

AREA ROUNDUP

Knob Noster football knocks off Lexington

By Joe Andrews

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Class 3 No. 8 ranked Knob Noster football continued its unbeaten start to the season with a 49-6 win against Lexington on Friday, Oct. 3, at Lexington High School.

The Panthers (6-0, 2-0 MRVC East) fell behind 6-0 early in the first quarter, but went on to outscore the Minutemen 49-0.

Sophomore quarterback Cade Cantrell completed 4-of-6 passes for 152 yards and two touchdowns. Senior quarterback Cole

Larimore went 5-for-7 for 65 yards.

Sophomore Colton McNeel tallied four catches for 128 yards and a touchdown while senior Keshhawn Callaway tallied one catch for 56 yards and a touchdown.

Senior Conner Morris ran for 128 yards and three touchdowns on 15 carries

Freshman Jackson Easterwood ran for 57 yards and a touchdown on four carries.

Senior Aiden Welch had one carry for a 4-yard touchdown.

Junior Tuff Dennis and McNeel both tallied sacks on the defensive side of the ball.

Knob Noster led 14-6 at the end of the first quarter and 34-6 at halftime.

The Panthers host winless Lafayette County in their regular season home finale on Friday, Oct. 10.

Holden football coasts Lafayette County

Class 2 No. 9 ranked Holden football beat Lafayette County 35-6 on Friday, Oct. 3, at Lafayette County High School.

Sophomore quarterback Truman Wamsley completed 5-of-10 passes for 159 yards and two touchdowns.

Senior Cohen Drake tallied two catches for 68 yards. Senior Wes Brown tallied two catches for 48 yards. Junior Carson Kephart had a 43-yard reception.

Junior Brody Bockover ran for 75 yards and two touchdowns on 13 carries, senior Wes Brown ran for 67 yards on 13 carries, senior Justin Brown ran for 55 yards and a touchdown on three carries and Wamsley ran for 16 yards on four carries.

Junior Eli Burnham paced Holden (5-1, 2-0 MRVC East) with 13 tackles while senior Seth Wright had 12, sophomore Jack Thomas had 10 and senior Owen Doogs had 10.

Holden hosts Richmond on Friday, Oct. 10.

See **ROUNDUP**, Page A11

Central Missouri football squeezes by Central Oklahoma



Central Missouri redshirt freshman quarterback Donovan Omolo runs the ball against Colorado State-Pueblo on Sept. 11, at Walton Stadium. FILE PHOTO BY JOE ANDREWS | STAR-JOURNAL

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If there is anything that Central Missouri and Central Oklahoma football learned in their fifth games of the season, it is the fact that every play counts.

The Bronchos missed an extra point attempt in the final three minutes, setting the Mules up with a 35-34 win Saturday, Oct. 4, at Chad Richison Stadium in Edmond, Oklahoma.

“We equated this to a heavyweight fight with these guys,” Central Missouri head coach Josh Lamberson said post-

game on the UCM Sports Radio Network. “We knew they were going to give their best effort. They have to, in this type of situation — both teams with the same records.”

Tied 28-28 with 6:36 left in the fourth quarter, Central Missouri (3-2, 3-0 MIAA) began a six-play 75-yard drive that concluded with a 20-yard touchdown from redshirt freshman quarterback Donovan Omolo to junior tight end Morgan Pearson.

With an extra point from redshirt sophomore kicker Will Peacock with 5:05 left, the Mules took a 35-28 lead.

Central Oklahoma (2-3, 2-2 MIAA) answered on its next possession with a five-play 62-yard series that ended with a 40-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Jeff Huff to senior tight end Dominique Dunn. The Mules kept the lead after sophomore kicker Joseph Kim missed the PAT.

The Mules went on to punt the ball from the UCO 45 with five seconds left. The Bronchos began from their own 8-yard line following a 37-yard punt from redshirt senior punter Ethan Brown.

See **MULES**, Page A11

Warrensburg volleyball finishes fourth in home tournament



Warrensburg junior Anna Florida digs the ball against Lexington in tournament action Saturday, Oct. 4, inside the Warrensburg Aux Gym. PHOTO BY JOE ANDREWS | STAR-JOURNAL

By Joe Andrews

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WARRENSBURG — The pool play portion of the Warrensburg Tournament went pretty much to plan for Warrensburg volleyball.

