

Turnovers Costly as St. Ignace Falls to Rayders in Road Opener

By David Latva

The season opener at Kipke Field in Charlevoix between St. Ignace and the host Rayders is a game that the Saints coaching staff and players would soon like to forget after a 40-13 road setback Friday, August 25.

Ten St. Ignace turnovers (seven interceptions, three fumbles) that either ended a Saints rally or put Charlevoix in outstanding field position made the difference as the Lake Michigan Conference team took advantage to score six touchdowns off the Saints' miscues.

Nick Montie led the Saints defense with 12 combination tackles and assists. Jake Smith added 11 and one sack, Jeremiey Lee chipped in 11, Billy Matson notched seven, James Peterson and Derrick Clark tallied six, Sam Fitzpatrick charted five and one pass interception, Kyle Smock marked four and one fumble recovery, James Sayles counted four, and Shane McDonald (fumble recovery), Jesse Becker, Shawn Cowell, Derek Rountree (blocked punt), Derek Marshall, Alec



LaSalle's Sam Fitzpatrick (right) intercepts a Charlevoix pass in the end zone late in the first half.

Fitzgerald, and Derek Rutledge contributed two each.

Kyle Spencer completed six of 19 passes for 119 yards, Mario Calcaterra rushed for 40 yards, Kyle Smock chipped in 37, and Derrick Clark gained 28 yards and

punted twice for a 37-yard average.

After a scoreless first quarter, Charlevoix answered on the first play of the second period with a 42-yard scoring pass for a 6-0 lead at 11:51. The next two Rayders touchdowns came after pass interceptions to build the margin to 21-0 with 5:26 left in the first half.

Sam Fitzpatrick ended the Rayders next scoring threat with a pass interception in the endzone and the only scoring opportunity during the first half for the Saints came after four pass completions to the Charlevoix 10-yard line, but a St. Ignace interception ended the drive with 1:02 on the clock.

Charlevoix added to the score with two touchdowns in the third quarter before the Saints answered with their only scores.

Kyle Smock scored from nine yards out and Derrick Clark kicked the extra point at 6:05 of the fourth quarter. After Clark recovered the onside kick, Mario Calcaterra dashed 35 yards at 5:30 to cut the Rayders lead to 34-13, but Charlevoix closed out the offense



The Saints' Jake Smith (left, 52, on ground) makes the first hit on a Rayder ball carrier and is joined by teammates Billy Matson (center, 74) and Nick Montie (right, 54).

with a touchdown in the final two minutes.

LaSalle High School will celebrate parents night as St. Ignace entertains East Jordan Thursday, August 31, at Saints Field. The kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

Impressive Rushing Attacks Lead Trojans, Panthers

Baker Rushes for Career-High 259 Yards in 43-24 Win

Senior Justin Baker made a mark that he is one of the outstanding Class D halfbacks in the Eastern Upper Peninsula, if not the entire U.P., with a career high of 259 yards on 19 carries to lift Cedarville to a 43-24 non-conference road win over Posen Friday, August 25.

Baker scored five touchdowns on runs of two, three, 42, 54, and 62 yards as the Trojans picked up where they left off during the regular season from last year.

Jake Wellnitz added 85 yards on eight attempts, Matt Hansen gained 27 yards on nine carries, Joe Currie chipped in 14 yards, Peter Treleven rushed for 11 yards and completed two of four passes for 15, and Jason Duncan caught the two passes.

Hansen led the defense with 14 tackles, Baker and Wellnitz added 10, Treleven chipped in nine with one sack and one fumble recovery, Sheldon Tassier notched eight with one fumble recovery, Jimmy Eberts tallied six with one fumble recovery, Joe Currie and Keith Foster charted six, Jordan Sweeney and Ryan Pollard marked five, Michael Pollard counted four with a blocked punt, Jordan Duncan recorded four, Kevin Leach registered three, and Jason Duncan and Paul Eberts contributed two.

"For the first game I was pleased with our effort, especially our second half intensity. Justin Baker ran the ball very well," said Trojans Coach Randy Schaedig. "The offensive interior line of

Jimmy Eberts at center, Michael Pollard, Sheldon Tassier, and Paul Eberts at guards, and Keith Foster, Kevin Leach, and Ryan Pollard at tackles did a good job of blocking."

