



MLC ATHLETICS
FOOTBALL
October 30, 2009

Knights Unable to Hold Lead in 28-27 Loss at Dome

Westminster 28
MLC 27

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Knights had leads of 19-0 at the half and 27-7 to begin the fourth quarter but allowed three late scores in a 28-27 loss to Westminster at the Metrodome Friday night.

The nights jumped out quickly with a score on their opening drive when Ryan Kolander caught a 26-yard touchdown strike from Greg Holzhueter. The catch and point after put the Knights ahead 7-0, and also gave Kolander the school record for touchdown catches in a season with 14.

The Knights would score again in the early portion of the second quarter when Caleb Dietrich punctuated a 12-play, 81-yard drive with a six-yard touchdown grab from Holzhueter, but a blocked extra point would prove to be a costly one as the Knights took a 13-0 lead.

MLC finished off the half in style, capping an 11-play, 40-yard drive with Holzhueter's third touchdown pass of the day, this one a one-yarder to Kyle Bence. However, the Knights would miss the two-point conversion attempt, and went into the half with a 19-0 lead.

After Westminster scored with nearly seven minutes to play in the third quarter, the Knights responded with an 11-play, 65-yard drive that ate six and one-half minutes of the clock, ending with a one-yard touchdown run from Holzhueter, who also ran home the two-point conversion attempt to give the Knights a commanding 27-7 lead.

That lead would not last, however, as Westminster scored twice in the first five minutes of the quarter to cut the lead to 27-21, and then went ahead on their third drive of the quarter on a three-play, 71-yard drive that took just 43 seconds off the clock to give them a one-point lead at 28-27.

The Knights' final drive started with just over four minutes remaining on the clock, but they were unable to move the ball into Westminster territory before turning it over on downs at their own 40 yard-line, allowing Westminster to run out the clock for the win.

After outgaining Westminster 310-172 in the first three quarters, the Knights were outgained 202-55 in the fourth quarter, with Westminster doing most of their damage through the air with 159 yards passing.

The Knights finished the day with 365 yards, 211 of which came on the ground. Aaron Voss had a workmanlike day with 107 yards on 22 carries, while Holzhueter added 56 yards on 13 carries and a score.

Kolander and Holzhueter hooked up six times on the day for 102 yards and the early touchdown, while Dietrich was the target of two passes for 32 yards and one score. Overall, Holzhueter finished 11-24 for 154 yards and three touchdowns passing.

Defensively, the Knights Chuqee Fletcher and Luke Beilke with seven tackles apiece, while Jake Unke finished with five tackles, a sack and an interception. Matt Rothe also had five tackles and added a fumble recovery.

The loss snapped the Knights' five-game win streak and brings them to 6-3 on the season.

MLC will conclude the season with a home game against St. Scholastica next Saturday (Nov. 7). Game time is scheduled for 1 p.m.

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