

Warwick v. Kingston

Game Summary

September 17th, 2009

By Rich Arnott

Kingston - The Warwick Wildcats 2009 road show traveled north up the NY State Thruway to perform at carpeted Dietz Stadium in a week three non-league showdown with the Kingston Tigers. The more ferocious of the two previously unbeaten squads turned out to be the pride of the Queen Village.

Quarterback Rian White kept his early season magic afloat in hitting the bulls-eye for three more touchdown passes, as well as bolting for two himself, in Warwick's 43-28 convincing victory before over 1100 spectators. Two late Kingston scores made the final look more respectable.

Kingston took advantage of a Wildcat fumble during the opening kickoff return and soon took a 7-0 lead on senior Nashwan Hoffman's seven-yard touchdown catch and sophomore Stephen Gordon's extra point.

Warwick answered with a 74-yard scoring drive culminated by John Babin's three-yard catch in the end zone. The PAT failed so Kingston still held a 7-6 edge.



Sam Brown

Sam Brown led the Wildcat defense to a hold on the ensuing Tiger offensive series and White brought the offense out starting from his own 46. Babin made two receptions and Jesse Testa rushed four times throughout this scoring effort. But White made a key run on 3rd-and-10 for a first down and later buzzed his way in for a five-yard TD with only 16 seconds left in the first quarter. Warwick missed its second PAT of the night but had taken a 12-7 lead after one stanza.

Consequently, linebacker Jared Komorowski recorded a big sack of junior Kingston QB Jimmy DeCicco on 3rd-and-8 to send out punter Derrick Jackson. Heavy Wildcat pressure caused Jackson to kick the football nearly straight up in the air and Warwick had great field position at Kingston's 37. Sam Careccia wasted no time in providing White with yet another target in snatching a 33-yard strike from his fellow senior. Babin took in White's proceeding toss for his sixth TD catch in three games. During a two-point conversion attempt, White could have knitted a sweater with all the protection he had in finally discovering Babin for the connection.



Sam Careccia

But Warwick's 20-7 advantage wouldn't stay that way for too long. Sophomore Jake DeCicco, QB Jimmy's younger brother, made two huge receptions to highlight an 83-yard scoring drive. The first

came on a 57-yard pass-and-run play that transported the ball to the Warwick 27. Jake then caught a 20-yard pass for six points and Kingston had closed to within 20-14 after Gordon's kick with 6:33 remaining in the first half.

These teams wouldn't give the scoreboard operator a break though. On the first play from scrimmage during the Cats' next possession, Testa broke loose on the home side of the field and ran away for a 75-yard trip to pay turf. Mike Grace arrived from his varsity soccer game and nailed the point-after to rebuild the lead, 27-14.

Kingston had great plans to diminish the margin before intermission as they marched all the way down to the Wildcat three-yard line. However, in perhaps the biggest defensive play this year to date, senior outside linebacker Byron Quinn recovered a fumble on first-and-goal with 41 seconds left in the half to protect the 13-point lead.

The Warwick offense didn't rest on its laurels by scoring the first time it had the ball in the third quarter. Junior Nick Race made his third reception of the year to get the Cats going to the Tiger 27. A Careccia grab then set up a first-and-goal at the Tiger five. White then hiked the ball to himself and raced the remaining distance with confidence in his blocking. White had earned his fourth rushing touchdown of the young season and despite a missed PAT, saw his team up the ante to 33-14.

Terrific defense by Chris Vealey, Brandon O'Rourke, and Andrew Treschitta kept Kingston from getting any closer as the game progressed to the fourth quarter.

Careccia nabbed White's third touchdown pass of the game and 11th of the season from 22 yards out at 9:14 to put Warwick in cruise control. Grace legged one through the uprights for a 40-14 score.



Chris Vealey

Vealey and Sam Brown each registered a sack against DeCicco on the following series. This set up Babin's punt return to the Kingston 12. Junior Rob Corter took over for White at QB and went to running backs Brendan Hedding and Lovelle Williamson for carries before Warwick's kicking game showed some range on a Grace 30-yard field goal. 43-14.

White's line read 17/21 completions tallying 222. Testa topped the rushing category for Warwick, earning 129 yards on 13 totes. Babin caught nine passes for 112 and Careccia pulled in four-for-76.

Warwick and Kingston have split 10 games since the Tigers joined the American Conference of the old OCL in the 80's from what is now known as Section One.

Coach Sciarra's 3-0 Wildcats begin AA-II league play at Valley Central (1-0 AA-II, 2-1 overall) in week four.