

The EndZone



The Official Newsletter of Londonderry Youth Football and Spirit

2014 Nutfield Trophy Game

By **Jim Loiselle** – *EndZone Editor & LYFS Secretary* - e-mail: jim.loiselle@lyfs.org

For the better part of three decades the Londonderry Lancers and Pinkerton Astros have played high school sports in the spring and fall; with bragging rights to the Ball Family Trophy in the spring and the granddaddy of them all, in the fall, the Mack Plaque. Over the course of a week the schools compete in a variety of NHIAA games. The school that wins the most events claims bragging rights to the trophy. All eyes however are on that most important of games, the only sport that really matters, America's game, football.....

On the youth level we too have our version of the Mack Plaque the Nutfield Trophy. For the past 2+ decades the 8th grade football teams from Londonderry (Titans, Jr. Lancers, Wildcats) have competed against the Derry Wolverines for this youth sports award. Last owned by Londonderry in 2010 and 2011 the Wildcats and Wolverines met in a scrimmage Thursday September 28th for their annual football rivalry.



From 2011 – Trophy in Londonderry.....

With their victory last year Derry leads the series 10 to 9. Would Londonderry win in 2014 and tie the series or would Derry continue to hold our trophy hostage until its rightful return back here in Londonderry.....

Grade 7 – Preliminary Game

By **Ray Romano** – *EndZone Sports Writer* e-mail: info@lyfs.org

One of the not so easy tasks as football coach is to get 11 people to act as one. Yes the running back or wide receiver get all the “glory” but without 10 other people doing their job exactly as it needs to be done....there would be no glory.

If it works do it again, if it works keep doing it until they can stop it, and keep doing it until it no longer works. Demonstrating the well coached ability to execute one of the simplest plays in all of football and to do it again, and again, and again the Derry Wolverines pounded the ball directly down the middle and kept doing it. The backfield look may have been different from the power-I to the split-T and even a half-wing



formation but the end result was the same. POWER off the gap between the center and guard. Over 15 times in the first half Derry would power right, right up the middle and time after time they kept churning out first downs and big chunks of yardage to keep control of the ball and to score. If it works keep doing it until they can stop it.....Londonderry eventually did and then the game got close !!

Pictured above #22 from Derry on one of his power runs - #78 Cooper Bartlett and #53 Koby Cronin of Londonderry.

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Londonderry would get the ball first but after two recovered fumbles, a running play for negative yards and an incomplete pass gave the ball to Derry on downs on the Londonderry 32 yard line. Five times right up the middle; 1 yard, 12 yards, 1 yard, 6 yards, and 10 yards to set up a first and goal. Sweeping the ball strong right the final few yards Derry would lead (extra points run after attempt stopped by #70 of Londonderry Cam Babine) 6 to 0.

Putting those first series jitters behind them the Wildcat offense took control of the ball with five minutes remaining in the 1st quarter and would put together a sustained drive of 10 plays consuming over 7 minutes of the clock. On a critical 4th down play from their own 46 yard line Wildcat QB #79 Devin Rheume would connect on a 31 yard pass play to a streaking #24 Jake McEachern down to the Derry 23. On the day Devin was 1 for 4 passing for 31 yards.



Jake would get another quick first down on the end around pitch from Devin. From the power running of #8 Tyler Kayo and #12 Jeffrey Wiedenfeld would take it the final 8 yards for the score and with Tyler's smash it through extra points run the Cats would take the lead 8 to 6 early in the 2nd quarter.

Left - #12 Jeffrey Wiedenfeld on one of a first down carry setting up his subsequent TD

Londonderry would try the on-side kick – but Derry covered the ball at mid field to take over. Derry would attempt their own pass play but that ended with a sack by #8 Tyler Kayo. From their Derry would take it back to the power running game. Middle, middle, middle; play after play 16 yards, 8 yards, 8 yards and finally for the TD Derry would pull ahead 14 to 8.

Trying their own on-side kick attempt #24 Jake McEachern would cover the ball and Londonderry took over on the Derry 42 yard line. The jitters would return. A few bad center-QB exchanges and a fumble the Cats pushed themselves even further back giving the ball back to the Wolverines with three minutes in the half.

Derry would quickly score on a post route pass taking the ball the final 36 yards and with the incomplete pass for points after the Wolverines now pulled ahead 20 to 8.

Jeffrey Wiedenfeld would return the Derry KO 19 yards to the 41 but with time running down the offense would continue to sputter gaining a first down off two Derry penalties but unable to run the ball to end the first half Derry in the lead.

Right the D12 Cheer Squad gets the fans going !

Londonderry, having made some positive adjustments at the half, started the 3rd quarter strong. After the Derry KO return to their own 31 Londonderry would begin to stuff that center run.



