

DEFENSE DOMINATES AS HIGHLANDERS OPEN 2025 SEASON WITH WIN

The Woodlands shut out Cinco Ranch 27-0 to open the 2025 season with a victory. The defense held the Cougars to just 165 total yards while forcing 2 turnovers. Cole Carlin led the team in tackles with 11 including a sack. Caycen Bartolazzi added 9 tackles and 3 pass defenses.

The Highlander's first score was set up by a Cinco Ranch fumble. Linebacker Deng Wei was able to knock the ball loose after a short completion and Anthony Ince made the recovery to give TWHS the ball on the Cougar 13-yard line. Two plays later, Cody Jordan plunged into the end zone from 3 yards out to put the Highlanders up 7-0.

The Woodlands started their first drive of the 2nd quarter backed up on their own 2-yard line. Luke Crudgington capped a 9 play, 95-yard drive with a short field goal to increase the Highlander lead to 10-0.

Following the field goal, Cinco Ranch put together a great drive of their own as they were able to move the ball deep into Highlander territory before the defense rose up again. On a 4th down play from Highlander 15-yard line, defensive lineman Jy'Ree Jefferson picked off a desperation pass and rumbled 76 yards for a touchdown.

After a quick 3 and out, the Highlanders got the ball back with one more chance to score before the half. The offense just needed 4 plays before quarterback Jack Daulton found Jamieson Gavin for a 25-yard touchdown to give TWHS a 24-0 halftime lead.

The Highlander offense had a few promising drives in the 2nd half but only managed a 44-yard field goal from Crudgington. However, the defense continued to shut down any scoring hopes by the Cougars.

The Highlanders finished with 350 yards of total offense. Daulton finished with 173 yards passing along with 59 yards rushing. Jordan finished with 52 yards rushing and Gavin led the team in receiving with 5 catches for 73 yards.