



Friday, November 9, 2018 @Brainerd...

# Trojans Shut Out Punch Ticket To US Bank Stadium

By: Tracy Hinsz

The Barnesville Trojans opened the quarterfinal round of the Class AA playoffs against Moose Lake-Willow River at Brainerd High School on Friday, November 9.

A fantastic running game and a phenomenal defensive effort helped the Trojans cruise to a dominant 40-0 victory sending Barnesville to the semi-finals to be played at US Bank Stadium, home of the Minnesota Vikings, for the second time in three seasons.

MLWR opened up with the ball to start the game and the Trojan defense was ready. Barnesville forced a fourth down play, which saw the Trojans produce a fumble that was recovered by defensive tackle, Brady Kroll at the 41-yard line.

However, the Trojans would give the ball back a few plays later on a fumble, forcing the defense back on the field. But, the defense would force a quick punt with the offense taking over on the 11-yard line.

The Trojans would move the ball to the 39 yard line after a 19 yard run by Chase Brenner, before hitting a home run as quarterback, Adam Tonsfeldt found a hole behind some great blocking and raced 61 yards untouched to the end zone. The two-point conversion pass from Tonsfeldt was tipped into the air, but found the waiting hands of tight end, Grant Inniger, giving Barnesville an 8-0 lead.

Tonsfeldt would make a great defensive play on the Trojans next defensive possession as he intercepted the pass and returned it to the MLWR 34 yard line, putting Barnesville into great field position again.



Jackson Poepping, Hunter Anderson, Brady Kroll, Preston Snobl and Joey Mark made it a long night for Moose Lake ball carriers.

Running back Kellen Hinsz would start the drive with a five yard run, with Tonsfeldt and Chase Brenner getting the next two carries for a Trojan first down. Brenner would plow his way for a seven yard gain to put the ball at the 14 yard line, where Hinsz would end the drive with a touchdown run off a nifty cutback play that saw Brenner and guard, Jonny Robideaux make key blocks to spring him for the score. The two-point conversion run was stopped making the score 14-0, which is how the first quarter would end.

The Trojan defense would force another punt with MLWR's quarterback doing a quick kick from his 26-yard line that would only travel 11 yards, giving the Trojans great field position once again.

Barnesville would put together another nice drive mixing in runs from Tonsfeldt, Brenner, Hinsz and Anderson to get the ball into Rebel territory. A penalty would negate a

as Tonsfeldt hit Brenner for a nine-yard gain.

After a touchdown was negated by a holding penalty the ball was sitting on the 14-yard line with the Trojans facing a third down and 12. Hinsz would get 13 yards with a fantastic run that saw him lay out for the end zone only to come up one yard short.

Hunter Anderson would take the next carry in for a touchdown for Barnesville's third score of the game. The conversion run was not good making the score 20-0 Barnesville.

The Trojan defense, led by a great play from Brooks Martinson who read a screen pass and snuffed it for no gain, forced another punt that put the ball inside the 10-yard line.

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Tonsfeldt touchdown run, before the Trojans tried to use some deception that almost turned into disaster. Preston Snobl took a pitch and tried to make a cross the field pass that was intercepted at the Rebel 28 yard line and returned to the Trojan 49 yard line.

MLWR would hit a pass play on third down to move to the 34-yard line and a few runs later the ball would be sitting on the 26.

The Trojans would divert any momentum with a back breaking play that saw the Rebels run a pitch to the left, with the Trojans bottling the play up. The running back decided to try and pitch the ball back to a teammate, but the ball was grabbed out of the air by defensive end Joey Mark at the 25-yard line. He saw nothing but green space ahead as he raced untouched until he was swarmed by his teammates in the end zone, 75 yards later for a defensive touchdown. Snobl would add the two-point conversion run that would put the Trojans up 28-0 late in the second quarter.

MLWR would finally put together a scoring threat by marching the ball down the field. The final play of the half saw the Rebels complete a 24 yard pass, but the receiver would not make the end zone as cornerback Adrian O'Brien tripped him up with Hinsz finishing off the tackle at the five yard line as time ran out in the half.

The Trojans opened up the second half with the ball and drove to midfield before they were forced to punt. The snap was low, forcing the punter, Snobl, to go to his knees to receive the ball, marking him down at the 37-yard line and giving some momentum to the Rebels. But on the first play, defensive end, Hunter Zenzen forced a fumble that was recovered by Mark giving the ball back to Barnesville at the 33-yard line.

Barnesville would use a time consuming, methodical drive to march down the football field and take time off the clock. The drive would end with a Tonsfeldt two-yard touchdown run. The conversion run was stopped after a bobbled snap, however the Trojans had taken a commanding 34-0 lead.