The Tigers were not able to continue the momentum into its championship bracket, however, finishing fourth in the tournament Saturday, Oct. 4, at Warrensburg High School.

“Every game that we had today, I think we lacked something different,” Warrensburg head coach Chandler Vaughan said. “One game, our defense was super strong; the next game, it wasn’t. Or, our serving was super strong in one game, then it wasn’t. Every game, there was something we lacked. It was really hard to put together. But overall, my team did a super job.”

See **VOLLEYBALL**, Page A11

Warrensburg football stymied by Odessa

By Joe Andrews

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WARRENSBURG — The slightest boost can make a big difference on the football field.

But momentum is not always infinite.

After cutting a three-touchdown difference to one, Warrensburg football turned the ball over four times, leading to a 42-28 loss Friday, Oct. 3, at the Warrensburg Activities Complex.

“We had too many mistakes on both sides of the ball to beat a good team tonight,” Warrensburg head coach Chris Cavanah said.

Warrensburg (3-3, 1-2 MRVC West) trailed 28-7 with 6:19 remaining in the second quarter, but went on to post the last two scores of the first half.

On the possession immediately following Odessa’s (5-1, 4-0 MRVC West) fourth touchdown of the game, the Tigers drove the ball 54 yards, ending with a 10-yard touchdown from senior running back AJ Smith.

Junior linebacker Trey Murphy went on to tally a fumble recovery on the kickoff return, giving the Tigers possession at the Bulldogs 30-yard line.

The Tigers then dug into their bag of tricks, with sophomore wide receiver Dominik Maham putting up a 30-yard touchdown pass to junior wide receiver Theo McCracken.

Warrensburg then forced Odessa into



Odessa junior Cole Westerhold tackles Warrensburg senior AJ Smith on Friday, Oct. 3, at the Warrensburg Activities Complex. PHOTO BY JOE ANDREWS | STAR-JOURNAL

a punt and attempted a 32-yard field goal from Ethan Hook with just under 50 seconds left in the half. The kick was wide left, setting up a pair of quarterback kneels from Odessa to run the clock out into halftime.

“We made a little run there in the second quarter,” Cavanah said. “It would have been nice to come away with points at the end of the first half, but I thought our kids battled. We were down in a pret-

ty big hole early, but we didn’t give up; we kept fighting. We just got to execute better on both sides of the ball.”

Following the connection between Maham and McCracken, Warrensburg did not have another touchdown until the fourth quarter.

Sophomore quarterback Camden Mannering threw three interceptions in the second half, while Smith fumbled it away once.

They trailed 42-21 before Mannering ran it in on a 6-yard touchdown with 2:11 left.

“That’s something that’s tough to overcome,” Cavanah said of the turnovers. That’s something that’s tough to overcome. We just have to execute at a higher level.”

Odessa took a quick lead in the game, going up 40 seconds in on a 40-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Michael Scott to junior wide receiver Jackson Whitaker.

Scott had a 42-yard touchdown pass to senior wide receiver Amaury Powell seven minutes later, increasing the lead to 14-0.

Scott also had 56-yard and 14-yard touchdown passes to Whitaker in the game. The Tigers limited Odessa to just two touchdowns in the second half.

“The defense was on our heels to start the game,” Cavanah said. “It took us a quarter and a half to wake up and kind of get with it. Once we did, we fixed a few things. But, we’ve got to find a way to start faster next week.”

Mannering posted Warrensburg’s first touchdown on a 4-yard touchdown run in the first moments of the second quarter.

Mannering completed 23-of-37 passes for 256 yards while running for 31 yards on 10 carries.

See **FOOTBALL**, Page A11

MULES

Continued from Page A7

A false start penalty moved them back to the 4-yard line. Following a completed pass that included two laterals, Mules redshirt junior linebacker Drew Kaufman forced a fumble that was recovered by freshman defensive back Izziek Chandler to end the game.

“We just wanted to play literally one play at a time, get a body shot, get a body shot, get a body shot, get a body shot, get a body shot,” Lamberson said. “That’s all we were focused on the entire day, with everyone doing their one-eleventh, which is their job. At the end of the day, we made one more play than them.”

Central Missouri initially took a 14-0 lead, benefiting from a 13-yard touchdown run from Omolo in the first quarter and a 1-yard touchdown run from Omolo in the first moments of the second quarter.

