

PREP FOOTBALL

First championship



Stephen Mally/The Gazette

Cedar Rapids Kennedy's Austin Coates (5) pulls in a pass as he is pulled down by Linn-Mar's Josh Gassmann (23) during the second quarter of their high school football game last night at Linn-Mar Stadium in Marion.

Dralle rushes for 228 yards in 31-6 victory over Linn-Mar

By Jeff Johnson, The Gazette

MARION — You get exhausted watching Tyler Dralle run the football play after play after play, so imagine what he must feel like after a game.

The Cedar Rapids Kennedy back will not ever admit fatigue. That's just the way he is. Keep feeding him the ball and watch him go.

He was fed another 34 times last night, amassing

228 yards and a pair of touchdowns in the Class 4A Cougars' 31-6 win over Linn-Mar at Linn-Mar Stadium. Kennedy (6-0) pulled away from a 14-6 game at the break, scoring 17 unanswered points in the second half.

"I love getting the ball," Dralle said. "If it takes 35 or 40 for us to win the game, I'm ready for it."

Dralle came into this one leading 4A in carries by a wide margin, and that'll

continue for at least another week. His final touch of the night, for nine yards, unofficially put him over the 1,000-yard mark this season.

He had 20 carries in the second half, as the Cougars decided to pound the ball against Linn-Mar (2-4). Kennedy ran 21 offensive plays in the third quarter, 15 of them Dralle runs.

"I talk to him constantly on the sideline," Kennedy Coach Brian White said.

when asked if he ever worries about Dralle's workload. "I ask him how he's doing, and he says 'Fine, I want the ball.' In the fourth quarter, I looked over at him and said 'We've got a lead now, we're going to lean on you if you're up to it.' He just says 'I'm always up to it.'"

White said the coaches are cautious with him during the week in practice because

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Stephen Mally photos/The Gazette

Cedar Rapids Kennedy's Johnson Mator gets pumped up after making a sack during the first quarter last night at Linn-Mar Stadium in Marion.

Kennedy/Metro is first on Cougars' list



ABOVE: Cedar Rapids Kennedy's Shaun Beyer drives into Linn-Mar's Brennan McGaffee (28) during the first quarter.

RIGHT: Cedar Rapids Kennedy's Tyler Dralle (21) stiff-arms Linn-Mar's Logan Hagmeier.



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he's a two-year starter who doesn't need as many reps as others. Dralle said his weekend recuperative routine includes an ice bath and a lot of rest.

"On Saturday mornings, I wake up and kind of roll off the side of my bed," he said. "I roll off of it because I'm really sore. But it feels great because I've got the best offensive line in the state."

Kennedy finished with 454 yards, 310 on the ground. Shaun Beyer added two TDs for the Cougars, one on a reception and another on a 55-yard run.

Alexander Stone added a 37-yard field goal. Linn-Mar's points came on field goals of 33 and 47 yards by Alexy Boehm.

"Tonight was our first championship," said White. "We're Metro champs, that's the way we're looking at it. We said we want to play for three championships this year: Metro champs, district champs and state champs. We've got one down and two to go."

The initial possession of the game set the pace for Kennedy.

On 3rd-and-8 at its own 16, quarterback Nick Duehr hit Chase Baker with a quick hitch pass en route to a 59-yard gain down the sideline. Three plays later, Duehr lofted a jump-ball pass into the right corner of the end zone that the 6-foot-5 Beyer went up and caught over two defenders for a 14-yard touchdown.

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C.R. Kennedy 31, Linn-Mar 6
AT LINN-MAR STADIUM

	CRK	LM
First downs.....	19	11
Rushes-yards	47-310	26 - 70
Passing-yards	142	163
Comp-att-int.....	7-12-0	11-21-1
Punts-avg.....	3-41.6	5-38.4
Fumbles-lost.....	0-0	0-0
Penalties-yards.....	8-52	6-45

C.R. Kennedy 14 0 3 14—31

Linn-Mar 6 0 0 0—6

CRK—Shaun Beyer 14 pass from Shaur
 Beyer (Alexander Stone kick)

LM—Alexy Boehm 33 FG

CRK—Tyler Dralle 4 run (Stone kick)

LM—Boehm 47 FG

CRK—Stone 37 FG

CRK—Dralle 3 run (Stone kick)

CRK—Beyer 55 run (Stone kick)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—C.R. Kennedy: Tyler Dralle 34-228, Shaun Beyer 2-68, Mason Jacobs 3-9 Zach DeMaris 2-6, Nick Duehr 5-(-2); **Linn-Mar:** Jason McGaffe 9-40, Reese Phillips 10-16, Zach Luehring 2-15, Neme Siaway 4-3 Josh Gassmann 1-(-4).

Passing—C.R. Kennedy: Nick Duehr 6-11-0-121, Shaun Beyer 1-1-0-21; **Linn-Mar:** Reese Phillips 11-21-1-163.