

# The Woodlands Clinch District Opener Against Grand Oaks

By: Kaylee Turner | Published 09/13/2024



**THE WOODLANDS** -- The Woodlands High School (3-0) clinched a decisive victory against Grand Oaks (2-1) in the first district game of the season, finishing with a commanding score of 42-14.

The Grizzlies' student section was a sea of purple in honor of Suicide Prevention Week, while the Highlanders donned black for their 'Black Out' theme. The atmosphere was electric as both teams took to the field.

The Grizzlies started the game strong with a 30-yard throw from Junior quarterback Grant Smith to Junior wide receiver Devon Wallace, securing a first down. On the very next play, Smith connected with Wallace again for a touchdown, followed by a successful field goal, putting the Grizzlies up 7-0.

Despite the early lead by Grand Oaks, the Woodlands Highlanders roared back with a powerful second quarter. Just eight seconds in, Senior Jackson Bolender broke free for a 30-yard touchdown, skillfully evading a near tackle from Kyson Morgan to reach the end zone. The Highlanders then ran a one-yard touchdown play, once again with Bolender, bringing the score to 14-7.

The Highlanders continued to dominate with Senior Jack Daulton sprinting for a 20-yard touchdown, extending their lead to 21-7. The momentum stayed with the Highlanders as Caycen Bartolazzi intercepted a throw from Smith and ran it back 50 yards for another touchdown, leaving the score at 28-7 as they headed into halftime.

The second half was a blowout for the Highlanders. Despite efforts from Grizzlies' quarterback Junior Grant Smith and Junior Preston Cloud, who managed some successful runs, they were no match for the Highlanders' formidable linebackers.

Entering the third quarter, the Highlanders wasted no time, with Cody Jordan rushing 15 yards for a touchdown, increasing their lead to 35-7. Walker, the kicker, continued his perfect streak with another successful field goal.

The Highlanders' #12 then executed a spectacular 40-yard touchdown run, weaving through the Grizzlies' defense. The game concluded with one final touchdown by the Grizzlies at the end of the fourth quarter, but The Woodlands would seal their victory at 42-14 and setting the stage for what promises to be a successful season.

The Highlanders' performance was a showcase of their offensive prowess and defensive strength, leaving fans excited for the games ahead.