

USC-bound Matt Fink's 4 TDs lead Glendora past Los Altos

By Aram Tolegian , San Gabriel Valley Tribune

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Glendora QB Matt Fink (12) threw for three touchdowns and rushed for another against Los Altos. (Photo by Keith Birmingham/ Pasadena Star-News)

GLENDORA >> There's a reason why the Glendora High School is the No. 1-ranked team in the CIF-Southern Section Central Division. And the Tartans put that reason on full display on Friday night.

USC-bound quarterback Matt Fink threw for 298 yards and three touchdowns, and added 124 yards rushing and another score to lead the Tartans to a 42-28 win over previously unbeaten Los Altos at Citrus College.

"Tonight, our offensive line took a big step in protecting our quarterback," Glendora head coach Jerry Lewallen said. "To have a good game passing, you have to protect the kid (Fink) and give him time. Hats off to our offensive line. Any time you can be balanced in our offense, you're going to be tough."

Glendora improved to 3-0 and will have another big Central Division showdown next week against Charter Oak. Los Altos fell to 3-1.

For a while, the Conquerors gave every impression they were up to the challenge. After falling behind 14-0 early, Los Altos got a 73-yard touchdown from standout running back Tyler Nevens and later a short touchdown pass from Michael Campbell to Art Vargas to tie the score.

Fink answered with a 30-yard touchdown pass to Tyler Schoenick, who also had two interceptions while on defense. Fink later threw his first of two touchdown passes to Corey Taylor.

But Los Altos didn't go away, and another Campbell-to-Vargas touchdown pass just before halftime made the score 28-28 at the break.

That would be all for Los Altos, though, as Glendora shut down the Conquerors the rest of the way.

"Glendora played a cleaner (second) half than we did," Los Altos head coach Dale Ziola said. "They played a cleaner game than we did, period. I liked the effort, but too many mistakes. Too many mental mistakes that cost us down the road. It will be a good learning experience."

Glendora scored on its first possession of the second half, courtesy of Griffen Herrera's 3-yard touchdown run, one of two he had in the game.

Neven was held to just 106 yards rushing and wasn't much of a factor in the second half with his team needing to throw from behind.

"We just changed up the front (in the second half)," Lewallen said. "We tackled better. I liked the fact that our kids bounced back in the second half. That was a good sign for our football team."

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