

Broncos outlast Knights in thrilling Little Okaw football contest

By KENT A. STOCK
Staff Writer

It was Homecoming week-end at Cerro Gordo High School; a wonderful fall evening for football featuring two teams both looking for much needed victories. All of that and more created a great atmosphere for high school football under the lights on a Friday night; the Broncos and Knights did not disappoint.

ALAH made the initial score in the game with Adam Day crossing the goal line at about the end of the opening quarter. This came after a huge sideline run by Day to put the ball close to the goal line. The Aaron Likens point after was good for a 7 – 0 Knights lead.

The Broncos marched down the field completing a fourth down and one on the visitor's 32 yard line. Ethan Mann would end up punching the ball into the end zone however the ensuing extra point try was no good due to a low snap. CGB trailed 7 – 6.

After a reverse play on the return, ALAH was set up with good field position at the Broncos 40 yard line. With 8:20 to go in the first half, it was Day breaking free again for a 51 yard touchdown scamper. Likens extra point sailed through the uprights and the lead was now 14 – 6 in favor of Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond.

CGB was stopped on downs in the next series but a Knights fumble led

to a short two yard TD run. With 3:51 left in the second quarter it was once again a one point game with ALAH leading 14 – 13.

The first half excitement was not over, however, in one of the games big plays Mann hit Matthew Guffey 18 yards down the field with Guffey doing the rest to complete a 75 yard play with just six seconds left. The EP was good and the Broncos went into the locker room at halftime with a 20 – 14 lead.

It was the red, black and gold defense making a big stop when the Broncos had the ball first and goal with 7:58 to go in the third quarter. It was the Knights Billy Fifer breaking free for a huge 94 yard score. The extra point attempt was no good so the game was tied at 20 – 20 with 7:41 left in the third.

The next score came from the home team on a 28 yard pass from Mann to Gage Taylor-Barker. Another McDermith kick and the Broncos were back in front by seven, 27 – 20 with 5:44 left in the third stanza.

ALAH began their next drive at their own 24 yard line. The Knights were marching down the field. ALAH completed a huge fourth down play to keep the drive alive. With 11:52 left to go in the final quarter Lance Mercer hit Day for a 27 yard score and with the extra point the game was knotted back up at 27.

On the ensuing kickoff,

Brady Borntrreger of ALAH recovered a CGB fumble. This put the Knights back in business and they made the most of it. A four yard touchdown run by Day and a successful point after gave the visitors the lead 34 – 27.

The last score of regulation came with 3:30 left as CGB's Sam Dalton took the ball in from the five yard line. McDermith's kick was up and good and the game was tied at 34 which is where it remained as the clock expired.

The Knights won the overtime toss and opted to play defense first. The home team wasted no time with Mann tossing a TD pass to Taylor-Barker on the very first play. ALAH came out for their shot at the end zone edging ever closer to the goal line. However, on fourth and goal from the one yard line a Knights pass barely fell incomplete. Cerro Gordo-Bement had secured a very important, hard-fought win in a very memorable Little Okaw Valley Conference contest between these two rivals.

The 41 – 34 victory put the Broncos record at 4 wins 3 losses. A win at Niantic this Friday night against Sangamon Valley will make the team playoff eligible. If Cerro Gordo-Bement does beat the Storm and then secures a Senior Night victory over Villa Grove-Heritage on Friday, October 19 CGB will be assured a playoff spot.

ALAH volleyball wins LOVC NW tourney title

By KENT A. STOCK
Staff Writer

It was a very busy week of volleyball for the Knights with one title secured and a second just out of reach. It certainly showed that ALAH can compete with some of the top teams in the area.

After defeating Decatur LSA in the quarterfinals and Blue Ridge in the semi-finals of the Little Okaw Valley Conference Northwest Division tournament on Saturday the Knights had to face tourney host and #1 seed Cerro Gordo for the title on Tuesday.

The Broncos are having a fantastic season and had defeated ALAH in regular season play already this year. The red, black and gold would have to bring a better came on this night and they did.

The first set was a close one but the Knights held it together to edge CG 25 – 23. The next set belonged to the orange and blue who took the game by a final score of 25 – 20.

This set up the deciding third game which ended up being a thriller. ALAH seemingly had the up-

per hand throughout. The Knights had a 23 – 18 lead but Cerro Gordo was not ready to quit by any means. The Broncos roared back to tie the set at 24 apiece. That is when Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond dug down deep and scored the last two points to take the game, 26 – 24, the match and the LOVC NW tournament championship.

Taylor Powell led the team in kills with nine Mackenzie Brown had six put-downs. Michaela Powell had two aces to lead the Knights. The defense was strong as well with Brown leading the way in blocks with five. Emma Harris and T. Powell had two stuffs each. Marissa Herschberger had a great night at the net with 20 assists.

