

Sports



Red Devils take down AAA Harlem Gartrell rushes for 3 TD's in 36-29 come back win

HARLEM - Tevin Gartrell scored three touchdowns and accounted for 140 rushing and 104 return yards to lead the Lincoln County Red Devils to a come-from-behind 36-29 victory over Class AAA Harlem here Friday night.

Gartrell had touchdown runs of 60, 4, and 22 among his 12 carries. Semaji Jenkins carried eight times for 93 yards and 1 touchdown. QB Trey Huff ran nine times for 35 yards and a touchdown and completed two of four pass attempts for 28 yards. Franklin Brown was the receiver on both completions.

With nearly a thousand yards of rushing, passing, and returns, the game was not a defensive showcase for either team. The Devils amassed 311 rushing and 28 passing for 339 yards on 41 plays. Six returns added 174 yards. The Bulldogs passed for 265 yards and ran for 138 to tally 403 with 21 first downs on 71 plays. Three returns added 45. Together the two teams had 112 offensive snaps.

On a beautiful Georgia evening, Josiah Claxton-Jones returned the opening kickoff to the LC 40. Gartrell took the handoff, broke through the mass of players at the line of scrimmage, and outran everyone to the endzone. The 60-yard touchdown run came only 19 seconds into the game. Cameron Miller booted the PAT for a 7-0 lead.

The Bulldogs started from their 48 after a squib kickoff. A pass and run earned a first down at the LC 27. The Devil Defense stiffened and stopped the Bulldog runner short of a first down.

Trey Huff found Franklin Brown for 19 yards to the LC 41. Gartrell gained 10 with triple effort. C. J. Zellars ran twice for 16 yards to the Harlem 33. Huff for six gained a first down at the 20. Three plays later, facing 4th-&-1 at the 11, Huff powered for two and 1st-&-goal. Gartrell rushed for three then one to the 5. Huff ran for four but was a half-yard short of the goal line. A fourth-down quarterback sneak by Huff scored the Devils' second touchdown. Miller kicked the extra point to put the visitors up 14-0

with 31 seconds left in the first quarter.

Harlem executed a flea-flicker resulting in a 43-yard pass to the LC 21. Two passes gained five yards before a six-yard touchdown run. The kick was good and the Lincoln County lead was cut in half, 14-7, with 10:18 left before the bands played.

After a 30-yard return by Jenkins, the Devils achieved a first down at the H 43. Jenkins went right for 14 yards before the pigskin popped loose with Harlem recovering at its 29. A 26-yard pass started the 10-play drive that ended with an 8-yard touchdown run. The PAT kick failed leaving Lincoln ahead 14-13 with 4:38 remaining in the half.

A good kickoff return by Gartrell went for naught as the Devils punted from their 34. From their 35, the Bulldogs completed a 29-yard pass to the LC 36. On 3rd-&-3, the Devil Defense blocked a pass attempt with the quarterback snagging the ball for a 10-yard loss. The alert Devils stopped a fake punt for a yard loss at the LC 40.

Unfortunately the Devils fumbled on the next play, returning the ball to Harlem on the LC 33. A 27-yard pass plus a penalty gave the Bulldogs 1st-&-goal at the 3. Two plays each gained a yard before the Bulldog QB found a receiver in the end zone with 10 seconds left. The PAT pass was knocked down, but the Bulldogs led 19-14 at the half.

A miscue on the second-half kickoff started the Bulldogs at the LC 41. Harlem marched to the 12 on ten plays before booting a 29-yard field. The home team led 22-14 with 8:21 left in the third.

Lincoln County came storming back, with Gartrell returning the kickoff 26 yards to the LC 36. He rushed for nine before Jenkins added four. A 12-yard run by Claxton-Jones earned a first at the H 39. Huff ran for five and then 15 to the H 19. Jenkins rushed for six and Huff found Brown on the right side for nine yards. Gartrell scurried untouched into the endzone just left of center. Huff passed to Jack Antona-

kos for two points to tie the game at 22-all with 4:35 left in the third.

Harlem found an open receiver behind the Devil Defense for a 42-yard touchdown pass with 19 seconds left in the quarter. The Bulldogs again led, 29-22.

Gartrell hit the jets again as he returned the next kickoff about fifty yards to the H 48. Jenkins took the handoff and appeared stopped after about ten yards, but broke free and scored on the last play of the quarter. Miller's PAT tied the game at 29.

