

## Glendora rallies for 29-24 win

By Keith Lair , San Gabriel Valley Tribune

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Glendora quarterback Matt Fink (12) finds little running room against the Kaiser defense during the second quarter Thursday night. Glendora hosts Kaiser in a prep football match up Thursday night October 1, 2015 at Citrus College in Azusa. (Will Lester/Staff Photographer)



Glendora's Tyler Schoenick (3) scores on a short touchdown pass, as Kaiser's Tyler Allgeier (17) defends, to give Glendora an early 6-0 lead Thursday night. Glendora hosts Kaiser in a prep football match up Thursday night October 1, 2015 at Citrus College in Azusa. (Will Lester/Staff Photographer)

GLENDORA >> Matt Fink is supposed to be on the throwing end of big plays. Not the receiving side.

But Glendora High School used a bit of trickery on probably the Tartans' biggest drive of the season to defeat Kaiser, 29-24, in the final nonleague contest for both teams on Thursday night at Citrus College.

Kaiser rallied to take a 24-23 lead, and all the Cats (3-2) had to do was stop Fink and the Tartans (4-1) one last time.

With first down at the Kaiser 47-yard line, the Tartans quickly lined up backup quarterback Forrest Affra at center without a huddle and put Fink along the sidelines. Affra made a spinning fake handoff, just like Fink did for most of the game, and threw a rocket to the streaking Fink, who has committed to play quarterback at USC next year. Fink caught the ball at the 10. On the next play, Fink was back behind center and he carried the ball in with 2:24 to play for the winning score.

The late touchdown overcame a barrage from Kaiser's Joshua Johnson. The running back, who was held to 78 yards in the first half, scored on three long runs to carry the Cats to a 24-23 lead with 6:06 to play. He scored on runs of 33 and 27 yards, then broke a pair of tackles to go 85 yards and give Kaiser the lead for the first time. He finished with 272 yards on 25 carries.

Kaiser played about half the game without starting junior quarterback Tyreque Jones, who injured the back of his left leg when he bobbled the snap and was went down trying to scramble out of the backfield. He came in and out of the lineup, but was instrumental in getting the ball to Johnson.

When Kaiser got the ball back, he re-injured the leg on a scramble, and backup Joseph Zepeda, who began moving the ball with short passes to midfield, had to go long at the end. James Nolan picked off his pass to end the game.

Glendora had a 23-6 lead in the third quarter.

Fink threw a pair of TD passes to Tyler Schoenick and then ran in a 22-yarder for his first of two scores for the night.

The Tartans scored on the opening drive, Fink completing a 56-yard pass on a long third down to Luke

Hinojos, who reached over defender Hubert Mann to barely grab the ball and go down on the Cats 8. Fink then threw a TD pass to Schoenick.

Johnson broke off a 45-yard run to the Glendora 13. But the Cats could only get to the 8, and Alex Marquez's 25-yard field-goal attempt was short.

But it did not get the Tartans out of trouble. On Glendora's first play, Tyler Watkins stepped in front of a sideline pass and returned it 25 yards for a touchdown to tie the game at 6.

Fink then led 54-yard, nine-play drive, hitting Schoenick on a 6-yarder for a 13-6 lead.

Fik completed 10 of 22 passes for 153 yards. He was 1 of 3 for eight yards in the second half.

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