This win put the Knights into the LOVC finals against LOVC Southeast tournament champion Tri-County. Ever since, then Arthur-Lovington, broke the Titans five year conference winning streak several years ago at 74 games, this rivalry has been fierce between the two teams. It is always a battle.

Things did not look well

for the tournament hosts in the first game as Tri-County came out swinging. The Titans took the first set 25 – 15. Whatever head coach Emily Crossman said to the team before the second game worked. It was the Knights who came out and dominated most of the match before they let the visitors sneak back in at the last minute. ALAH held on to take the game 25 – 23.

The third game had Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond on cruise control building up a 16 – 9 lead at one point. That is when the momentum in the game changed and in a big way. Tri-County would run off a string of eleven unanswered points to take the lead. They then fought off the Knights to secure a 25 – 21 win taking the match and the LOVC tournament first place trophy.

The Titans are now 18 – 4 with the Knights resuming regular season play with a 17 – 7 mark. Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond will celebrate Senior Night on Thursday, October 18 with a game against Okaw Valley.

Bement will travel to Danville Schlarman for the opening game of the Schlarman 1A Regional. The Bulldogs will take on the Hilltoppers at 6:30 pm on Monday, October 22. The winner of that contest will face Armstrong-Potomac the following night in Danville.

Bement Bulldogs volleyball season rolls along

By KENT A. STOCK
Staff Writer

It has been a tough 2018 season for BHS volleyball but they continue to fight on and play hard. While they did not win a game at the Little Okaw Valley Conference NW tournament the Bulldogs played hard.

The last game BHS played was against Decatur Lutheran School Association. The contest between the Lions and Bulldogs was held at Cerro Gordo. The purple and white fell to LSA

by scores of 25 – 16 and 25 – 21.

Statistics for Bement in the game: Shelby Strack – 1 kill, 7 digs, 1 assist; Addie Fritz – 3 kills, 2 aces, 2 digs, 4 blocks; Madison Price – 1 kill, 5 blocks; Ellie Shonkwiler – 3 kills, 3 blocks, 3 digs; Tatum Auth – 1 kill, 1 ace, 1 dig, 1 block, 6 assists; Brittani Dalton – 1 ace, 4 digs.

Senior Night for the Bulldogs will be at Walsh Gymnasium on Thursday, October 18 versus Decatur LSA.



Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond Knight running back Billy Fifer hurdles one of his own lineman at the beginning of his 94 yard touchdown run in the third quarter of the game last Friday night at Cerro Gordo. Fifer and teammate Adam Day both had two rushing touchdowns in the game and Day also caught a td pass from QB Lance Mercer in the hard fought overtime loss.

Knights fall in overtime to Cerro Gordo/Bement Broncos

By SALLY McCARTHY
For The Record-Herald

It took an extra period of football to decide the victor in the game at Cerro Gordo last Friday night. In a hard fought, back and forth contest, the Broncos scored on their overtime possession and the Knights' pass on fourth down of their series fell incomplete.

The Knights got on the scoreboard first on a 6 yard run by Adam Day with thirty seconds left in the first quarter. The extra point kick by Aaron Likens was good and the visitors led 7-0.

CGB answered with a 28 yard td run by Ethan Mann just two minutes into the second. The kick was no good so the Knights held on to a slim 7-6 lead.

Two minutes later, Adam Day would score his second rushing touchdown on a 51 yard run. After the Likens kick, the lead was 14-6 in favor of the Knights.

The Broncos turned the ball over on down but unfortunately the Knights gave up a fumble to give the ball back to the home team. They would score after a short drive with Mann carrying the ball 1 yard into the end zone. An EP kick by Wes McDermith brought them back to within one point of the visitors, 13-14. Each team had two series left in the half, ALAH's first ended with another fumble and CGB turned the ball over on downs. The last series of the half for the Knights ended with a very nice punt by Hunter Day that put the Broncos at their own 19. A 6 yard gain was followed by a 75 yard td pass from Mann to Matthew Guffey with just six seconds remaining in the half. After a McDermith kick CGB took their first lead 20-14 into the halftime.

The third quarter opened with a long drive by the home team that took the ball to the Knights 1 yard line. The defense held and after a penalty for an ineligible man downfield that negated a touchdown, the Bronco fourth down pass was incomplete. On the very next play, the red, black and gold's Billy Fifer broke through and out ran the defense for a 94 yard touchdown run. The kick was no good but the game was knotted at 20 with 7:41 left in the third.

The Broncos scored on a 28 yard pass from Mann to Gage Barker-Taylor to go back on top, after the EP kick, 27-20 with 5:44 to go in the third.

