

Shamrocks from page D1

that play, because he's been doing that all year."

Wroblewski cut from his left receiver spot straight for the left corner of the end zone.

Jakacki took a couple of steps and floated a high pass that deflected off a defender's hands before nestling gently onto Wroblewski's fingertips.

"They stuffed us three runs in a row," Jakacki said. "We had to pass. It was amazing, that catch."

Wroblewski juggled it momentarily with his arms outstretched, then took a couple of safe steps backwards to show he had possession with 1:26 showing on the clock.

Eisenhower quarterback Joe DiGiorgio, who should be nick-

named "Eggs" for his ability to scramble, sandwiched three incompletions around a 1-yard gain and that was the game.

"When we lined up," Wroblewski said, "I didn't think it was going to work. DiGiorgio was (standing) right over me."

A kid did get his hands on the ball, but I felt like if I touched it, I was going to catch it.

"I tried to get it real high," Jakacki said. "I knew, if Ryan got his hands on it, he was going to catch it."

"I can't look at this as a negative," Eisenhower coach Bob Lantz said. The Eagles have lost in the state final three years in a row. "It came down to the wire."

"We made a great goal-line

stand. If that pass had been knocked down, we would have won."

It was amazing Wroblewski was even in the game. He had his bell rung on a helmet-to-helmet hit by DiGiorgio late in the first half.

Wroblewski caught four passes for 50 yards while Ryan Rogowski grabbed a pair for 66 yards, scoring on the first and setting up another first-quarter TD with the second.

Jakacki was 6-for-15 for 116 yards and the two touchdowns. Banaszak gained 76 yards with 21 rushes and Brooks was 16-for-74.

DiGiorgio gained 148 yards with his 8-for-30 passing and ran the ball 14 times for 59 yards.

His value lay in tiring out the CC defenders who were chasing him and in keeping the field open for Eisenhower runners and receivers to operate.

"He's one of the best quarterbacks I've seen anywhere," Munch said. "He was so hard to stop."

The Eagles never led until DiGiorgio hit Lance Long with his third TD pass, a 13-yarder, that came three plays after Bob Sarah stripped Jakacki of the ball and recovered at the CC 17.

The score and extra point by Jasper Scuito made it 21-17.

CC drove the ball to its 42, but a third-down incomplection was negated when Eisenhower was flagged for pushing the CC receiver. The penalty gave CC a first down on the Eisenhower 44.

Jakacki was hurt taking a 3-yard loss on second down, but Brooks bolted 15 yards on a play when everybody knew backup QB Steve Wasil wasn't going to be throwing the ball.

That drive, DiGiorgio said, was the critical one.

"The pass (where pushing was called) wasn't even long enough to get a first down (if it had been completed)," he said.

CC had to punt, but good field position set it up for its winning drive. The Shamrocks got the ball back on the Eagles' 40 with 4:02 left and ran the ball into position for the fourth-down pass.

DiGiorgio threw two interceptions at the start of the second

half. Landon Langham returned the first 44 yards to the Eagles' 11. Jason Gingell kicked a 22-yard field goal to break the 14-13 halftime tie.

Jakacki's third-down, 19-yard TD pass to Rogowski gave CC a 7-0 lead with 6:57 left in the opening quarter.

Rogowski caught a 47-yard, third-down pass two possessions later to place the ball at the 11. Banaszak ran it over from 3 yards out two plays later.

DiGiorgio scrambled just long enough to allow his receiver to get open, hitting Long with a 59-yard scoring strike that cut the deficit to 14-7.

Two possessions later he found Long for a 33-yard scoring pass just 45 seconds from halftime.

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