



Looking to advance to the 3rd round of the playoffs for the 3rd consecutive season, The Woodlands headed to Cy-Fair FCU Stadium to face the Cy Ranch Mustangs. On a beautiful night with perfect playoff football weather, the Highlanders wasted no time making a statement. Parker Stewart dropped back a few steps to receive the opening kickoff and then proceeded to race 102 yards for a touchdown for the early lead.

After the Mustangs tied the game at 7-7, The Woodlands went into their bag of tricks to find the end zone. Receiver Eli Lancaster took a handoff running to the right, before stopping and throwing a perfect strike back to quarterback Jack Daulton for a 47-yard TD. The score gave the Highlanders a 14-7 lead that they would not relinquish.

Later in the 2nd quarter, Daulton added a rushing touchdown to put the Highlanders up 21-7.

The Mustangs were looking to cut into the lead before the half, but linebacker Jake Dorsett had other plans. Playing through a injury with one hand fully wrapped up, Dorsett was able to corral a Mustang pass attempt and race 56 yards for a pick six. It marked the 5th interception returned for a TD this season for the Highlanders and gave the Highlanders a 28-7 halftime lead going into the break.

Coming back for the 2nd half, the Highlanders extended their lead with two long scoring drives that ate up a lot of clock. Kicker Scott Starzyk capped an 11 play drive with a 27-yard field goal and Lincoln Halsey finished off a 13 play drive with a 2-yard TD run to put the game out of reach.

The Mustangs would score two late touchdowns to bring the final score to 38-21

Daulton finished the game with 125 yards rushing, 47 yards receiving, and 35 yards passing. Cody Jordan added 48 yards on the ground.

On the defensive side of the ball, Jy'ree Jefferson recorded 9 tackles including 3 sacks and a forced fumble. Timothy Parke led the team in tackles with 12 while Caycen Bartolazzi, Ben Bridges, and Jake Dorsett each added 8.