

Pirates fall in season opener to visiting Cubs

Written by Michael Ross

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The Charlestown High Pirates were ready to get the 2013 campaign started last week as they hosted the Cubs of Madison. The team's motto, "New Year... New Team... SAME EXPECTATIONS!" proves the tradition of Pirate football and Coach Jason Hawkins will accept nothing less than the same expectations from season to season. Last year the Pirates steamrolled through their regular season competition and brought home a Sectional title behind their All-Star quarterback Aaron Daniel.

This year, the Pirates are working to get to the same level of play. Charlestown fell a little short in the season opener, 24-7.

The Cubs took the ball first and found the endzone on their first possession. Madison quarterback Kody Boles hit wide receiver Jordan Partee for a 43 yard touchdown pass. Hunter Segó split the uprights to give Madison the early 7-0 advantage at the 5:43 mark.

The score would prove to be the only points in the quarter. Madison led after the end of the first 12 minutes of play, 7-0.

Early in the second quarter Madison would find the endzone after a Pirate turnover. Mitchell Sandlin pushed his way into the endzone from three yards out for the score at the 10:52 mark. The extra point attempt by Segó was good for the 14-0 Cub advantage.

Charlestown would find the scoreboard with just six seconds remaining in the half as junior quarterback Tristan Chester hit classmate Cameron Hopson for the 36 yard touchdown strike. The extra point was good by senior Chris Shanks to cut the Madison lead in half, 14-7.

The second half began with a Pirate fumble. Madison began their offensive battle in the second half with a punt.

Just past the midway point of the quarter, Madison's Segó drilled a 44 yard field goal for the only score of the period.

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The Cubs held the 17-7 lead heading into the final 12 minutes of play.

Madison would finish the scoring on Sandlin diving into the endzone from one yard out. The extra point attempt from Segó was good for the 24-7 Cubs victory.

After the game, Charlestown head coach Jason Hawkins stated, “the turnovers killed us tonight. Every time we gave them the ball on a turnover, we were on our 30 or 35 yard line. You don’t have to drive that far to score from 30 or 35 yards out.”

Hawkins concluded, “Our runningbacks were running well tonight but most of the time they were getting tackled in the back field. We have got to block better.”

The Pirates were led by senior runningback Matt Meyer with 50 yards on 10 carries followed by junior runningback Cameron Hopson with 35 yards on eight carries.

Charlestown junior quarterback Tristan Chester completed 8 of 15 passes for 79 yards. He tallied one touchdown with one interception.

The Pirates compiled 136 total yards.

Madison was led by Mitchell Sandlin with 101 yards on 36 carries and two touchdowns.

Cubs quarterback Kody Boles finished 8 of 13 for 149 yards and one touchdown.

Madison senior wide receiver Jordan Partee caught six passes for 130 yards and one touchdown.

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The Cubs tallied 242 total yards.

The Pirates will travel to Brownstown Central this Friday night. Kick off for the Mid Southern Conference show down will be 7 p.m.