Aided by flags on the Devils, Harlem marched from their 38 to a first down at the LC 14. A pass gained four before Brown caught the Bulldogs for a three-yard loss. On 3rd-&-9, Jenkins intercepted near the goal and returned to the LC 20. Gartrell ramblled left for 12 yards. Five plays later the Devils lost a yard on 3rd-&-11, but a personal foul facemask penalty gave the Devils new life at the H 37. Jenkins gained 13 before Gartrell added two. Gartrell then took the handoff from Huff and went around the left end for the final 22 and pay dirt. With Miller's kick, the Devils led 36-29 with 1:38 remaining.

A flurry of passes and an occasional run quickly moved the Bulldogs from their 33 to a first down at the 11 with less than 30 seconds remaining. A three-yard pass and two incompletions left Harlem with 4th-&-7 at the LC 8 and ten seconds left. Brown defended in the endzone as the Bulldog pass went through the hands of their receiver. The Devils took over on downs with 0:06 remaining. A knee finished the contest and secured the amazing 36-29 victory. Harlem had beaten the Devils 42-27 a year earlier.

Other Region 8-A Public schools won their non-region games Friday night. Washington-Wilkes led Elbert County 22-0 midway the game before winning 42-35. Greene County defeated Jasper County (Monticello) 28-21, and Social Circle edged Oglethorpe County 21-14. Towns County ran over Lakeview Academy 38-17.

This Friday Lincoln County will welcome their northern neighbors, the Blue Devils from Elbert County, in the Red Devils' final non-region contest. An Elberton team last played a varsity football game in Lincolnton in 1929. The Red Devils won 27-20 last year in the Granite Bowl. Kickoff is set for 7:30.

- Johnny Walton

Devils vs. Harlem

(statistics compiled by Johnny Walton)

	LC	Harlem
First Downs	16	21
Rushing	37-311	39-138
Passing	2-4-28-0	23-32-265-1
Punting	1-31	0-0
Penalties	4-33	3-35
Fumbles/Lost	4-2	1-0



C.J. Zellars picks up part of the Devils 311 rushing yards. (Photo by yearbook staffer Madi Bufford).



#9 Franklin Brown, #8 Demondrea Booker, and #14 Ray Adcock stuff Harlem running game. (Photo by yearbook staffer Madi Bufford).



Red Devils prepare to break through the banner to take on the Bulldogs. (Photo by yearbook staffer Tan'nia Leverett).



Antonakos named Player of the Week

Jack Antonakos #15 was named the "Austin Parks #44 Strong" Player of the Week for his outstanding performance against Harlem. This week's #44 Strong award was presented by #44 Strong Event Coordinator Letrellis Glaze the and photograph by Carolyn Zellars.

Lincoln County High School Red Devils Football Schedule

Aug. 13 th	Warren Co. (Scrimmage)	Home	7:30 PM
Aug. 27 th	Bryan Co.	Home	7:30 PM
Sept. 3 rd	Westside	Home	7:30 PM
Sept. 10 th	Laney	Home	7:30 PM
Sept. 17 th	Harlem	Away	7:30 PM
Sept. 24 th	Elbert Co.	Home	7:30 PM
Oct. 1 st	Towns Co.* (Homecoming)	Home	7:30 PM
Oct. 8 th	Social Circle*	Away	7:30 PM
Oct. 15 th	OPEN		
Oct. 22 nd	Washington-Wilkes*	Away	7:30 PM
Oct. 29 th	Greene Co.*	Away	7:30 PM
Nov. 5 th	Commerce* (Senior Night)	Home	7:30 PM

* Region Games

Lincoln County JV Football Schedule

Sept. 2 nd	Thomson	Away	5:00 PM
Sept. 9 th	Elbert Co.	Away	5:00 PM
Sept. 16 th	Greenbrier	Away	5:00 PM
Sept. 23 rd	GSIC	Home	5:00 PM
Sept. 30 th	Aquinas	Away	5:00 PM
Oct. 7 th	Washington-Wilkes	Home	5:00 PM
Oct. 14 th	Harlem	Home	5:00 PM



Being interviewed by WJBF News Channel 6 were (l-r) Coach Lee Chomskis, Franklin Brown, & Tevin Gartrell. (Photo by yearbook staffer Tan'nia Leverett).