

The Woodlands stomps Lufkin

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By Josh Havard, Lufkin Daily News

LUFKIN — Blaine Gillespie threw for 184 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another 184 yards and two touchdowns, and Patrick Carr ran for 235 yards and two touchdowns as The Woodlands rolled to a 49-21 win over Lufkin at John Outlaw Memorial Field at Abe Martin Stadium on Friday night.

“We have to move on from this game and get back to work,” Lufkin coach Todd Quick said. “We have to be ready for the rest of district because we still have a long way to go.”

For the night, The Woodlands finished with 629 yards, 458 of those coming on the ground. Carr and Gillespie combined for 419 yards of that total. “You have to be able to stop the run and we just didn’t do that tonight,” Quick said.

In the loss, JaBryce Taylor had another big night with 146 yards on 10 catches. Keke Coutee added 106 yards and a touchdown on five receptions. Tyler Stubblefield threw for 277 yards and a touchdown.

“You have to be more efficient in finishing drives and you have to hold onto the football,” Quick said. “We didn’t do either of those tonight.”

It was a rough start for the Panthers as their first drive ended with an interception that was returned to the Lufkin 38. Four plays later, Sean McCanna was wide open for a 16-yard touchdown reception from Blaine Gillespie for a 7-0 lead.

That lead didn’t last long as it took Lufkin three plays to get on the board when Stubblefield hit Keke Coutee for a 59-yard scoring strike that knotted the game at 7-7. The Woodlands got back on the board late in the second quarter when Gillespie faked a handoff to Patrick Carr and sprinted up the middle 13 yards for a 14-7 lead.

Lufkin once again had a quick answer as Jamal Jeffery returned the following kickoff 57 yards and Mapp scored on a 21-yard run five plays later to even it at 14-14 early in the second quarter.

The Woodlands regained the lead for the third time midway through the second quarter as Gillespie hit Houston Brown, who made a nice catch, for a 30-yard touchdown, making it 21-14.

The Woodlands were driving for another score before the half when Demontrai Lewis recovered a fumble. However, Lufkin was unable to capitalize as the Highlanders took a 21-14 lead into the break.

In the half, The Woodlands controlled much of the action as it outgained Lufkin 228-168 and controlled the clock with a 15:14-8:46 advantage. Gillespie threw for 105 yards and two touchdowns and ran for 44 yards and another touchdown, while Carr had 76 yards on 19 carries. Meanwhile, Stubblefield threw for 106 yards and a touchdown and Mapp had 59 yards and a touchdown on the ground.

The Woodlands started the second half with a quick strike offense as Carr had a 39-yard run and Lufkin had two personal foul penalties to move the ball to the Lufkin 11. Carr finished that drive with a three-yard touchdown that made it 28-14.

That lead ballooned to 35-14 on The Woodlands next drive when Gillespie faked to Carr and sprinted 67 yards for a touchdown. The Woodlands continued to add to the lead late in the third quarter when Brown hauled in a 40-yard touchdown pass from Gillespie to make it 42-14.

Lufkin finally got back on the board with 1:07 left in the third quarter when JaBryce Taylor had a 43-yard reception to set up a Kendrick Mapp four-yard touchdown, narrowing the margin to 42-21. Carr closed out the scoring with a 68-yard touchdown run that made it 49-21.



Football: Highlanders, Cavaliers earn big victories

Published 10/13/2012 | By Glenn Sattell WOL Sports Editor

Quarterback Blaine Gillespie returned to The Woodlands High School football team with a vengeance Friday night in Lufkin. After missing last week's loss to A&M Consolidated with a concussion, Gillespie returned to the lineup with three first-half touchdown passes en route to a 354-yard, five-touchdown night as the Highlanders drilled Lufkin 49-21 at Abe Martin Stadium.

The victory put the Highlanders (4-3, 2-1) in the driver's seat for the District 14-5A championship. It also served as a special gift to Highlanders head coach Mark Schmid, who was not on the sideline for the game, but rather was forced to listen to the game over the internet from a hospital bed with a perforated intestine.

Gillespie threw three touchdown passes and ran for two more in the most complete game of the season for The Woodlands. Gillespie threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Sean McCann then fired scoring strikes of 30 and 40 yards to Houston Brown, who finished with 104 receiving yards on five catches.

In between those, Gillespie ran for touchdowns of 13 and 67 yards and finished with 179 yards rushing on 12 carries. He also threw for 175 yards, completing 12 of 21 passes.

When Gillespie wasn't making touchdowns, running back Patrick Carr was doing the damage. Carr rushed for 236 yards, including touchdown runs of 3 and 68 yards, on 21 carries. The Highlanders totaled 627 yards of offense.

Cole Little and Kolbi Brown came up with late interceptions, two of three on the night for the Highlanders' defense.

The Highlanders never trailed though the game was tied twice early on. The Woodlands grabbed a 21-14 halftime advantage and never looked back, roaring to a 21-point third period to win going away.

The Highlanders are idle next week before hosting Bryan, 0-2 in district play, at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Woodforest Bank Stadium.