



Friday, November 16, 2018 @US Bank Stadium...

Trojans Defeat Polars For Berth In State Championship

By: Tracy Hinsz

The Barnesville Trojans continued their trek to the Prep Bowl State Championship game in Class AA football with a convincing 34-20 victory over previously unbeaten and the top ranked team in the QRF Minneapolis North.

The Trojans had a fantastic start to the game opening up a 28-0 lead using a powerful and deceptive running game to net huge yards and consume time. Minneapolis North could not find a way to stop Barnesville's offense until their deficit was too much to overcome.

The Trojans finished the game with 388 yards rushing on 57 carries for a 6.8 yards per carry average, while not attempting a pass. Barnesville used this formula to dominate the time of possession as they held the ball for a commanding 30:08 seconds compared to the Polars 17:52.

Barnesville's great start began on the opening kickoff as Preston Snobl faked a reverse and ran for 43 yards putting the ball deep into Polar territory at the 38 yard line. Barnesville would proceed to dominate the line of scrimmage as they moved the ball down the field with big gains rushing, starting with a 10-yard run from Kellen Hinsz and a nine-yard run from Nick Detloff.

Both plays were the focal point of the entire first half as Barnesville used quick hitting running plays to gash the Polars for yards up the middle, staying away from running plays out wide where Minneapolis North had a significant speed advantage.

After Adam Tonsfeldt gained three yards for a first down, Hunter Anderson took the next carry down to the six-yard line with a gain of eight yards. Detloff would gain the first down with a two-yard carry that was followed up by a Tonsfeldt run of five yards, putting the ball at the one-yard line. After a false start penalty backed the Trojans up to the six, Preston Snobl took a shotgun snap and charged towards the end zone for Barnesville's first touchdown of the game. He would run the same play for the two-point conversion giving the Trojans an 8-0 lead after a beautifully executed seven play, 38 yard drive, giving Barnesville a load of confidence and momentum.

The Trojans defense would keep the momentum as they forced a fourth down play that saw quarterback Zach Yeager bobble the bad snap and cornerback, Adrian O'Brien come flying in to recover the ball on the Polars 31-yard line.

Barnesville would go right back to what worked well on the first drive, running the ball five times before Detloff found pay dirt with an eight yard touchdown run. Tonsfeldt would run in the conversion to make the score 16-0 Barnesville in the first quarter.

Minneapolis North finally started to move the ball on offense with the run until they got to midfield. The



Adam Tonsfeldt passes to Preston Snobl for the 2-point conversion at the US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

Trojans would once again force a fourth down play where middle linebacker, Brooks Martinson met the running back in the hole, stopping him short of a first down and giving the Trojans the ball back at their 46-yard line.

The Polars would force a Trojan punt and go for a big play as they connected on a pass that covered 40 yards, taking the ball down to the Trojans 16 yard line as the first quarter came to a close.

After a penalty backed them up to the 27-yard line, the Trojans would once again force a fourth down play. The Polars would run a hook and ladder pass play that saw the running back get past a Trojans defender, as he looked to be cruising to a first down or touchdown.

However, cornerback Chase Brenner would make the runner move sideways enough to give free safety Hinsz another step to race him down and force the runner out of bounds one yard short of the first down.

Barnesville would begin with the ball on their own six yard line and go back to doing what they had done so successfully all game.

A 16-yard run by Hinsz got them out of the shadows of their own end zone. That was soon followed by a one yard run from Detloff, before Tonsfeldt found a seam on a midline keeper and raced 52 yards before being tackled at the 24-yard line, flipping the field position once again in the favor of Barnesville.

The Trojans continued to move the chains with runs by Anderson and Tonsfeldt getting the ball to the 14-yard line. Hinsz took the next carry down to the two, with Brenner netting the touchdown run on the next play, culminating a seven play,

94-yard touchdown drive. The two-point conversion pass was stopped making the score 22-0 Barnesville.

The Polars would quickly get the ball to midfield again before fumbling the football on a handoff that was pounced on by defensive end Joey Mark at the 48-yard line of the Trojans.

Barnesville started with a five yard run by Hinsz before Detloff took an inside handoff 35 yards down to the 12 yard line. A penalty would move the ball to the seven where Anderson took the next carry down to the two. The next play saw Brenner net his second score from two yards out, giving the Trojans a 28-0 lead after the two-point conversion pass was knocked down.

The Trojans had dominated both sides of the ball for the first 21 minutes of the half, but the Polars still had three plus minutes to make some noise before intermission.

They would do exactly that, as they began to move the ball via the pass getting the ball to the Trojans 48 yard line. A swing pass saw the Trojans have it somewhat covered, but a questionable block sprung the Polars player free as he raced to the end zone 48 yards for Minneapolis North's first touchdown of the game. The two-point conversion pass was called no good, but replay overturned the call making the score 28-8.

The Trojans were able to move the ball down the field, but ran out of time sending both teams into halftime. The Polars had some momentum on their side and would start the second half with the ball.

Barnesville's defense was making the Polars work for everything they got and forced another fourth down play that saw the Polars convert a first down. Minneapolis North

would use this momentum to their advantage as they found a hole in Barnesville's defense, completing the pass as the receiver made a nice move to break free and race 48 yards to the end zone for their second score of the game. The two-point conversion pass was forced out of bounds to keep the score 28-14 Barnesville.

The Trojans got the ball back starting on their 35 yard line and went back to doing what they had done the entire first half. Run the ball and control the clock.

Hinsz started with a 10 yard run to move the chains and then it was the Detloff and Anderson show with Brenner mixing in a fourth down run for a first down to keep the drive alive. Both players accounted for the last 40 yards with Anderson netting 31 of the yards on four carries including the last carry from one yard out for the score. The two-point conversion was snuffed out, but the Trojans had regained their 20-point lead at 34-14 and burned valuable time off the clock.