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Cam Babine #70 would have 8 solo tackles on the day 5 for a loss including 2 QB sacks. Jeffrey Wiedenfeld would lead all tacklers from his middle linebacker position with 11 solo tackles. Derry was forced to punt the ball with a Londonderry cover at mid field.

From there Londonderry would turn to their own power run attack. Powering up the middle Jeffrey on two successive runs gained 16 yards. From there the drive would continue on runs by Tyler Kayo and Devin Rheame. Jake McEachern would take the end-around pitch the final 22 yards (Kayo EPs run) to bring Londonderry close 16 to 20 with four minutes left in the quarter.

The Cat O-Line had trouble holding back the D. Right - #79 Devin Rheame finds the running up the middle hard. #66 Tyler Geisel

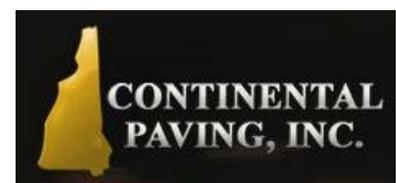
Londonderry would grind out 122 total running yards on the ground compared to Derry's 140 yards. Jake McEachern would lead the cats with 56 yards on 3 carries, Tyler Kayo 26 yards on 6 carries, Jeffrey Wiedenfeld 56 yards on 9 carries and Devin Rheame on 8 carries would lose 12 yards.

Both defenses would stiffen up further through the fourth quarter switching possessions. Cam Babine would get one of his tackles for loss stopping a Derry 4th and goal-to goal play with a loss back to the 16.



With four minutes left in the game the Wildcats took over on their own 16. But after an incomplete pass, a fumble for loss and two short gains – gave the ball right back to Derry. All the Wolverines needed to do was knee the ball down the final few plays to hold on for the final 20 to 16 grind it out victory over Londonderry.

Below – leading Londonderry with 87 total yards #24 Jake McEachern eludes the Derry secondary on way to his 22 yard TD run in the 3rd quarter.



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Grade 8 – Nutfield Trophy Game !

By Oscar Madison - EndZone Sports Writer e-mail: info@lyfs.org

If this was a title prize fight the referee would have stopped it sooner. There is no such rule in football. As it was Derry would pound out 38 unanswered points early in the 3rd quarter to trigger the lop-sided score rule. From there the game was played on a running clock under controlled conditions to the final time expired.

The bright spot of the opening Derry drive was a tackle by big #70 Ben Psaledas for a 6 yard loss. But on the next play Derry would run right up the middle 45 yards untouched for the lead. Derry kept running and Londonderry despite adjustments could not stop the juggernaut.

Londonderry's single wing offense was pressured all day at the snap. Multiple snaps sailed over the head of the one-back including several on the Wildcats opening series forcing Londonderry to punt from their own 31. Five plays later on the QB keeper and EPs run Derry would lead 14 to 0 at the end of the first quarter.



Right - #15 Evan Cormier had trouble with the direct snap, #21 Nate Fisher

On their next offensive series the troubles at center would continue. Another errant snap pushed Londonderry back from the 41 to the 26 yard line. Facing a 4th down and long on the 18 Londonderry punted the ball out to the 45 and

Derry took over, but they would stumble after a penalty and an incomplete pass they punted right back to Londonderry. After a Derry sack Evan Cormier's next pass attempt fell short being intercepted by Derry to the Londonderry 45 yard line.

When Londonderry pressured the box stopping Derry's run they completed, on 4th down, a 31 yard TD pass to a streaking wide receiver. AJ Thistle would stuff the extra points run – but Derry held the 20 to 0 lead with 3 minutes left in the half.

Hard to imagine but the Wolverines again would gain control of the ball after yet another center snap sailed over the backs head allowing Derry to cover the fumble on the Wildcats 10 yard line. From there Derry would punch it in again for the 26 to 0 lead.

Below – the Grade 8 coaches talk-it-up at half time.



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Londonderry would get the ball back with about a minute in the half. #15 Evan Cormier would take the Wolverine kickoff 28 yards into Derry territory. After two Derry penalties Londonderry had a 1st and 10 on the Wolverine 20 yard line. Another unforced error on a bad option toss gave the ball right back to the Wolverines on their own 25. With seconds left in the first half the Wolverine back would pooch it up the middle for the 75 yard TD run and that quick Londonderry was down 32 to 0 at the half.

Left – an almost “floating” #44 Mason Marquis makes a TD saving tackle.

The Wolverines would kick off to Londonderry to start the 3rd quarter with Londonderry on their own 30 yard line.

Again two bad center snaps sailed over the backfield with Londonderry forced all the way back to the one yard line. Punting from deep in the end zone Derry would get the ball on the Wildcat 26. One play later Derry would score for the final time ending the game officially with the final 38 to 0 smothering of Londonderry.

The Nutfield Trophy stays in Derry. The Wolverines now lead the series 11 to 9 over Londonderry.



Photos courtesy of Renee Rheame and Jim Loiselle