

CC, King feature contrasting styles

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
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There will be two distinct styles of play Saturday in the Division 1-Region 3 district football final at Detroit Mumford.

On one side, there will be Redford Catholic Central — a team that likes to grind it out of offense and wear their opponents out on defense. On the other side, there's Detroit King — running just about every formation known to football coaches on offense and using the old Chicago Bears 4-6 defense to force opponents into mistakes.

And the two styles will meet at 1 p.m. for the right to advance to the regional final against the Monroe-Westland John Glenn winner next week.

"Offensively, they run about every formation there is," said CC coach Tom Mach. "They run a spread offense, power I, traps, counters, you name it. Watching them on film, I counted 28 different plays in a couple of games, all of which are different. They are constantly moving and you have to recognize formations."

FOOTBALL

King coach Jim Reynolds doesn't think his 8-2 team changes up that much; just varying the multiple pro-set a bit.

"It's sort of what we do," said Reynolds. "We're not experienced or big enough or strong enough to line up one or two things and beat people up. We try to move around a little bit. We're a young team. We've got a lot of 10th and 11th graders because we lost most of our impact players to graduation."

But the Crusaders do have an impact player on the line — 6-3, 295-pound lineman Larry Harrison, who's headed to Michigan next year.

"Nobody stands out on our team like he does," said Reynolds. "We just have a lot of kids giving a great effort. Jeffrey Perry's our leading rusher, but we run like five backs who all contribute."

And all of them — including Kevin Norris and Antwoine Stone — can give the 7-3 Sham-

rocks a lot of trouble.

"They've got good backs who can scout," said Mach. "They've got some good size guys on the line and their quarterback's a good passer."

Defensively, the Crusaders can cause problems with the 4-6 scheme.

"They put a lot of pressure on teams, defensively," said Mach. "They do a lot of stunting to fill all of the gaps, pressure you to make blocks and if you throw, they put pressure on the quarterback. They are constantly putting pressure on you."

The one area of the game where both coaches feel the game could be decided is turnovers.

"We can't turn it over against them and I don't ever remember them turning it over against us," said Reynolds, whose team battled back three times in a 26-18 win over Cass Tech on Saturday.

"We've had some games in the 1990s where we'd fight tooth and nail, and they'd never turn it over. They'd do it against other teams, but not against us."

CC, meanwhile, has to shake

off a bad game with Cody — where the Shamrocks won 45-6, despite turning the ball over three times in the first four possessions.

"We can't do that again," said Mach. "If we keep making those mistakes against better opponents, then we won't get away with it. We need to concentrate more when we possess the ball and take care of the football."

"We'd like to be able to hold onto the ball and hold the ball in this game because their offense is potentially explosive. We'd like to be able to stay one step ahead of them if we can."

REDFORD CC 45, CODY 6: Derrick Brooks rushed for three touchdowns, Mike Banaszak two and Rob Ebert one in CC's playoff victory Saturday. Jason Gengel kicked a 26-yard field goal, too.

CC finished twice at the Cody 4-yard line early in the game and had a 17-0 halftime lead.

Brooks led all rushers with 152 yards on 15 carries, and Banaszak had 119 on 14 attempts. Tom Jickel was 7-of-10 passing for 93 yards. Ryan Wroblewski had four receptions for 58 yards.

The Shamrocks had 431 total yards, and the Comets (6-4) gained just 88.

Yellow Jackets pose big test for Trojans

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Defense is a major point of emphasis this week for coach Greg Hudkins and his Livonia Clarencville football staff as they prepare to face Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day in a Division 5 district final 7:30 p.m. Friday at Clarencville.

The 10-0 Trojans must find a way to contain 6-4 Country Day's high-powered attack.

Country Day is coming off a 35-6 win Saturday night against Erie-Mason, while Clarencville outmanned visiting Dundee last Friday, 39-28. But the win was dampened by Clarencville's inability to stop Dundee's veer attack. The Trojans gave up 382 total yards and the 28 points was more than they have allowed all season.

The performance on the defensive side left a sour taste in Hudkins' mouth.

"Last week we just forgot three years of basic fundamental stuff," Hudkins said. "Hopefully this will hit home."

