

TWHS tops College Park in South County battle



The Woodlands' Daniel Lasco leaps over College Park's Reid Romero as he looks for some running room during Friday night's district game at Woodforest Bank Stadium in Shenandoah.

By David Arno

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SHENANDOAH— Some say that anything is possible in a rivalry game, but the result of The Woodlands-College Park game was exactly what people expected, a Highlander victory.

In The Woodlands 42-10 win at Woodforest Bank Stadium last night, the Cavaliers hung with the Highlanders for most of the first half, but ultimately couldn't keep up with The Woodlands' high-flying offense, and the hard running of Daniel Lasco, who finished the game with 195 yards and two touchdowns on 25 carries. Lasco missed a good portion of the first half of the season after getting injured in the first game.

"A lot of people forget that Daniel was out — I don't — but this is really only like his fourth ball game back," The Woodlands coach Mark Schmid said. "With being in a boot and not being able to run around, it takes awhile to get back into that football shape, but he's starting to hit his stride and that's really promising to see."

With the win, The Woodlands stayed unbeaten at 9-0 and 5-0 in district, but more importantly they earned their second consecutive District 14-5A title.

College Park took the lead early after a lengthy opening drive, when Taylor Frederick hit a 21 yard field goal at 5:21 in the first quarter, but it didn't take The Woodlands long to respond when Joseph Schneider hit Blake Webb from 20 yards out less than two minutes later.

They added to their lead when Lasco raced 38 yard to end zone in the first minute of the second quarter.

After a failed College Park drive, The Woodlands was moving down the field when Schneider threw an interception to Jeffrey Biehn, who returned it to The Woodlands' 14 yard line.

Two runs later, and Paco Solano scored from seven yards out to cut the lead to four points at 14-10 with 6:55 left in the half.

College Park wouldn't score again though, as Schneider would build the Highlander's lead to 21-10 at half after a pass to Max Ward from 25 yards out.

After a one yard Lasco score at 7:50 on their drive to open the second half, the College Park defense got a turnover for the Cavaliers to change the momentum of the game when they recovered a Lasco fumble at The Woodlands' 37.

College Park wasn't able to capitalize though, and they failed to convert on fourth down when Zach Wright had to take off and was unable to reach the marker.

"I was extremely proud of how the defense responded after we turned the ball over deep in our own territory in the second half," Schmid said. "They came out and shut them down. That's a sign of a great defense, and kids playing to win. The defense did an outstanding job in the second half — shut them out — and I'm just proud of how they played."

College Park wouldn't be able to get anything going on offense the rest of the game, and The Woodlands would build on their lead off of a seven yard Schneider pass to Jackson LaPlante, and a 28 yard Ryan Trauffler run when they were trying to run out the clock.

"We can say it — with that win, we can say we're the district champs," Schmid said. " I'm really proud of our kids."