

TURNOVERS KILL WILDCATS

Lebanon High took advantage of two costly Wilson Central turnovers and converted both into touchdowns Friday night in a 21-11 victory over their cross-county rival at Nokes-Lasater Field.

"You can't even believe how proud I am of our young men," said LHS coach Bobby Brown. "This senior class didn't win a game as ninth graders, but they stayed 20-21 strong, hung with it and kept working. This is their reward tonight. You can't say enough about these kids."

Trailing 3-0 with 18 seconds left in the second quarter, Lebanon sophomore Case Sloan recovered a Hunter Cranford fumble at the WCHS 30 yard line. Two plays later Patrick Maynard found Phillip Vance in the back of the end zone for an 18-yard TD pass. With Colton McKay's PAT, LHS took a 7-3 lead into intermission.

"The turnover right before half made all the difference in the world," Coach Brown said, "it killed Central's emotions and lifted us up."

Following a scoreless third period, LHS broke ahead 14-3 as Maynard again found Vance for a 29-yard TD pass -- this one off a flanker reverse. The play ended a nine play, 74 yard drive that was made possible when a Blue Devil defender stripped Jordan Poole of the ball -- allowing Jordan Stafford to recover.

LHS iced the game with 4:36 left as the Blue Devils marched 80 yards in nine plays (all on the ground) for a one-yard Maynard plunge off left guard.

For the game, Lebanon was 6-of-9 passing for 90 yards and rushed 37 times for 134 yards. Central completed 20-of-27 passes for 175 yards and rushed 30 times for 74 yards.

Lebanon 21, Central 11

Friday, August 21, 2009

Maynard accounted for all three Lebanon TD's, rushing 14 times for 91 yards and a score and completing 3-of-3 passes for 59 yards and two more scores. He also punted 6 times for an average of 38.1 per kick and had a 60 yard return of the second half kickoff.

Lebanon will return to action Aug. 28 as the Blue Devils travel to Montgomery County for a 7 p.m. game with Rossvie High.

Hunter Cranford completed 20-of-27 passes for Wilson Central for 175 yards. Jordan Poole rushed 13 times for 68 yards in the losing effort.

Central's only points came on a 25 yard field goal by Jackson Redditt with 8:52 to go in the first quarter.

INJURIES -- Central linebacker Caleb Barber and Lebanon defense end Bryce Arnold both left the field on crutches after suffering leg injuries. Both young men will be evaluated Monday.