamsburg, 21-

Dylan White blocked a punt late in the first half, and Kaleb Duwa picked it up and scored to make it 19-7. Duwa blocked a field goal minutes later to keep it there at halftime.

"That gave us some confidence and some hope," said Mid-Prairie Coach Pete Cavanagh.

After all-state running back Tanner Miller got the Golden Hawks within 19-14, Michael Aldeman returned a fumble for a touchdown to put them ahead to stay

Mid-Prairie advanced to the Class 2A state quarterfinals last year, and expectations are high.

'Like we mentioned at a team meeting, we need to play like a ranked team," Cavanagh said. 'The kids enjoy (the attention). It tells them that the program is headed in the right direction.

#### Showdown countdown

Cedar Rapids Washington and Iowa City High warmed up for next week's Mississippi Valley Conference showdown at Bates Field with impressive wins.

Shay Gutman and Andre Dawson ran for two touchdowns apiece, and Washington pulled away late to defeat Cedar Falls,

A.J. Derby ran for two touchdowns and passed for another as City High handled Dubuque Wahlert, 38-7

Look for both teams to be ranked in the Class 4A top five when the Associated Press rankings come out Monday. City High won last year's battle,

#### Quick hitters

• Meskwaki Settlement made its football debut Friday, falling to eightman powerhouse Stanton, 72-14. The Warriors, who made a 185-mile trip to southwest Iowa, play all nine games on the road.

 Jesup snapped an 18-game losing streak with a 27-12 conquest of Don Bosco. It was the J-Hawks' first win since late in the 2006 season.

 Seth McGarvey kicked three long field goals - 42, 44 and 47 yards — as Union ripped Webster City, 50-13. Mc-Garvey passed for three touchdowns

• BGM collected three safeties in a 39-0 victory

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

## Pickering picks apart Waukon for 5

Marion back's TDs all in the first half in opener at Coe

By Jeff Johnson

CEDAR RAPIDS — Logan Pickering had a nice 2008 football season.

The Marion running back rushed for just under 800 yards as a junior and hit the end zone 14 times.

It's early, but 2009 looks like it's going to be better than just nice for Pickering. Much better.

He's already more than a third of the way to his touchdown total of a year ago after scoring five times Saturday in the first half of Marion's 34-13 season-opening win over Waukon at Coe College's Clark Field.

The game was postponed a day and moved from Thomas Park because of flooding. Coe's FieldTurf seemed to suit the 5-foot-9, 170-pound Pickering.

"I had five touchdowns last year against Oelwein. That was an overtime game, so that was exciting," Pickering said. "I don't know. I've got to give thanks to my line. It was pretty easy. The line blocked great all day and created big holes. Es-

#### Stat highlights

- First downs: Waukon 13,
- Team rushing: Waukon 35-
- Team passing: Waukon 8-17-
- Top rusher: Waukon James Volbrecht 15-143-2; Marion
- Logan Pickering 19-93-5 Top passer: Waukon — Steve
- Carstens 7-10-1-57; Marion Dalton Combs 13-19-1-174 ● Top receiver: Waukon — Tyler Sommer 3-48-0; Marion — Logan

pecially the right tackle Trashon Thompson.

Pickering 4-59-0

Thompson, one of two returning starters upfront for Marion, was standing nearby when Pickering said that and nodded his head in appreciation.

'Very pleased with Pickering," Marion Coach Tony Perkins said. "He had a great game.

The coach felt his team had about half a great game. Marion scored four touchdowns in the second quarter to take a 34-0 halftime lead but got shut out in the second half.

Not to mention outscored.

"The first half we came out and were very focused. Our energy level was up," Perkins said.

"The second half ... we're still working on our back-

ups, our two deeps. They aren't there, yet, so we played our first string the whole first half with no backup, and we ran out of gas. We flat out got tired, we cramped up.

So we need to work on that, need to work on our

Pickering saw few carries in the second half because of cramps. He finished with 93 yards rushing on 19 attempts, scoring on a 2-yard run in the first quarter and runs of 21, 3, 2 and 3 in the

He had a two-point conversion run after his first TD and caught four passes for 59 yards. Senior quarterback Dalton Combs, making his first varsity start, showed off a nice arm, completing 13 of 19 passes for 174 yards. He was picked off once.

"The first half, we played great. We had great intensity," Combs said. "The second half, I just think we got tired. We've got to work on that. We'll be there the next game and finish strong."

Waukon dominated the fourth quarter when it scored its two touchdowns on runs by senior back James Volbrecht. That included a nice 40yard scamper. Volbrecht finished with a game-high 143 yards on 15 carries.

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### Monticello routs Anamosa in day game at Coe

CEDAR RAPIDS Monticello waited a day and changed locations to do it but defeated Anamosa, 37-0, in a non-district high school football game Saturday afternoon at

Coe College's Clark Field.

Cody Gullett completed

14 of 18 passes for 194

yards and three touch-

downs for Monticello.

Logan Felton had four receptions for 50 yards and two touchdowns, and Jay Ahlrichs had four catches with a touchdown for the Panthers.

Ahlrichs added two rushing touchdowns.

Mitch Hewitt completed 10 of 20 passes for 122 yards, and Dalton Ahrendsen had four receptions for 70 yards for Anamosa.

Monticello had 286 yards of total offense and held Anamosa to 115 yards.

The game was postponed Friday and moved to Coe's FieldTurf surface because of heavy rain and wet field conditions at Anamosa.