

Gateway scores 25 unanswered points to pull away from Wildcats in second half

BY MIKE DUDURICH
For the Bulletin

MONROEVILLE — It's hard to call any particular play or plays "key" in a 45-7 loss, but if you're a fan of the Greater Latrobe Wildcats, you might make a case for what happened late in the third quarter Friday night.

After being handled rather well by Gateway in the first half, Greater Latrobe took advantage of a Gateway turnover at the Greater Latrobe 44. Ten plays later, on the strength of pile-driver running from senior full-back Scott Mohring, the Wildcats were on the board and back in the game, 20-7.

But Patrick Livsey took the kickoff and broke into the clear, taking the ball all the way to the GL 2 before being tackled. Livsey then put the ball in the endzone and that started an explosion of 25 points that eventually resulted in Gateway's 45-7 mercy-rule victory in Friday night's WPIAL Quad-A South Conference opener over the visiting Wildcats.

It was the eighth straight victory for the Gators in the series.

"We did have some momentum there. The kids were fired up and then they returned that kickoff and things snowballed from there," Greater Latrobe head coach Ray Reitz said after his team fell to 2-1 overall.

"I believe we had a better team than we showed tonight, but they made the plays and we didn't. Hats off to them."

The guy who made the most plays on the night was Gateway quarterback Thomas Woodson, a 6-foot-2, 200-pound junior. He finished the night with 15 completions in 18 attempts for 334 yards and four touchdowns.

He was complemented nicely by tight end/running back Jaymar Parrish, who caught six passes for 179 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

"They (Wildcats) were really crowding the box on us and it was difficult for us to run the ball much early on," Gators' coach Terry Smith said. "But I think that kickoff return really broke their spirit.

Gateway 45

Greater Latrobe 7

	GL	G
First downs	8	20
Rushes-yds	47-101	30-127
Passing yds	16	334
Passes-int	1-10-0	15-20-0
Fumbles-lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties-yds	2-10	9-70
Punts-avg	8-34.5	1-35
Total offense	117	461

Score by Quarters

Gr. Latrobe	0	0	7	0	—	7
Gateway	7	13	6	19	—	45

Scoring

G—Folkmiere	11 pass from Woodson (Conway kick)
G—Woodson	27 run (run failed)
G—Randall	28 pass from Woodson (Conway kick)
GL—Mohring	4 run (Drake kick)
G—Livsey	2 run (kick failed)
G—Martin	3 run (Conway kick)
G—Parrish	58 pass from Woodson (kick failed)
G—Parrish	45 pass from Woodson (kick failed)

Rushing

GL—Vasinko	8-50; Mohring	14-40; Weltz	2-13; Ferguson	1-3; Monteparte	2-3; Zavatsky	4-0; Taylor	2-0; Wojciechowski	4-(-1); Hall	1-(-3); Carns	9-(-4)
G—Woodson	8-48; Martin	9-40; Livsey	7-26; Davis	2-9; Kimbrough	4-4					

Passing

GL—Carns	1-7-0-16; Wojciechowski	0-3-0-0; Shaffer	0-0-0-0
G—Woodson	15-18-0-334; Moore	0-2-0-0	

Receiving

GL—Zavatsky	1-16					
G—Parrish	6-179; Randall	2-77; Butler	2-26; Folkmiere	2-25; Ford	2-23; Jones	1-4

"Ray Reitz is a good coach and had his kids playing well tonight. We just have better talent and that showed in the third and fourth quarters."

Greater Latrobe won the coin toss to start the game, deferred and seven plays later was down, 7-0.

The Wildcats actually kept the Gators somewhat in check, but were burned by the first of several big plays by Gateway, this one a 49-yard pass reception by Delvon Randall from Woodson that took the ball to the 4.

The drive did not start well for Gateway, however, as star running back Graham Davis went down with an injury after two running plays. He tried to run off the field, but collapsed short of the sideline. He was helped off by a couple players, not putting any weight on his

left leg and eventually left the stadium on a stretcher.

The seven-play, 67-yard drive was capped by an 11-yard touchdown pass from Woodson to David Folkmiere. The Wildcats picked up a first down on their opening possession, but eventually had to punt from their own 21. Despite giving up consecutive receptions of 15 and 14 yards, Greater Latrobe forced a punt.

GL's subsequent drive did not yield anything, but Gateway's next one did. A 17-yard pass play and then a 27-yard touchdown run by Woodson put the Gators up, 13-0. If there was any doubt as to whom the best athlete was on the field Friday night, that doubt was erased on Woodson's TD run. He darted, dove and sprinted for the score.

GL continued to struggle on offense and when a punt put Gateway in great shape on the Greater Latrobe 42, the Gators made quick work of the situation. Folkmiere pulled in a 14-yard pass and then Delvon Randall made a circus catch, taking a high pass from a Greater Latrobe defender and turned it into a 28-yard touchdown pass.

The Wildcats struggled on the ensuing drive and went three-and-out and appeared to be on the way to being run out of Antimarino Stadium, especially when Gateway took the punt at Greater Latrobe's 48. But the ball was fumbled and Robert Vasinko recovered.

Greater Latrobe moved the ball to the Gateway 25 before turning it over on downs.

Once Gateway went up, 26-7, after the big kickoff return, GL's offense could not keep the defense off the field and Gateway poured on three fourth-quarter touchdowns. Andre Martin, the Gators' fourth-string tailback, scored from three yards out and Parrish hauled in passes for TDs of 58 and 45 yards.

"We'll see what kind of team we have next week (against Connellsville at home)," Reitz said. "The kids got knocked down tonight and we'll see who the men are in terms of getting back up."