

Raiders go 3-0 against Exeter team

The Kingston Township Raiders youth football program went 3-0 last weekend during week 8 of Wyoming Valley West Youth Football League action with a wins at the A, B and C level. The WVWYFCC does not recognize scores or standings for D-level games. For more Raiders info and game pictures, visit us at WWW.KTRAIIDER-S.ORG.

A TEAM

Raiders 28 Exeter Panthers 18

The Kingston Township Raiders A team evened its record to 4-4 and sealed a playoff position with a big 28-18 victory over the Exeter Panthers.

After holding Exeter on downs for its first offensive possession, The Kingston Township Raiders opened the game with an offensive drive that consumed 10 minutes off the game clock. The offensive line and backfield led the way for Robert Baker's initial 40 yards of offensive running. The drive was capped off with a Jim Roccograndi 15-yard touchdown run around the right corner, giving KT a 6-0 lead. The 2-point conversion failed.

On the next Exeter offensive series, the Panthers used a passing attack and scored on an off tackle play that tied the score at 6-all.

Kingston Township then took the kickoff and marched 65 yards, using a multiple backfield running attack led by Brandon Rome, Robert Baker, Nathan Kish, Jim and Kris Roccograndi. The drive was capped off by a Robert Baker 20-yard TD run. The 2-point conversion failed, giving KT a 12-6 halftime lead.

The third quarter opened with KT's offense moving the ball through the gaps opened by offensive linemen Mike Ca-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

JT Carey (No. 58) turns upfield after a reception during the Raider B-game against the Exeter Panthers. Mike Oleninski (No. 47), Corey Stegman (No. 2) and Jason Morgan (No. 59) trail the play.

rey, Michael Sebastian, Bill Gately, John Strausser and TJ Weeks. The drive was completed with a 20-yard TD run by Jim Roccograndi. Nathan Kish scored on the 2-point conversion, putting the Raiders ahead, 20-6.

The Panthers then gained momentum in the fourth quarter against a tough defense led by John Dougherty, Brandon Butwin, Henry Puchalsky, TJ Weeks, Brandon Roam, Kris Roccograndi, Luke Edwards and Tylor Bullford and scored on their next two possessions by capitalizing on big plays. On fourth and 30 from their own 30-yard line, the Panthers scored on a 70-yard screen pass. The 2-point conversion failed and Exeter was creeping up, 20-12.

After holding KT on four downs, the Panthers then added another score through the air for another six points. The 2-point conversion failed and KT held on to the lead, 20-18.

On the ensuing kickoff, Jim Roccograndi returned the ball 45 yards to the Exeter 25-yard line. After a gain of five yards on first down by Nathan Kish, Roccograndi broke the next play off tackle for a 20-yard TD run. Robert Baker scored on the 2-point conversion, giving KT a 28-18 lead.

With seven minutes left in the game, the Panthers then took the kickoff and marched down the field, using a passing

attack and on a third and 12 from the 14-yard line, threw an interception to KT's Kris Roccograndi that sealed the win for the Raiders.

Jim Roccograndi led the Raiders' offense with 175 yards rushing followed by Robert Baker with 155 yards.

B TEAM

Raiders 34 Exeter Panthers 0

The Kingston Township Raiders B- team shut out the Exeter Panthers with a convincing 34-0 victory last Sunday, securing the Raiders a playoff seed.

Kyle Kotulski began the scoring with an 8-yard power run before the Raiders opened up their passing game when JT Carey (three receptions for 86 yards, 1TD), caught a 45-yard touchdown pass, giving the Raiders a 12-0 lead.

Touchdown runs by Chris Knecht (2 TDs) and Jesse Shaffer, capped by a 2-point conversion by Joey Stier, sealed the victory for the Raiders.

The Raiders used power running backs Robert Wargo, Corey Stegman, Kotulski and Stier (87 combined rushing yards) to soften the Panthers' defensive front. Shawn Spencer and Kevin Lazerowicz combined to sack the Exeter quarterback three times.

