



The Woodlands runs roughshod over Conroe 51-3

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By **Jim Mashek**

The Woodlands offensive line dominated Conroe up front and the Highlanders' speed did the rest. Quarterbacks Matt Bonaguidi and Chris Andritsos guided the Highlanders to a 51-3 victory over Conroe on Friday night at Buddy Moorhead Memorial Stadium.

Andritsos has moved into a role as the Highlanders' goal-line and short-yardage specialist, and Bonaguidi left the Tigers in his wake on some dizzying fakes into the line.

The Woodlands improved to 4-1 and 1-0 in District 16-6A play while the Tigers fell to 3-2 and 0-1 respectively.

"Matt Bonaguidi continues to improve," The Woodlands coach Mark Schmid said. "Chris is our wildcat and short-yardage quarterback. He comes in and gives us a lift.

"Our offensive line is getting better. I knew it would be a unit that would get better in time, and they're proving it."

The Highlanders grabbed a 14-0 lead on Antoine Winfield's 50-yard punt return for a touchdown with 1:45 left in the first quarter. Andritsos' second scoring run of the night, a 1-yard blast, made it 21-0 in the opening moments of the second quarter.

"We compounded some mistakes and it got away from us," Conroe coach Robert Walker said. "Our youth showed tonight, especially on special teams. I thought the kids did a good job of playing a physical game.

"We'll bounce back. We're resilient."

The Woodlands' Patrick Carr took a handoff from Bonaguidi and scored on a 66-yard run on the first play of the second half. He'd get just one more carry and finish the night with 124 yards on the ground on 10 attempts.

Conroe tailback Dontrell Dock showed some promise early in the game running the ball but left when his troublesome ankle injury resurfaced. Dock finished with 56 yards on the ground.

Adam May had a 5-yard touchdown run for the Highlanders in the second half, and Conroe got on the scoreboard when Cordell Vogel kicked a 27-yard field goal with 11:55 left in the game.

Bonaguidi finished with 61 yards rushing and scored on a 7-yard run midway through the second quarter. The Highlanders' A.J. Mason had already scored on a 40-yard fumble return, and the Tigers had few answers on offense.

The Highlanders resume 16-6A play on Saturday against Atascocita, while Conroe will face Oak Ridge (4-1, 1-0 in 16-6A) on Friday night at Woodforest Bank Stadium.



Highlanders roll to 51-3 win over Conroe

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CONROE, Texas – The Woodlands Highlanders scored on a fumble return, a punt return, a long run and a short run in the first half, to cruised to a 51-3 victory over arch-rival Conroe in both teams' District 16-6A football opener on Friday night at Moorhead Stadium.

The win moved the Highlanders to 4-1 overall and 1-0 in 16-6A play, while the Tigers fell to 3-2 overall and 0-1 in the league.

Conroe is 2-22-1 against The Woodlands since 1990. Its last win over the Highlanders came in 2007, when it shocked The Woodlands, 35-14.

The Woodlands has won at least a share of a district title in five of the last six seasons, and won the outright District 14-5A championship last year before falling in the regional semifinals to eventual state-champion Allen.

“Our kids really don’t think in terms like that,” Conroe head football coach Robert Walker said earlier in the week. “We tell them all the time that this is a process, and getting Conroe football back to where we want it to be.”

The Highlanders, who closed non-district play with a 24-7 win over Katy and a 49-3 victory over La Porte, opened the scoring when senior quarterback Chris Andritsos scored on a 2-yard run with 5:11 left in the first quarter. He would add a 1-yard scoring jaunt seven minutes later.

The Woodlands' Antoine Winfield, who could be the best all-around player on the team, returned a punt 50 yards for a score in between Andritsos' two touchdowns as the Highlanders took command in the early going and never looked back.

After Andritsos' second score, A.J. Mason returned a Conroe fumble 40 yards for a touchdown and junior quarterback Matt Bonaguidi zigged and zagged for a 67-yard score, as the Highlanders burst to a 38-0 halftime lead.

Nacho Garcia's 32-yard field goal with 1:16 left in the second quarter was the Highlanders' final score of the first half.

Patrick Carr, who rushed for 124 yards, added a 66-yard scoring run to open the third quarter. He has 530 rushing yards and seven touchdowns in the first five games of the season.

Adam May rounded out the Highlanders' scoring with a 5-yard run with 2:00 left in the third. He finished with 49 yards rushing.

"I think we've seen offensive improvement each week, and we've gone through some growing pains," The Woodlands head coach Mark Schmid said before the game. "We're not where we need to be yet, but we're getting closer each week."

Conroe's only points came on Cordell Vogel's 27-yard field goal with 11:55 left in the game.

The Woodlands played without linebacker Corey Sanders, who sustained an arm injury against La Porte.

Andritsos rejoined the Highlanders after two games and played some against La Porte. He was the starting quarterback last season and is a dual threat as a runner and passer, sporting a cannon for an arm. He is projected to be a high draft pick in the Major League Baseball amateur draft next May.

The Highlanders finished the game with 402 total yards, including 301 on the ground. Bonaguidi also had 61 yards rushing.

Chris Stewart caught two passes for 41 yards.

Dontrell Dock rushed for 58 yards and Quentin Frerichs had 44 rushing yards for Conroe. Darrian Dock also caught three passes for 69 yards.