

STONE COLD

Panthers rough up Tigers in Crossville

DUANE SHERRILL
Editor Smithville Review
Smithville, Tennessee

They were who we thought they were. For Coach Steve Trapp and his DeKalb County High School Tigers, there were no surprises when they traveled to Crossville to play the undefeated Stone Memorial Panthers Friday night other than the results – a 35-0 loss in which the Tigers were held to zero net yards from scrimmage and one first down.

“Our youth was showing,” said Coach Trapp following the Tigers’ second consecutive loss in their present 1-2 campaign. “There wasn’t a lot positive we can take away from the game. We just got to keep working hard and I think our guys will do that. We will turn it around at some point. We just have to make a decision if that’s next week, the week after or next year.”

The issues started after the Tigers had their hosts pinned deep in their own territory during Stone’s first possession. However,

on third down, Stone signal caller Thomas Arnold heaved a bomb from his own endzone to Jesus Murillo for a 60-yard gain. One of the only bright moments of the night happened next as the Tigers recovered an errant toss by Arnold. Stone would not be deterred as after a three and out by the Tigers, Stone drove the field and took the lead 7-0 in the late first quarter. It took Stone just two minutes to find the endzone again after another Tiger three and out, making the score 14-0 behind Arnold’s second TD. Stone wasn’t through in the first quarter as Arnold hit Murillo for a touchdown in the waning moments of the opening stanza. By the end of the half, DeKalb found itself down 35-0 and a running clock in the second half allowed for few possessions to make up the difference. The only real scoring opportunity came when Axel Aldino, making just his third career start, heaved a 60-yard bomb but the ball ended up being just off the fingertips of the receiver.

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Dylan Denson gives chase to Stone Memorial quarterback Thomas Arnold during DeKalb County’s 35-0 loss in Crossville Friday night. Arnold proved to be elusive all evening.

Duane Sherrill photo



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DeKalb Middle School quarterback Briz Trapp targets receiver Nolan Gottlied. The Saints remained perfect on the season, gritting out a tough win at Trousdale County 20-16 last Tuesday. They play host to Upperman this Thursday night.

Eyeing a title

Saints trip up Trousdale, remain on top of region

DUANE SHERRILL
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The DeKalb Middle School Saints are in the driver’s seat for a region title as they survived their trip to Trousdale County, emerging with a 20-16 win and a spotless 4-0 record.

“We slacked the first half. Timid. Weak,” said Saints Head Coach Justin Poteete of the hard-fought victory against the conference foe last Tuesday. “We came out in the second half, got punched in the mouth and were down 10 and gritted it out.”

Poteete said the close call tells him the Saints need to work on the entire game so they don’t dig a hole they cannot get out of.

“We need to play four quarters,” Poteete said as he oversaw his team’s contact drills Thursday in front of the middle school.

The win means the Saints are in good shape as far as making the

conference playoffs. “Right now we’re sitting in the driver’s seat but we’ve got to win out. A loss could ruin everything. We’ve got to beat Baxter Thursday and Macon in two weeks. That’ll leave us in first as long as we handle business.”

Under the conference playoff system, the top team from one side of the conference will play the second-ranked team from the other side of the conference. Four total teams make the playoffs, those being the two highest ranked teams on either side of the conference.

Andrew Vickers and Colby Barnes scored touchdowns in the win at Trousdale. Barnes went over the 100-yard mark for the fourth time this season with 21 carries for 144 yards.

Josh May carried the ball 12 times for 94 yards. The Saints play their next game at home against Baxter Thursday. Kickoff is 6:30 p.m.

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SAINTS COACH JUSTIN POTEETE