

The EMAK Report

THE REACH

Walk-off

Touchdown

King's wins

on the final

play of the

game

15 - 13

Photo by Dave Gerig

October 5, 2023

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King's High School Football
Building champions
while pursuing championships

Issue 12 Volume 5

October 5, 2023

King's wins the battle of 4th and goal to defeat Cascade Christian 15 - 13



Photo by Dianna Roach



Photo by Shelby Echelbarger

On the final play of the first half, the King's Knights stuffed Cascade Christian on 4th and goal from the two yard line to preserve a 7 - 7 tie. The play would prove to be pivotal in the outcome of the game.

King's won both 4th and goal plays to improve their record to 5 - 0.

By Sam Roach

Trailing 13 - 9 with four seconds remaining, Cole Adams caught a one yard pass from Noah Clark on the final play of the game to give King's a 15 - 13 victory over Cascade Christian last Friday night at Woolsey Stadium.

In a game that Defensive Coordinator Dave Taylor said was, "won in the trenches," the final plays that ended both halves were similar. Both happened on the same end of the field and both were 4th and goal. The only

difference was who had the ball and which team was able to convert on their opportunity. With six seconds remaining in the second quarter, Cascade Christian had the ball, fourth and goal on the Knights' two yard line. Cascade Christian dialed up a dive play off the left side that was stuffed by the entire King's defense. Time expired in the half and, for Cascade Christian, that missed opportunity proved to be costly.

In the third quarter, with the game knotted at 7 all, Cascade Christian scored on a 45 yard screen pass to take the lead. An errant snap on the PAT prevented Cascade Christian from adding to their lead and the score re-

mained 13 - 7.

King's kept the pressure on Cascade Christian the entire 4th quarter and with three minutes remaining, the pressure paid off. Facing a 4th and 6 on their own 26, Cascade Christian attempted a punt and the snap sailed over the punters' head resulting in a safety.

With 2:50 remaining, King's started their final drive on the Cascade Christian 46. Clark rattled off two runs of 9 and 17 yards and hit Adams for a 17 yard completion. A pass interference call gave the Knights the ball on the 5 yard line with 30 seconds remaining. Two plays later, facing the same situation that Cascade Christian faced at the end of the first half, Clark hit Adams for 1 yard and the rest was history.

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The Clark to Adams pass, a.k.a. “the reach,” is easily one of the top two plays in all of King’s High School football history.

As plays go, it’s probably the only walk-off touchdown in King’s football history, at least in regulation play. The play that is its equal is a play known as Superman. That performance was turned in by Curtis Clauson on November 14, 2009 in a playoff game against Onalaska. The game had ended in a 21 all tie so it had gone into overtime. Onalaska scored on their offensive possession but on the point after touchdown, Clauson, a defensive back who would eventually go to the University of Washington on a track scholarship, came off the edge on the right side and laid out like Superman and blocked the PAT. King’s scored on their possession and successfully kicked their PAT to advance to state.

While it remains to be seen whether or not the Clark to Adams pass will have that kind of significance, in terms of just competition and excitement, the Clark to Adams pass, tagged as “The Reach,” ranks right along side “Superman,” as the most exciting play in King’s High School history.

Editor’s note: At the time of this publication, “The Reach,” is also currently the leading vote getter for the High School SBLive Play of the Week for Week 5.

Cascade Christian and King’s were evenly matched

There wasn’t much difference between the two teams last Friday night. Both teams went into the game undefeated and both teams will likely win out in their respective leagues and could end up meeting again in the state tournament. In the end though, King’s did a better job of handling the pressure of a tight game which is why they won.

4th and Goal

The two 4th and goal plays at the end of each half were not the only 4th and goal plays of the game, King’s had another one. Early in the second quarter, trailing 7 - 0, King’s had the ball 4th and goal on the 7. Offensive Coordinator Caleb Taylor dialed up a quick out to Adams, the identical route that won the game in the 4th quarter for a touchdown. King’s handled pressure.



Photo by Dianna Reach



Photo by Dianna Reach



Photo by Shelby Echelbarger

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King's punting game was better Friday night

Another thing that stood out Friday night was that both teams punters had to field a bad snap deep in their own end of the field. With just over a minute in the third quarter, King's had the ball 4th and 10 on their own 22. The score was tied and Jim Shapiro sent out the punting unit. The snap went errantly to Matthew Williams right, rolled behind him and Williams had to scoop it up and just kick it and hope for the best. Statistically, that punt went down as a 23 yard punt, a far cry from the 58 yarder that he boomed two weeks prior against Nooksack Valley but it was huge. Cascade Christian didn't have a short field and had to earn the touchdown that they scored four plays later. And when Shapiro met Williams when he came to the sidelines, he told him "That was huge!"

Fast forward ten minutes later in the game. There was 3:07 left in the game, Cascade Christian was up 13 - 7. it was 4th down and Cascade Christian had the ball on their own 26 with 7 yards to go for a first down. They elected to punt but the center sailed the ball over the punters head and rather than field the ball on the two and make the best of things, the punter kicked the ball out of the back of the end zone for a safety.

The ensuing free kick gave King's the ball on the Cascade Christian 46 and the rest was history.

The bottom line is this. King's and Cascade Christian's punt teams both faced pressure situations last Friday night. King's delivered and Cascade Christian didn't and that was another key factor in the game.

Two young players made significant contributions Friday night.

Last Friday night was an important night for two young players who were called upon to play significant roles. Freshman Aiden Shelford logged in many defensive snaps, especially when King's went into a defensive formation that required an extra lineman and he held his own. On the offensive side of the ball, fellow offensive linemen raved about the play of junior Dylan Shook, making his first ever varsity start at guard. "He got the opportunity and he made the most of it," Wesley Blackmer said. Little things like that made the difference.



Photo by Shelby Echelbarger



Photo by Patrick Shook



Photo by Shelby Echelbarger