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It was not the season opener Lions fans wanted to see on Friday night, August 17, when Salem took on Paoli High School at Paul A. Graves Stadium.

In fact, their 35-0 loss only brought back bitter reminders of last year's blowout when the Rams beat Salem 67-0.

Paoli scored their first touchdown and field goal early in the first quarter.

It looked like Salem's luck might have been changing after the Rams took a couple more trips to the goal line that were plagued with incomplete passes and a throw over the foul line. The half ended without anyone else scoring.

Whenever they had the ball, Salem was able to move it down the field without too much trouble, but Paoli's defensive line was determined to stop them right in front of the goal posts. Both teams struggled with interceptions throughout the night. Paoli scored two more touchdowns during the third quarter, making the score 21-0. The Lions gained the ball toward the end of the quarter, but with less than two minutes to go, it proved too late for Salem to score.

The fourth quarter featured some of the Lion's finest moments of the evening, including an excellent fake-out run by Quarterback Klayton Doughtery and an interception by Tyson Thomas. However, it was not enough to stop the Rams from scoring another pair of touchdowns and a field goal that brought the game to a disappointing 35-0 end.

Salem will no doubt be looking to redeem themselves when they play Silver Creek this Friday, August 24, again on their home turf.