

West Washington Head Coach Phillip Bowsman new heading into the 2013 season that a large burden would be placed on senior back Tyler Dunn. He just wasn't sure it would be as much as he asked of Dunn Friday night in his team's 48-8 win over the Eastern Musketeers in Pekin. Dunn, unofficially, had 34 carries and totaled 273 yards and scored three touchdowns.

"I told someone that I thought Tyler Dunn might be the X factor for us this year," Bowsman said. "We sat Dunn last week (in the scrimmage) because we knew he would have a big load on his shoulders tonight and we wanted those shoulders healthy this week."

Dunn said he was very happy with the production.

"I was pretty happy with what I did tonight, but I did not think I was going to get the ball that many times," he said. "Our line did a great job. I kept telling throughout the game how good they were doing and to keep it up and they did. I am tired though, I will have to go home and get ice – a lot of ice."

While Dunn was shredding the Eastern defense, the Senators played a great game defensively.

Outside of a great play on Eastern's first offensive play from scrimmage that led to a 65-yard touchdown from Junior Austin Roberts to Nick Jenkins, WW was dominant.

"It was a cris-cross flea flicker and I give them all kinds of credit for that because it was a great plan," he said. "Defensively, we were rolling. I was concerned with our linebacker play because we were starting a freshman and two guys who had never

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Dunn . . .

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played varsity. I don't know how close anyone watched Landon McPheeters tonight, but he did not play like a freshman."

On paper the game looked like it might be a high scoring affair and the early moments lived up to those expectations.

Eastern fumbled the opening kick-off and West Washington took advantage on their first play when junior quarterback Cody Maudlin hooked up with Tyler Holliday on a 19-yard pass and catch.

Dunn scored the two-point PAT and the Senators were up 8-0 with just a few seconds gone from the clock.

Eastern answered the touchdown with the trick play from Roberts to Jenkins. Roberts hooked up with Jordan Eberle on the PAT and the score was tied with 11:36 remaining in the first quarter.

West Washington had another answer and scored on a 10-yard pass play from Maudlin to (number 7). The Senators couldn't convert the PAT, but had regained control, 13-7.

WW game up with a stop and looked to score again, but Eberle was in the right place at the right time for the Musketeers and intercepted one of Maudlin's passes in the endzone.

It turns out, that play on delayed things.

West Washington added two more first half scores, both of which came on sprints from Dunn.

The Senators led 27-8 at halftime and never let off the throttle in the final two quarters.

The win set up a perfect scenario for the Senators, they won the game handily, but also have plenty of things they still need to get cleaned up.

"No disrespect to Eastern, but I would have liked to have seen us capitalize on the goal line in the second half. We missed a ball (Eberle's interception) and we missed two other balls in the endzone. We missed those three plays that could have been scores. We missed them from an execution standpoint. I don't say that because we want to run the score up, but we want to execute on every play."

Maudlin

"We showed up late and you worry as a coach that if we lose you will say we should have got here and warmed up," he said. "We did that at Paoli last year and he looked great. It was the first game and had some jitters. By his standards he would say he was off and I agree, but the best coaching advice for him tonight was, 'Cody, just throw the ball.'"

Maudlin finished the game completing 8 of 27 passes for 116 yards.

West Washington will now step into conference play Friday when they host PLAC foe Crawford County.

Eastern also begins MSC play with a trip to Clarksville Friday night.