

## PREP FOOTBALL: Damien shuts out Glendora, 21-0

By Fred J. Robledo, Staff Writer

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Damien's Phillip Sainz (43) runs for a first down in the first half during Friday night's football game between Damien and Glendora at Citrus College, October 23, 2009, in Glendora. (SGVN/Staff Photo by Keith Birmingham)

**GLENDORA** - What a difference a week makes.

After getting hammered in the Sierra League opener by Chino Hills and losing for the fifth time in six tries, Damien High School bounced back in a big way against rival Glendora on Friday at Citrus College.

The Spartans defense hounded Tartans quarterback Chad Jeffries, sacking him five times

on their way to a 21-0 blanking of the CIF-Southern Section Central Division's 10th-ranked team.

"It's a long time coming," Spartans coach Greg Gano said. "Our kids played a heck of a football game. Maybe we will get some momentum, because we're a better team than what we showed against Chino Hills (38-6 loss). We needed this very badly."

For Glendora, the loss might not have been the worst part.

Early in the first quarter, two-way starter Andre Holmes, who rushed for 265 yards in last week's win over Diamond Bar, injured his right knee on defense and never returned, watching the second half on crutches.

"That was part of the difference, they didn't have him," Gano said. "I hope he's all right. It was unfortunate for them, but fortunate for us that we didn't have to face him because he was on a roll."

The loss obviously changed the Tartans' game plans.

"We kind of scrambled a little bit because he's a big part of what we do," Glendora coach Mark Pasquarella said. "But the big issue was we couldn't protect our quarterback. If we can't protect him it's going to be a long night no matter who we're playing."

Spartans quarterback James Guillen, who was 11

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of 16 for 143 yards, opened the scoring with a 21-yard touchdown pass to Eric Lewis for a 7-0 lead with 1:19 left in the opening quarter.

Later, it was Guillen's 15-yard pass to Lewis that set up Phillip Sainz's 2-yard touchdown and 14-0 lead with 32 seconds left before halftime. Sainz finished with 100 yards on 27 carries.

#### Photo Gallery

##### Damien vs Glendora Football



(SGVN/Staff photos by Keith Birmingham)

Frankie Casillas provided the finishing touches with a 1-yard TD run, helping the Spartans improve to 2-5 and 1-1. The Tartans fell to 4-3 and 1-1.

All of a sudden the Spartans are in the thick of the Sierra League race, and by finishing with Ayala, Diamond Bar and Chino, they have a chance to finish strong.

"It's been an up-and-down season," Gano said. "We have played some good teams and played them well, we just couldn't finish anyone off until tonight."

Spartans receiver Ryne Morrison, who had five receptions for 62 yards, put it in perspective.

"We needed this in the worst way," he said. "If Glendora beats Chino Hills next week, who knows, we might have a shot at the title."

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