The Trojan defense continued to swarm the ball and forced another turnover as Tonsfeldt plucked away another interception, giving Barnesville the ball at the 41 yard line of the Rebels.

After a six yard run ended the quarter, the fourth quarter would start with a bang as Nick Detloff took an inside hand off and raced 35 yards to the end zone for another Trojan touchdown. The extra point kick was blocked making the score

40-0 Barnesville.

After allowing a big run that put the Rebels deep into Trojan territory, O'Brian would make an outstanding interception to stop the drive and keep the shutout alive.

The Trojans would run fullback Aaron Schiefert on three straight plays that gained 17, 9 and 32 yards. However, the last carry would see Schiefert get tackled hard to the ground and land on his shoulder where he would have to leave the game due to an injury.

The Trojans would fumble on the very next play, allowing their defense to come back out on the field to preserve their shutout, which is what they would do. When the final horn sounded, the Trojans had a 40-0 victory, putting them into the final four of Class AA football.

"I felt we played a very solid game against a very good Moose Lake-Willow River football team," said Head Coach Bryan Strand. "Our kids prepared and played with a ton of confidence. Adam Tonsfeldt had another outstanding game. He is hard to see and does such a great job hiding the football that nobody can ever tell if he has it or not. I could go on and on about who played well, but truly it was the entire team from offense to defense to special teams.

"We will have our hands full this week as we play Minneapolis North who is the top rated team by far in the QRF standings. I feel we can give them some trouble with our style of offense as they probably have not seen it before.

"I heard they have some good skill position players and a great quarterback, so we will need to be at the top of our game. Every game now is a blessing. Hopefully our preparation and playing well could see us get another week of football over Thanksgiving weekend.

"We will need to heal up a bit, as we lost one of our best sophomore players in Aaron Schiefert, who broke his collarbone on one of our last offensive plays of the game. He was really stepping up for us and will be missed.

"I also want to give my coaching staff a huge shout out. I have the best coaching staff around. They put in a lot of hours every week and it has paid off. Our kids were ready to play and that is a testament to the guys I have working around me," Strand concluded.

As a team, the Trojans finished with 422 total yards of offense with 413 yards coming on the ground on 48 carries and nine yards through the air. The defense held MLWR to 172 yards of total offense with 118 coming on the ground and 54 yards through the air. Barnesville also created six turnovers.

Tonsfeldt led all rushers with 138 yards on 15 carries and two scores, while adding one pass completion in two attempts for nine yards. Brenner added 98 yards on 11 carries and one reception for nine yards, with Detloff netting 61 yards on nine carries and a score.

Schiefert finished with 58 yards on three carries with Hinsz adding 49 yards on seven carries and a touchdown, while Anderson added nine yards on three carries and a score.

Defensively the Trojans pitched a shut out thanks to Martinson who tallied nine tackles (6 solo, 3 assisted) with one for loss, with O'Brien netting seven tackles (5s,2a) and an interception.

Tonsfeldt added three tackles (2s,1a) with two interceptions, with Mark netting four tackles (2s,2a) and two fumble recoveries including a touchdown return.

Zenzen added nine tackles (2s,7a) including one for loss, one tipped pass and a tackle on a kick, with Anderson adding nine tackles (2s,7a) with one for loss and a tackle on a kick, while Snobl added seven tackles (2s,5a) and Kroll a fumble recovery.

The Trojans record now stands at 10-2 on the season. Barnesville will now face Minneapolis North, who defeated Redwood Valley 20-12, in the semi-finals of Class AA football at US Bank Stadium with the game slated for Friday, November 16 at 11:30 am.

Box Score	1	2	3	4	F
Barnesville	14	14	6	6	40
MLWR	0	0	0	0	0

B - Tonsfeldt 61-yard run (Inniger Pass from Tonsfeldt)

B - Hinsz 14-yard run (Run Failed)

B - Anderson 1-yard run (Run Failed)

B - Mark 75-Yard Fumble Return (Snobl Run)

B - Tonsfeldt 2-yard run (Run Failed)

B - Detloff 35-yard run (Kick Blocked)

Individual Statistics  
Rushing:  
M - NA  
B - Detloff 9-61, Brenner 11-98, Hinsz 7-49, Anderson 3-9, Tonsfeldt 15-138, Schiefert 3-58

Passing:  
M - NA  
B - Tonsfeldt 1-2-0= 9, Snobl 0-1-1=0

Receiving:  
M - NA  
B - Brenner 1-9



Kellen Hinsz puts a Moose Lake ball carrier on the ground after a short gain.



Brooks Martinson, Adam Tonsfeldt and Grant Inniger close in on a Moose Lake ball carrier.



Adrian O'Brien gets credit for half a tackle as he wraps up a Moose Lake runner.



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