

CLASS 4A

Kennedy sprints past Linn-Mar

By Jeff Johnson, The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — Fireworks were shot off with a little over two minutes to go in the third quarter last night at Kingston Stadium.

They actually were from next door at Veterans Memorial Stadium, as the Cedar Rapids Kernels celebrated their regular-season home finale with a vigorous display of pyrotechnics that filled the air with boom after boom.

It somehow seemed appropriate you could see and hear everything particularly well from the Cedar Rapids Kennedy sideline. The Cougars football team also gave everyone a vigorous display of offensive fireworks that lit up the scoreboard with touchdown over touchdown.

Class 4A's ninth-ranked team looked good on both sides of the ball in a 33-7 win over Linn-Mar. Cairron Hendred had 170 yards rushing and three TDs, running back mate Max White added 103 and two scores as Kennedy moved to 2-0.

The son of head coach Brian White provided a turning-point play defensively late in the second quarter. Linn-Mar (0-2) was driving inside the Kennedy 20 in just a 13-0 game when quarterback Marcus Orr was sacked on fourth quarter and fumbled, defensive back White picking up the loose ball and running it back 70 yards for a scoop and score.

"Turnovers really hurt us the first half," Linn-Mar Coach Paul James said. "I thought we moved the ball at times, then what usually got in our way was ourselves, in terms of penalty, turnover, a mistake of some sort. You've got to give Kennedy a lot of credit. They are a very good football team. They are big, and they are physical, and we are trying to do things without a lot of size."

Kennedy had an interception and two fumble recoveries in the first half.

Orr threw for 240 yards on 15-of-33 passing, spreading out Kennedy with four wide receivers on virtually every play. Running back Alex Hess scored the only Linn-Mar touchdown on a 1-yard run late in the game.

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