

Home sweet home as Canton tackles Westland Glenn, 55-14

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Some say a wife is the first to know.

And in the case of Canton's league win over visiting Kensington Lakes foe Westland Glenn on Friday, that could be true.

"I told my wife last night, 'We've had a great week of practice defensively, now if we can just physically man-up and tackle, we'll be right where we're supposed to,' " Canton coach Tim Baechler said.

Yet few could predict a 55-14 victory and a running clock to start the third quarter.

Canton nearly did everything right on homecoming night.

The Chiefs (4-0, 2-0) scored a touchdown on each of their first eight possessions -- three that began in Glenn territory. Canton gained 292 yards of offense in the first half; overall, the Chiefs gained 343 rushing and 101 passing.

Even when the final drive was stopped, a roughing-the-punter penalty on Glenn gave Canton the ball back -- and the Chiefs eventually scored on a 1-yard run by backup Dallas Garvey, his only carry. Eleven ball carriers accounted for Canton's 343 yards rushing.

"To win big is fun," said tight end Jake Boucher, who had a touchdown reception of 12 yards to start the scoring at 8:13 of the first quarter. "Everybody's hyped, we get everybody in (to play), all the scout kids that work so hard and don't normally get playing time get in.

"But people are going to come after us. They see the big score against a really good John Glenn team, and I think people are going to come a lot harder at us than we expected."

Canton added to the scoreboard on its second possession when junior quarterback Greg Williams faked a punt and threw to Boucher for a first down. A few plays later, Williams ran into the end zone from 5 yards out. He soon added another touchdown run, a 13-yarder, after a quick Glenn three-and-out.

"The linemen have been doing great this year, and they did again, getting off the line," said Williams, the second-leading rusher for Canton with 64 yards on six carries. "Everything was working, our outside game was working, our fakes were good today, and it all worked out.

"Glenn was biting more inside and letting the outside game go more, so I called my own number a few more times."

Also scoring for Canton was Weston Price on a 12-yard run, Chuck Turfe on runs of 4 and 8 yards, and Brian Newton on a 1-yard run to cap the opening drive of the third quarter.

John Glenn (2-2, 1-1) was held to 36 yards rushing and 24 yards passing in the first two quarters before two long scoring plays late in the game -- an 80-yard pass from Chris Scheffer to Jaron Flourony and an 83-yard tip-toeing run down the sideline by Kimari Johnson.

"Our defense is getting better," Baechler said. "Glenn had a good offense and looked pretty dominant in their first three games. But we absolutely shut that run down, and I was pleasantly surprised. They had a big, physical offensive line ... so I'm ecstatic.

"I know we don't scare anyone when we come out on the field -- we're not that big like we've been in past years. But they keep bringing it, and I'm excited. Who knows how good they're going to get?"