Late in the first quarter (:36), Jason Duncan kicked a 29-yard field goal for a 3-0 lead. Early in the second period the Vikings had a bad snap on a fourth down punt formation and Treleven tackled the punter inside the 10-yard line. Baker plunged over from the two-yard line for a 9-0 lead at the 10:22 mark.

Posen scored two second-quarter touchdowns to take a 12-9 halftime lead before Baker dashed 62 yards on the first play from scrimmage to start the second half, adding the two-point conversion at 11:44 for a 17-12 lead.

The Vikings answered for a 18-17 margin, but Baker scored the next three touchdowns on runs of three, 42, and 42 to build the advantage to 37-18. Wellnitz set up the first touchdown on a 28-yard run and a Jimmy Eberts fumble recovery lifted the third score.

Posen scored to cut the margin to 37-24 before Wellnitz scampered in from 24 yards out in the closing three minutes to send the Trojans home with a well deserved win.

Cedarville will open Mid-Eastern Football Conference play with a contest against Engadine Friday, September 1, at Trojans Field.



Justin Baker Cedarville

Rader Zips for 230 Yards as Pickford Defeats Rapid River

Pickford opened play in the newly formed Mid-Eastern Football Conference (MEFC) with 34-20 road win over Rapid River Friday, August 25. The MEFC consist of teams from the Eastern Upper Peninsula and Wolverine Conferences.

Caleb Rader rushed for 230 yards on 23 carries to lead the Panthers. Kyle Barry added 80 yards on 11 attempts, and Alan Orr chipped in 70 yards on 17 carries.

On the defensive side, senior Jason King led the way with nine tackles, Jordan Potter added eight, Rader (interception) and Barry chipped in seven, Orr notched six, Matt Rose, Scott Coullard, Derrick Leese, and Richard Gibson tallied four each, Joe Jenkins charted two, and Mickael Cantin and Tony Sherman marked one.

The host Rockets scored on their second possession for a 6-0 lead. Following the ensuing kickoff, Caleb Rader dashed 61 yards on the first play from scrimmage and Alan Orr chipped in the two-point conversion for a 8-6 edge with 5:05 remaining in the first quarter.

Rapid River didn't waste any time answering, as the Rockets converted on a 67-yard scoring pass at 4:49 and added the two-point conversion for a 14-8 lead.

Pickford took a 16-14 advantage at the 2:33 mark of the first quarter as Kyle Barry scampered 41 yards for the touchdown and Rader notched the two-point conversion.

The Rockets scored for a 20-16

margin at 6:31 of the second quarter, and 1:18 later Pickford took the lead for good as Rader scored from one yard out to take a 22-20 halftime advantage.

Pickford increased the lead to 28-20 after a 68-yard drive capitalized on a Rader four-yard touchdown in the third quarter. Alan Orr completed the scoring for the Panthers with a 10-yard run in the final period.

The Panthers will entertain Brimley in a MEFC contest Friday, September 1.



Jordan Potter Pickford

Saints JV Football Blanks Charlevoix, 20-0

By David Latva

The St. Ignace junior varsity football squad has suffered season-opening defeats to Charlevoix the last three seasons by more than 27 points in each contest, but during the 2006 non-conference game the Saints took charge in the second half, leading to a 20-0 win over the Rayders Thursday, August 24, at Saints Field.

The teams went scoreless in the first half before the Saints took a 13-0 lead going into the final period. Inside the eight-minute mark of the fourth quarter and with the ball at the St. Ignace 20-yard line, the Saints were flagged with a holding penalty on third down.

Charlevoix accepted the penalty and sent the Saints back to the five-yard line and repeated the third down. Gerrit Mortensen rolled back into the endzone and found a streaking Anthony Lester at the 45-yard line. The sophomore snagged the pigskin and dashed into the endzone for the 95-yard touchdown. Andy Tamlyn added the extra point to give St. Ignace a 20-0 advantage.

Zach McFarlane scored the Saints' first touchdown on a five-yard run and Tamlyn chipped in the extra point for a 7-0 lead in the third quarter. Later in the stanza, the defense set up the second score as Bryant Danielson blocked the Rayders punt and James Halberg

recovered the ball, followed by a seven-yard scoring pass from Lester to Mortensen for a 13-0 margin.

Andy Tamlyn led the defense with 14 combined tackles and as-

ists and one fumble recovery. Zach McFarlane added nine stops, James Halberg chipped in eight, two sacks, and two fumble recoveries,

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