C TEAM

Raiders 24

Exeter Panthers 0

The KT Raiders C TEAM remained undefeated as it improved its record to 8-0 with a 24-0 win over a strong Exeter Panthers team.

The Raiders offensive line of Adam Niznik, Ryan Martin, Mitch Kelly, Jason Anderson and Ray Anthony Ostroski provided many opportunities for the running backs to move the ball throughout the day.

The initial Panther offensive series was stopped by key tackles by Christian Roberts and Michael Golden. After a series of strong runs by Nick Mathers, Bret Storrs scored on a 3-yard run. The next Panther offensive series was cut short by an interception by Peter Capitano who returned the ball 10 yards. On the ensuing drive, the next score was made on a 25-yard run by Tanner Gattuso.

Defensive plays by Kyle Piskorik and David Edwards gave the Raiders offense its next opportunity. Gattuso took the ball around right end for a 59-yard run that was made possible by stellar blocking, particularly by Capitano, who provided the key block.

Throughout the second half, the defense was led by Colin Pertl, Matthew Wargo, Ricky Morgan and Jason Culp.

The final score of the game was made by Mathers who took the direct snap and scored on an 8-yard run up the middle.

D TEAM

Mason Gattuso and Devin Robbins each scored two touchdowns and Robbins added a 2-point conversion to lead the Raiders D team in a thrilling game against a very tough Exeter Panthers team.

The Panthers Robbie Trottni was able to score twice and Cole Bresnahan scored once against a tough Raiders defense led by Mark Bulford, Michael Anderson, Parker Voitek and Andrew Grabowski, who recorded a sack on fourth down to stop the Panthers' final drive.

The Raiders were able to control the ball most of the day behind the exceptional blocking of Devon Butwin, Matt Maransky, Nick Adams, Morgan Boedecker and Michael Doggett.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Back Mountain Bobcat Zack Haddle (No. 26) brings down a Plymouth Shawnee Indian during a youth football game between the two teams last Sunday.

'C' Bobcats fight, but fall

The Back Mountain Bobcats C team dropped a 22-0 contest to the Plymouth Shawnee Indians last Sunday.

Cameron Brennan and Zach Haddle both had great tackles in the first series of the game, forcing the Indians to turn the ball over on downs. RJ Driscoll and Haddle both ran the ball but not enough for the first down. Oakley punted the ball and the Indians started on the 44-yard line. On the first drive, the Indians broke the Bobcat defense and scored. The 2-point conversion was good and the Indians took an 8-0 lead.

The Indians kicked off to the Bobcats Steve Darling who returned the ball to the 43-yard line. Bob Oakley ran the ball for a 5-yard gain with the great blocking of the offensive line of Owen Morgan, Eric Sweepheiser, Chris Mennig, Jacob Corey, Dan Sweeney, Zak Haddle and Chris Allen. Darling ran the ball for a first down and, on the next down, Joey Chaga and Bob Oakley both ran the ball but fell short of the first down. Oakley punted the ball and the Indians returned it to the 35-yard line.

Great tackles were made by Devin Dickson, Stone Mannello, Mennig, Oakley and Haddle. On the next play, the Indians managed to score and completed the 2-point conversion, taking a 16-0 lead.

Driscoll returned the ball to the 41-yard line for the Bobcats. Oakley, Mannello, Brennan all ran the ball with help from the great defense of Zack Gable, Anthony Grandinetti and Danny Schnable. On fourth and 8,

Oakley punted the ball to the Indians.

The Bobcats defense and great tackles by Oakley, Mennig and Haddle forced the Indians to turn the ball over on downs.

Oakley ran the ball for a game and Manello's pass to Darling was complete, but wasn't enough for a first down.

In the beginning of the third quarter, Brennan, Driscoll and Mannello ran the ball but came up short of the first down. Darling punted the ball to the Indians who took over the ball on the 33-yard line. The Indians fumbled the ball and Jacob Corey recovered it for the Bobcats.

