

Livonia Churchill outduels Canton in shoot-out, improves to 5-0

By Tom Lang Detroit Free Press Special Writer

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Livonia Churchill and host Canton put on an entertaining offensive display by piling up a combined 652 yards of offense during the Chiefs' homecoming Friday night.

Impressively that came in a steady rain. Even more impressive was that was just the first two quarters.

Canton grabbed a 14-0 lead barely 3 minutes into the Kensington Lakes game on touchdown runs of 80 and 46 yards by Malcolm Hollingsworth, but Churchill roared back, scoring five times in the first half and hung on for a 43-40 win.

"You don't get game speed until you get out here against them," said Churchill coach John Filiatraut about trying to prep for Canton's running game in practice. "The quick 14 was certainly not what we had in mind, but it wasn't a big shock either. I was really pleased we kept our composure, stuck with the plan, came back into the game and scored."

Score the Chargers (5-0) did -- first on a 13-yard reception by fullback Romello Brown from quarterback Seth Suida (178 yards), then on the next series with a 46-yard catch by Andre Abram Jr. The pass came from wide receiver Jeremy Lewis who had gotten the ball on a double reverse.

Canton (3-2) scored again on a 29-yard run by Joe Grinage and 78-yard reception by tight end Scott Gring from Greg Williams (188 yards) late in the second. But Churchill responded with a 29-yard field goal by Brian Alsobrooks plus three touchdowns in the final 3 minutes of the half -- a 53-yard reception by Robert Foster Jr., a 16-yard catch by Abram and a 2-yard reception by Jacob Staff with 15 seconds left and gave Churchill a 37-27 halftime lead.

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Hollingsworth finished with 220 yards rushing; Canton racked up 481 yards rushing as a team and held Churchill to two field goals in the second half. Yet two more Canton touchdowns (Charles Turfe on a 1-yard run and Scott Kendall's 16-yard catch) and one extra point resulted in the three-point shortfall for the Chiefs.

Brown closed with 166 yards rushing and made a huge sack late in the game to kill Canton's last drive. "I'm excited we're 5-0 but we have to move on," Brown said. "This game is done and we have to focus on John Glenn."