

During the five-year history of the Dowling Trophy, which is awarded to the Washington County Football champion each year, Salem is the only team to have it for multiple seasons.

That changed last Friday as West Washington earned the trophy in convincing fashion, 42-0.

The Senators, who have won the last three meetings in the series by a combined 126-28, didn't waste anytime taking control of the contest.

"I know they are rebuilding, but we've been pretty physical with them the past three years," said WW Head Coach Phillip Bowsman. "Our execution has been pretty good. I think this year they had some hope and game in here feeling like they had a shot and we talked about playing 48 minutes."

A Salem fumble was recovered by West Washington's Evan Woods.

On the Senators' first play from scrimmage, quarterback Cody Maudlin passed to senior Chad Thompson for the first touchdown of the game.

Later in the quarter, Thompson would take the ball into the end zone for his second of two touchdowns for the night, bringing the first quarter to an end with WW on top, 14-0.

The Senators continued to roll in the second.

With 7:42 remaining in the first half, Tyler Dunn carried the ball for the Senator's third touchdown of the night.

Dunn would repeat the play with less than 33 seconds in the half, giving the Senators a 28-0 advantage at the half.

On the opening kick of the second half, West Washington continued to pour it on when sophomore Sean Keller returned the ball 96 yards for a touchdown.

"I worried that we would relax with a 28-0 lead against Salem we would relax," Bowsman said. "Any hope Salem had, I think we squelched in the opening kick-off."

After another successful kick, the Senators' advantage grew to 35-0.

With 5:48 left in the third quarter, West Washington's Jared Maudlin carried the ball in for the last touchdown of the night and giving the Senators the 42-point win.

The Senator defense is ranked fourth in the state in Class A in points allowed and 25th overall.

It's the first time in school history WW has shut out three opponents in the same season.

West Washington finished the regular season with a 6-3 record and now faces maybe the toughest test of the season when sectional play begins.

The Senators will host Indianapolis Lutheran Friday at 7.

The Saints are just 4-5 but the school historical plays a difficult schedule.

The Senators made the long bus trip in 2011 and lost 35-6.

For Salem, they finished the regular season with a 3-6 record.

They will go on the road to begin sectional play against a North Harrison team they beat, 21-0 earlier in the season.

Kick-off for Salem's sectional game will be at 7 p.m. and West Washington will open play at 7:30.