Tim Miller, a 6-foot-1, 185-pound senior tailback, has rushed for over 900 yards this year for Country Day. Sophomore quarterback Ernie Jackson has 13 touchdowns passes and wide receiver Joe Horn may be the team's best all-around athlete at 6-1, 205.

"Miller has good speed," Country Day coach Dan MacLenn said. "Jackson is a very good athlete who has made a lot of strides. He's improved every game. He's shown some toughness and has shown he can run."

Horn, who is a deep threat, has been compared to former DOD All-State wideout Javin Hunter, now a senior starter at Notre Dame.

"He's much more physical than Javin, but not as fast," MacLenn said. "He has great hands. He'll hit you."

Country Day may be favored based on its strength

FOOTBALL

of schedule. The Yellowjackets own a one-point win over Birmingham Brother Rice and a 37-0 victory over Division 5 playoff qualifier Saginaw Nouvel when the Panthers were 4-0.

Losses have come against Delphos (Ohio) St. John's, Redford Catholic Central, Orchard Lake St. Mary's and the state's top-ranked team, Farmington Harrison (42-0).

"They're pretty athletic and they make big plays," Hudkins said. "I think we have the ability to get into a shootout, but we don't want to do that. Hopefully we can drive the ball and make some points."

Clarencville running back Tim Shaw, who rushed for 323 yards last week, now needs only 176 to become the state's all-time leader. (Benny Clark, Jr. of Ravenna holds the mark with 7,212 from 1993-96.)

The 6-1, 222-pound Shaw, who has 7,036 career yards rushing, and 6-1, 205-pound running/blocking mate Steve Meadows are first and foremost on MacLenn's mind.

"They're a good team with two great backs," said MacLenn, who runs the defense. "We have to account for those two guys and slow them down. Shaw is big, strong and fast. He does everything. He's a throwback."

Country Day's defense is led by 6-2, 235-pound senior tackle Adam Goslin, who came up big in the win over Rice. He also plays tight end.

Senior Defensive end Kevin Parsons (6-10, 225) is a three-year starter, while senior 5-11, 190-pound Joe McCarthy, grandson of the late W.J.R. morning show host J.P. McCarthy, has excelled at middle linebacker.

Hawks from page D1

consummate quarterback in terms of the intangibles.

Junior fullback Darl Bower (6-11, 185) has "had a great year," according to Bush, rushing for just under 1,000 yards. Sophomore halfback Eddie McClelland (5-10, 160) has 850 yards rushing and 450 receiving.

The leading receiver is Tim Bentley, who didn't play last week due to a sprained ankle. He had 29 catches for 485 yards and six touchdowns in the first nine games.

"They don't have a big-gun receiver like Scheffler," Herring-

ton said. "They throw to more receivers and do a good job of spreading the ball around to three or four backs. And they use two quarterbacks. We can't concentrate on any one person."

"Bower is their leading ground gainer, but (McClelland) makes a lot of big plays for them. The fact they beat Ann Arbor Huron shows they can play with the best teams in the state."

The Bulldogs have good size on the offensive line, anchored by Division I prospect Joe Tripodi, a 6-4, 275-pound senior tackle who has been offered by North-

western and Indiana. The other tackle is senior Adam Tomoka (6-1, 240).

"Their offensive line is excellent," Herrington said. "Tripodi is a big-time player, and they execute very well. Their overall team size is bigger than us, and that's somewhat of a concern."

"They have a lot of formations and they try to outflank you. They'll take their big tackles and put them together (unbalanced line) and power over them, or they'll run a jet sweep and use their quick backs to get outside."

Chelsea is a two-pintion team

that starts nine seniors on defense. The other captain besides Miller and Tripodi is senior outside linebacker Joe Koenigert (6-10, 180).

Bush knows the Hawks have a lot of talent, which makes coping the Harrison offense hard to do if not impossible.

"You look at (quarterback Drew) Stanton as a big, strong-arm passer, which he is, but so many times, if the protection breaks down, he can make a great play out of nothing by running," Bush said.

"Defensively, you can't really gang up, because they have so many weapons. Between (Agim) Shabaz, (Dave) Condeni, (Marcus) Woods and (Terrill) Mayberry, they have some outstanding players. You just don't see that in high school. The other thing is they know how to play. We've played against DI players who didn't do all the little things, but these guys do. It's a combination of good coaching and a lot of game experience."

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