Omolo’s second score was one of six touchdowns to be added to the scoreboard between both teams within the second frame.

For UCM, the stretch also included a 72-yard touchdown pass from Omolo to redshirt sophomore Hogan Wasson and a 17-yard touchdown on a trick play completion from junior wide receiver Lindsey Marlon to Omolo.

UCM held a 14-point lead with 7:24 remaining in the first half, but went into halftime up 28-21. The scoreboard remained there until Central Oklahoma tied the game with 6:36 left.

UCM punted on six straight possessions after the connection between Marlon and Omolo.

The defense forced two punts, two turnovers on downs, and one missed field goal during the same stretch.

“I’m so proud of our defense,” Lamberson said. “I thought they played their tails off in the second half. Offensively, we struggled a little bit. We had some guys open. We didn’t get the ball to them when we needed to. They did some different things in the second half. They made some good adjustments. I’m so proud of our guys. We knew this was going to be a four-quarter

game.”

UCM finished with 500 yards of offense compared to UCO’s 617 yards.

Omolo completed 20-of-40 passes for 331 yards and two touchdowns while running for a net of 37 yards and two touchdowns on 12 carries and tallying a 17-yard touchdown reception.

Wasson paced UCM with 190 receiving yards on nine receptions.

UCM ran for 162 yards, led by junior running back Latravious Boyd’s 45.

The Mules were 4-for-4 in the red zone.

“You use the word resilient [for this group],” Lamberson said. “They just keep coming back. We didn’t really have momentum in that second half at all, especially offensively. They tied it up, and we go down to take the lead on that. It’s just, it was awesome.”

Redshirt senior defensive lineman Michael Harris paced UCM with two sacks for 10 yards while redshirt senior linebacker Garrett Hormann had nine tackles, including 2.5 tackles for loss. Sophomore defensive back Trenton Bell led UCM with 13 tackles.

Redshirt senior defensive back Abraham Hoskins III and Kaufman forced fumbles, which were recovered by Hormann and Chandler.

Huff completed 32-of-48 passes for 394 yards and four touchdowns for UCO.

“When he gets comfortable back there, he’s a heck of a player,” Lamberson said. “They have a heck of an offense, obviously. I thought we did enough in the second half where we were able to get some of those hits on him and ultimately, I think, made him a little bit uncomfortable and made a difference.”

Central Missouri returns home to host Northwest Missouri State on Saturday, Oct. 11. The Mules and Bearcats are the last two unbeaten teams in MIAA play.

Northwest heads into the match-up coming off a bye. It beat UCO 38-17 on Sept. 27.

Joe Andrews can be reached at 660-747-8123.

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page A7

Crest Ridge football beats Lone Jack

Crest Ridge football knocked off Lone Jack 38-14 on Friday, Oct. 3, at Lone Jack High School.

The Cougars (3-3, 2-1 WCMO) led 8-0 at the end of the first quarter, 16-8 at halftime and 30-8 at the end of the third quarter.

Senior quarterback Wesley Taylor completed 11-of-19 passes for 159 yards and two touchdowns while running for another 164 yards and two touchdowns on 20 carries.

Senior Kegan Walsh paced the Cougars with 91 receiving yards on six receptions. Junior Jackson Hoppen-thaler tallied one catch for 32 yards, senior Logan Duffy tallied one catch for a 20-yard touchdown, freshman Carter Larkin tallied one catch for 15 yards and junior Cabe Shippy tallied one catch for a 5-yard touchdown.

Senior Carsen Hursh ran for 49 yards and a touchdown on 13 carries. Duffy ran for 21 yards on two carries.

Shippy had an interception. Sophomore Evan Dresel tallied two sacks.

Crest Ridge travels to Westran on Friday, Oct. 10.

Holden softball shuts out Lafayette County

Holden senior pitcher Olivia Wooster threw a complete-game no-hitter as the Eagles shut out Lafayette County 8-0 on Thursday, Oct. 2, in Higginsville.

Wooster pitched seven innings, allowing no runs on no hits, two walks and 12 strikeouts.

Holden (15-10, 8-0 MRVC East) tallied 10 hits, including a 3-for-5 game from senior Haley Brooks and a 2-for-4 games with two RBIs from freshman Lily Kephart.