The Polars would return the kickoff all the way to the Trojans 35 yard line, but the Barnesville defense would come up with a big play as Tonsfeldt snared an interception off a Martinson tipped pass to stop their drive.

The Trojans would have to punt as they ran out the clock on quarter number three, pinning Minneapolis North down to their 12 yard line. The Polars would put together their best drive of the game as they used the run and the pass to march down the field 88 yards for the score on a two-yard touchdown run from Kehyan Porter. Barnesville would

stop the two-point conversion run to keep the score at 34-20 in favor of the Trojans.

The Trojans lined up with their hands team as the Polars went for the onside kick. The ball was grabbed by Kaden Zenzen giving the Trojans possession at the 42-yard line. Barnesville was not able to do much with the ball, but took valuable time off the clock before having to punt.

However, the Trojan defense would come up big as they forced a fourth down play that was shut down as the long pass fell incomplete giving Barnesville the ball at the 25 yard line with very little time remaining in the game.

The Trojans would get one first down and then go into victory formation as Barnesville did what most people did not feel was possible in taking down undefeated Minneapolis North by the score of 34-20 and sending the team into the State Championship football game, where they will face three-time defending champion Caledonia.

"What a fantastic performance from everyone on the Barnesville Trojans team," stated Head Coach Bryan Strand. "Our kids had a fantastic start to the game with Preston Snobl returning the opening kickoff deep into their territory. We went to our running game and were getting yards and first downs quickly. If our kids were not sure if they could play with them, that first drive showed them quickly that they could.

Our defense also came up with some big fourth down stops and netted three turnovers that were critical to the victory. We controlled the ball and the clock, which is what we thought we would have to do against their high-powered, quick strike offense. They could not score if their offense was not on the field.

I am very proud of how disciplined we were in all facets of the game. We ran the ball north and south, using our quickness instead of trying to beat them with speed, as they were much faster than our team. They had difficulty finding the football, allowing us to get yards in bunches. We averaged almost seven yards a carry, which is outstanding against a team that does not give up many yards or points.

I am very proud of the boys and the coaches for getting to this point. Everyone has worked extremely hard and put in countless hours to be here. We will need a great week of practice to get ready for an outstanding Caledonia team."

The Trojans finished with 388 total yards of offense, all on the ground on 57 carries, netting 21 first downs.

Tonsfeldt led Barnesville with 104 yards rushing on 12 carries, with Detloff adding 101 yards rushing on 16 carries and a touchdown.

Anderson tallied 97 yards rushing on 15 carries and a score with Hinsz

netting 63 yards on eight carries. Brenner had 17 yards rushing on five carries and two touchdowns with Snobl adding one carry for six yards and a score.

Defensively, the Trojans gave up 395 total yards with 147 yards on the ground and 248 yards through the air. The Polars gained 18 first downs, but turned the ball over three times.

O'Brien had a fantastic game as he tallied eight total tackles (3 solo, 5 assisted), with a fumble recovery and two tackles on kicks, with Mark adding eight tackles (2s,6a) with a fumble recovery and two tackles on kicks as well.

Anderson finished with seven tackles (4s,3a), two tackles for a loss and a tipped pass, with Hunter Zenzen netting 12 tackles (2s,10a) including one for a loss, while Tonsfeldt added eight tackles (2s,6a) and an interception.

Snobl chipped in eight tackles (2s,6a) and a tackle on a kick, with Martinson netting six tackles (1s,5a), including one for a loss, a tipped pass and a tackle on a kick.

Brenner had four solo tackles with Brady Kroll netting six tackles (1s,5a) and a tackle on a kick, while Jacob Morgan added two tackles (1s,1a) and two tackles on kicks.

The Trojans record now stands at 11-2 on the season. They will face three-time defending state champion Caledonia for the state championship on Friday, November 23 at 1 pm at US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

Box Score	1	2	3	4	F
Barnesville	16	12	6	0	34
Mpls North	0	8	6	6	20

- B-Snobl 6-yard run (Snobl Run)
- B-Detloff 8-yard run (Tonsfeldt Run)
- B-Brenner 2-yard run (Pass Failed)
- B-Brenner 2-yard run (Pass Failed)
- M-El-Amin 48-yard pass from Yeager (Campbell pass from Yeager)
- M-El-Amin 46-yard pass from Yeager (Pass Failed)
- B-Anderson 1-yard run (Run Failed)
- M-Porter 2-yard run (Run Failed)

- Individual Statistics
- Rushing:
M-Yeager 8-60, Porter 13-52, El-Amin 4-29, Brown 1-6
B-Detloff 16-101, Brenner 5-17, Snobl 1-6, Hinsz 8-63, Anderson 15-97, Tonsfeldt 12-104

- Passing:
M-Yeager, 20-34-1=248
B-Tonsfeldt 0-0-0=0

- Receiving:
M-El-Amin 10-139, Brown 6-57, Campbell 2-38, Crandall 2-14
B-None



Kellen Hinsz runs through the hole as teammates Hunter Anderson, Jonny Robideau and Hunter Zenzen take care of their opponents.



Brooks Martinson takes down the Polar ball carrier as teammates Hunter Anderson, Joey Mark and Preston Snobl run in to make sure the carrier stays down.

CONGRATULATIONS TROJANS!

Your hard work and dedication has made the entire community and area proud!

Serving Farmers In The Area With...
Grain • Seed
Fertilizer • Chemical
Hardware • Fuel

Wolverton	218 995-2565 Elevator
	218 995-2176 Fertilizer
Comstock	218 585-4616
Agromony	218 585-4151