



Hyacks Football Headlines

Monday, October 29, 2007

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Varsity News & Notes

HYACKS CONTINUE TO ROLL INTO PLAYOFFS

The Varsity Hyacks clinched at least second place in the AAA Western Conference with a 28-14 win over Mt Douglas on Friday afternoon at Mercer Stadium. It was a game featuring two highly ranked teams and two of the top offenses in the province. While the Hyacks rushed for 387 yards, the 7th time this season they have gone over the 300 yard rushing mark, they won this game because of their defense. They held the Rams vaunted passing attack to just 13 completions on 37 attempts for 148 yards (50 of which came on the Rams' final play of the game with just 12 seconds remaining).

The Hyacks took a 21-0 lead into half-time on a pair of TD runs by **Darnell Sikorski** (13 & 61 yards) and a 1 yd QB sneak by **Matt MacGrotty**. But again their defensive numbers were the bigger story as they held the Rams to just 49 yards of offense through the first two quarters. New West cornerbacks **Marko Susic** and **Enoch Osei** were outstanding, holding the Rams top WRs without a reception in the first half. Osei also snuffed out a potential Mt Douglas threat with an endzone interception in the 2nd quarter, forced a key fumble in the 3rd quarter and knocked down two passes. Susic knocked down 3 passes.

In all the Hyacks got their hands on 12 of Mt Douglas passes (2 interceptions, 10 passes knocked down), as even DE's **Tyler Digby** and **Azaad Lidder** each knocked a pass down. Digby also scored on offense, hauling in a 13 yd MacGrotty pass early in the 4th quarter to give the Hyacks a 28-6 lead. For many members of this young Hyack team there was some redemption as their JV team had its season ended by Mt Douglas in last years AAA JV quarter finals. The win improves the Hyacks record to 4-1 in league play, 6-3 overall, and they are now ranked 4th in BC..



#87 Tyler Digby pressures the pass and gets in the face of the Rams QB to force a bad throw.

Photo: Alan Wardle

REGULAR SEASON WRAPS UP IN CAMPBELL RIVER

Timberline will provide the opposition on Saturday afternoon as the Hyacks wrap up the regular season. With a win, there is still an outside shot New West can still claim its first ever league title, but they would need Vancouver College to lose on Friday against Notre Dame in order for that to happen. Also, all three Hyack starting running backs are within striking distance of 1000 yard seasons. Notice to all parents: THE TEAM WILL BE MEETING AT 6:30 AM AT MERCER STADIUM and taking the 8:30 am ferry from Horseshoe Bay to Nanaimo. Please send an appropriate breakfast with them in the morning. We will be taking the 7 pm return ferry and expect to be back at Mercer Stadium around 9:15 pm. From there the Hyacks will begin the AAA playoffs on Sat, Nov 10th at BC Place Stadium.

Junior Varsity News & Notes

JV's TO PLAY FOR CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP



*Andrew Lee runs for the endzone following a crushing pancake block by Mohit Johal.
Photo: Alan Wardle*

On Thursday at 5:30 pm at Burnaby Lake Sports Complex, the JV Hyacks will be looking to claim the first ever conference title in the programs history at any level, when they take on Notre Dame. Last week the JV's defeated Pitt Meadows 33-20 in a non-conference game at Mercer Stadium. **Nigel Eberding** scored 2 TDs in the second quarter to give the Hyacks a 12-0 lead at halftime. **Andrew Lee** scored from 40 yards out in the 3rd qtr to make it 19-0. Pitt Meadows scored twice to make it 19-14 in the 4th before **Brent Fletcher** put the game out of reach with a 60 yard TD run. **Milton Nevy** rounded out the Hyacks scoring with a 3 yard TD. The team rested a number of regulars so it was a chance for others to shine, including the likes of **Russell Birosh**, **Jamie Wandell**, **Ian Henderson**, **Ryan Noble** and **Jesse Stamberg**. The JVs are 6-2 overall and 4-1 in league play. The playoffs will start the following week, but if New West wins this Thursday they will have a first round bye until Nov 15th.

Junior Bantam News & Notes

The junior bantam team was not able to capitalize on a solid week of practices, falling to the North Surrey Eagles by a score of 36-0. Despite strong rushing efforts by **Daizon Earl**, **Lucas London** and **Gavin Rahkrha**, the Hyacks did not generate much in the way of sustained offensive drives. On defense, **Tyler Barrett** was simply outstanding,

often running down Eagle ball carriers from the opposite side of the field. **George Jankovic**, **Luca Cirillo** and London also had strong games on defense. The loss moves the team's record to 3-6 with one game remaining. This Friday, the boys will close out their 2007 season facing off against the Langley Outlaws (8:30 pm, Mercer Stadium).

Peewee News & Notes

Two scores for the opposition in the first five minutes of the peewees' game against the North Surrey Hawks threatened to make the game a disappointing blowout loss. However, the boys rose to the challenge presented by their hosts and competed well with the Hawks on both offense and defense for the rest of the game, resulting in a 16-0 final score for North Surrey. Once again, a solid week of practice resulted in improved tackling for the Hyacks, with **Jonathon Cote**, **Ryan Rickaby**

and **Nathan Macedo** providing several hitting highlights. **James Nicolas**, **Aaron Holloway** and **Cote** provided the bulk of the offensive yardage for the Hyacks. Sunday also saw the return of **Nathan Punzo** to regular play, and he is expected to be a rushing force this weekend as **Dezmond Earl** is unfortunately out for the rest of the season with a concussion. The team will close out its inaugural regular season this Friday, hosting the Langley Cowboys (6:30 pm, Mercer Stadium).

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