

High School Football News, Breaking High School Football News and More: The San Gabriel Valley Tribune

By Keith Lair, San Gabriel Valley Tribune
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GLENDORA >> The Glendora High School football team had its hands all over the ball Thursday night. Except when it counted the most.

The Tartans tipped passes, were right there when Los Osos fumbled the ball and constantly surrounded the Grizzlies on defense. But when it counted the absolute most, Los Osos quarterback Jacob Crain completed a 10-yard touchdown pass to Durrion Burton with 8 seconds to play to give Los Osos a 27-26 Baseline victory at Citrus College.

Glendora defenders were all over Burton, double teaming the senior wide receiver. Crain's pass was right on the mark, getting between the defenders.

"Coaches keep telling me big-time players make big-time plays in big-time games and it was my turn to step up" Burton said.

The victory puts a serious dent in the Tartans' playoff hopes. After starting the season 6-0, they have lost their last three games and are in serious trouble of not finishing in the top three in league play. They close out the regular season next week against host Alta Loma, needing a lot of help to qualify. Los Osos (5-4) has a one-game lead on Glendora for fourth place.

Caleb Watkins kicked his fourth field goal of the game to give Glendora a 26-21 lead with 3:06 to play. The Tartans appeared to be all over the Grizzlies in Los Osos' final drive.

Los Osos started on its own 7 and was quickly in serious trouble. The Grizzlies were backed up to the 5 on third down. Crain, who completed 14 of 24 passes for 177 yards, had his biggest performance the rest of the way. It was either his passing or legs that got the Grizzlies to the 10.

"That was crazy there," Crain said. "There is nothing like that."

But he had a little luck, too. On third down from the 5, he got the ball to Caleb Repp for 26 yards and a first down. Two plays later, his screen pass was nearly intercepted. On fourth-and-5 from the 36, two defenders tipped the ball before Repp, who had five catches for 90 yards, came down with it for a 12-yard gain and a first down.

"They made some plays," Glendora coach Jerry Lewallen said. "There were some balls tipped around and went into their hands. We played with a lot of heart and effort. I feel real bad for these guys."

Crain scrambled three times in the next four plays, getting to the 10 with 11 seconds to play on a 15-yard run. He then hit Burton on the curl pattern in the end zone corner.

"That was just trust," Crain said of the play. "We run the play in practice all the time."

It was Los Osos' first lead since the game's first three minutes.

Glendora struggled once it got inside the Los Osos 20 on Thursday, which led to Watkins field goals of 33, 37, 37 and 40 yards.

“That is what you get here,” Lewallen said. “You’re fighting and fighting and defenses make stands, and they made a couple of stands. That’s a football game. You get closer to the end zone and it gets a little tougher.”

Glendora led 16-14 at the half, holding the Grizzlies to 62 total yards and two first downs.

TyRell Evans, who rushed for a game-high 113 yards on 19 carries, gave the Tartans a 23-14 lead with a one-yard run 55 seconds into the fourth quarter.

The Grizzlies finally put together a long TD drive, going 79 yards in 12 plays, including an 18-yard fourth-down Crain pass to Burton on the next series. Crain scored on a broken play, going 14 yards untouched.

“We were having trouble,” Burton said. “We got it together in the fourth quarter.”

Evans got Glendora to the 20, but the drive stalled and Watkins’ 40-yard field goal gave the Tartans a 26-21 lead with 3:06 left.

Glendora was able to run only one play after Burton’s winning TD pass, a 9-yard pass from Matt Fink to Collin Grady.