Haddle, Brennan and Chaga ran the ball for a first down. Mannello and Brennan ran the ball but had to turn the ball over on downs.

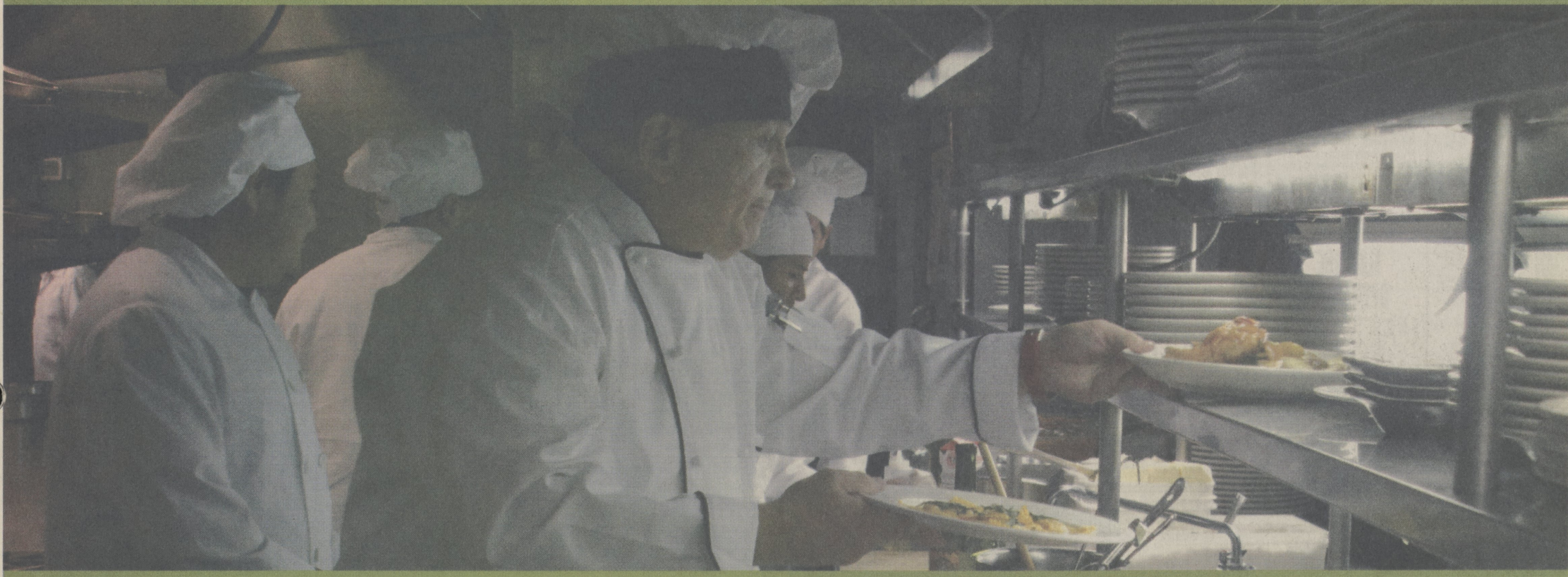
The Indians took possession on the 23-yard line. Great tackles by Brennan, Darling, Mannello and Marcus Steele forced the Indians to fumble the ball. AJ Spears recovered the fumble for the Bobcats to end the third quarter.

The Bobcats started off the fourth quarter with Brennan and Mannello running the ball. A Mannello pass intended for Dickson was incomplete and the Back Mountain boys turned the ball over on downs.

During the next drive, Haddle, Mennig, Bo Butler, Dickson, Mannello, Brennan and Spears all had great tackles. Late in the fourth quarter, the Indians scored again to go ahead, 22-0.

The Bobcats drove the field with great runs by Brennan and Mannello but the clock ran out.

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