The Knights would score twice in the fourth quarter, the first td on a 37 yard pass from Lance Mercer to

Adam Day and then after Brady Borntrreger recovered a Bronco fumble on the ensuing kickoff, Fifer scored his second touchdown of the game on a 3 yard run. After Likens two extra point kicks, the Knights were back on top 34-27.

CGB would tie the game again on a 5 yard run by Sam Dalton and a McDermith kick. This came with 3:30 remaining in the game. Neither team could get anything going on their remaining drives and the horn sounded with the scoreboard reading 34 all.

The Knights won the overtime coin toss and elected to go on defense first. CGB' QB Mann connected with Barker-Taylor on the first play of their possession for a touchdown. McDermith's kick made the score 41-34 with the Knights getting their chance in OT starting at the 10 yard line. They got the ball to the 3 on the first three plays but Mercer's pass to Day on fourth down was oh so close, but fell incomplete. Despite the great effort throughout the game the Knights came up just short and fell to 2-5 on the season.

They finish the 2018 season with two home games. Next week, conference leader, the Argenta Oreana Bombers come to Wilson Field followed by the Southeast Division leader, the Cumberland Pirates for the final game of the season. Game time for both is 7:00 p.m.

ALAH vs. CGB October 5 at Cerro Gordo

Score by quarters:

ALAH 7 7 6 14 0 - 34

CGB 0 20 7 7 7 - 41

Scoring summary:

First Quarter:

ALAH Adam Day 6 yard run (Aaron Likens Kick) 0:30

Second Quarter:

CGB Ethan Mann 28 yard run (Kick failed) 10:03

ALAH Adam Day 51 yard run (Likens kick) 8:20

CGB Mann 1 yard run (Wes McDermith kick) 3:51

CGB 75 yard pass from Mann to Matthew Guffey (McDermith kick) 0:06

Third Quarter:

ALAH Billy Fifer 94 yard run (Kick fail) 7:41

CGB 28 yard pass from Mann to Gage Taylor-Barker (McDermith kick) 5:44

Fourth Quarter:

ALAH 37 yard pass from Lance Mercer to Adam Day (Likens kick) 11:52

ALAH Billy Fifer 3 yard run (Likens kick)

CGB Sam Dalton 5 yard run (McDermith kick)

Overtime:

CGB 10 yard pass from Mann to Taylor-Barker (McDermith kick)

Offensive Stats:

Rushing: Adam Day 23/191 yards & 2 TDs; Billy Fifer 14/143 yards & 2 TDs; Brady Borntrreger 5/23 yards; Lance Mercer 12/30; Caleb Nettles 4/16 yards;

Passing: Lance Mercer 2/5 50 yards & 1 TD

Receiving: Adam Day 2 for 50 yards and 1 TD;

Defensive Stats:

Tackles: Lucas Otto-6 solo, 3 assists & 1 pass deflection; Caleb Nettles-3 solo, 1 assist; David Shipman 2 solos, 1 assist; Adam Day-5 solo, 4 assists & 1 pass deflection; Hunter Day 4 solo, 3 assists; Austin Abercrombie- 3 assists, ; Billy Fifer-1 solo, 1 assist; Brady Borntrreger 2 solos & 1 fumble recovery; Jamison Locke 3 solo & 1 pass deflection; Isaac Ashenfelter 1 solo, 3 assists; Ridge Ryan 2 solo, 1 assist; Morgan Cotton, Seth Gregory, & Logan Waller, each 1 solo tackle.

Stat Highlight:

Adam Day 241 total yards, 2 rushing and 1 receiving touchdown

AREA TEAMS SPORTS SCHEDULES** FOOTBALL

Friday, October 12 – CGB vs. Sangamon Valley at Niantic 7:00 pm

VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, October 11 – Sangamon Valley at CG (Senior Night) 6:00 pm

Argenta-Oreana at Bement 6:00 pm

Saturday, October 13 – ALAH and CG at St. Thomas More Invite

Monday, October 15 – Cerro Gordo at Sullivan 6:00 pm

Tuesday, October 16 – Cerro Gordo at Decatur LSA 6:00 pm

Bement at Sangamon Valley 6:00 pm

CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday, October 13 – ALAH at Effingham St. Anthony Invite 9:00 am

Tuesday, October 16 – Bement at Tuscola (Wimple Park) 4:30 pm

MARCHING BAND

ALAH and Bement at Effingham Marching Band Competition

JR. HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday, October 11 – ALAH at Decatur LSA 6:00 pm

Friday, October 12 – Bement at Deland-Weldon

Monday, October 15 – ALAH at Arcola 6:00 pm

Villa Grove at Bement 6:00 pm

Sangamon Valley at Cerro Gordo 6:00 pm

Tuesday, October 16 – Mattoon vs. ALAH at Lovington 6:15 pm

Decatur LSA at Bement 6:00 pm

Argenta-Oreana at Cerro Gordo 6:00 pm

Schedules subject to change

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