



HIGHLANDERS PASS FIRST ROAD TEST OF SEASON WITH WIN AT DEER PARK

The Woodlands traveled to Deer Park Friday night and walked away with a hard-fought 30-20 victory. Although the Highlanders never trailed in the game, the back-and-forth matchup wasn't decided until late in the 4th quarter. This was just the second meeting between the two schools with The Woodlands also winning last year's battle.

After a scoreless 1st quarter, the Highlanders got on the scoreboard first with a 36-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Jack Daulton to Jamieson Gavin. The score was set up by a long run by Daulton. The Deer responded with a touchdown of their own to bring the teams back to even at 7-7.

Another long run by Daulton set up the Highlanders' next score. Kicker Luke Crudgington connected from 30 yards to put TWHS back up 10-7. Crudgington hit 3 field goals on the night from 30, 28 and 19 yards.

The Woodlands increased their lead later in the quarter with the longest play of the night. Daulton found senior Eli Lancaster down the right sideline for a 70-yard touchdown to put the Highlanders up 17-7. But the double-digit lead didn't last long. Deer Park returned the ensuing kickoff 92 yards for a touchdown with less than a minute left in the 1st half.

The Highlanders weren't done in the 1st half though. Daulton threw for another big reception, this time a 47-yard completion to Bryson Bourn. The big play put the Highlanders in field goal range before the end of the half to give The Woodlands a 20-14 half time lead.

After another field goal by Crudgington in the 3rd quarter, the Deer were able to find the end zone again to cut into the Highlander lead. However, Parker Stewart blocked the extra point to keep the score at 23-20 for TWHS. Stewart also had an interception on defense and two receptions on offense.

The Woodlands were able to extend their lead on the next drive. Daulton found Peyton Dipasquale for a 17-yard strike to make the score 30-20. Daulton finished with 236 yards passing (3 TD) and 119 yards rushing.

Jabaric Sullivan helped seal the victory with an interception and the Highlanders were able to run out the clock. Caycen Bartolazzi led the defense in tackles with 12 while Timmy Parke had a sack along with 2 tackles for loss.

The Woodlands will now begin district competition against Grand Oaks next week at Woodforest Stadium.