Wooster tallied two RBIs while senior Adasyn Yoder had one, senior Macey Greene had one, sophomore Bella Haggard had one and senior Addilyn Wooster had one.

Holden, which remains unbeaten in MRVC East play, hosts Richmond on Tuesday, Oct. 7 before traveling to Carrollton on Thursday, Oct. 9.

Warrensburg girls tennis beats Lafayette County

Warrensburg girls tennis beat Lafayette County 8-1 on Thursday, Oct. 2, in Higginsville.

The Tigers swept doubles.

Senior Audrey Lightfoot and senior Annie Cooper beat sophomore Ada Stoner and senior Nora Knipmeyer

er 8-6, senior Bridget Kellner and sophomore Anna Coombs beat senior Gillian Davenport and senior Riley Randall 8-3 and senior Madi Douglas and junior Leyla Ali beat sophomore Danika Richasrdson and senior Judith Strait 8-0.

In singles, Lightfoot beat Stoner 8-0, Kellner beat Knipmeyer 8-6, Douglas lost to Davenport 8-2, Ali beat Randall 8-0, Coombs beat Richardson 8-1 and junior Shonna Johnson beat Strait 8-1.

Warrensburg (12-4) hosts Clinton on Tuesday, Oct. 7 and travels to Odessa for the MRVC Tournament on Oct. 8.

Warrensburg softball loses to Odessa

Warrensburg softball lost to Odessa 8-1 on Thursday, Oct. 2, in Odessa.

Junior Ripley Laws drove in junior Aspen Osborn for the Tigers’ lone run in the top of the fifth inning, cutting the difference to 6-1.

Warrensburg (3-19, 2-5 MRVC West) outhit Odessa 10-8. Junior Nylah Wood went 2-for-4, Osborn went 2-for-4 and sophomore Reese Brown went 2-for-4.

Osborn pitched all six innings, allowing eight runs on eight hits, nine walks and eight strikeouts.

Knob Noster softball loses to Lexington

Knob Noster softball lost to Lexington Thursday, Oct. 2, at Knob Noster High School.

Junior Faith Deuschle drove in the Eagles’ lone run in the bottom of the first.

She was one of three Knob Noster athletes to tally a hit, joined by junior Rowan Sanchez, sophomore Briley Burden and senior Hannah Goodall.

The Panthers travel to Lafayette County on Tuesday, Oct.7 and Richmond on Thursday, Oct. 9.

OTHER RESULTS

Thursday, Oct. 2

Holden volleyball 3, Richmond 0
Lafayette County volleyball 3, Knob Noster 0
Pleasant Hill boys soccer 11, Knob Noster 0
Joplin boys soccer 4, Warrensburg 1

Saturday, Oct. 4

Clinton boys soccer 2, Warrensburg 0

Joe Andrews can be reached at 660-747-8123.

VOLLEYBALL

Continued from Page A7

Warrensburg capped the tournament with a 25-16, 25-22 loss to California in the third-place match in the aux-gym.

The loss came immediately following a 25-23, 25-21 loss to eventual champion Adrian in the semifinals inside the main gym. The Blackhawks defeated Pleasant Hill in three sets to claim the championship.

The Tigers had the best record in their pool, finishing 5-1.

“I think overall, it was a long day,” Vaughan said. “My girls pushed out and did a really, really good job this morning. They came ready to fight. But at the end of the day, you have to be mentally tough. You gotta keep going. Yes, your body is tired. Yes, you just want to sit down. It was really difficult for my girls to get past that part of the game. We made errors in our last game, just because I think they were tired. That’s something we need to focus on.”

In the third-place game, Warrensburg fell behind 20-13 in the opening set. The Tigers went on to gain ground in the final set before California closed out the best-of-three match with a sweep.

Warrensburg had previously gone 1-1 with California in pool play in the main gym, losing the first set 12-25 but winning the second 25-22.

“They’re really, really good,” Vaughan said of California. “They’re scrappy. They go for every single ball. Yes, every team has holes on the court. We went to their holes, and they ended up picking it up. They were very scrappy, they didn’t let the ball drop ... [Before the third-place match] I said, ‘hey guys, we played them earlier. We split.’ I was like, ‘it’s a new gym we’re in. We’re in the aux gym now.’ I was like,



Warrensburg senior Peyton Ernst attcks the ball against Lexington on Saturday, Oct. 4, inside Warrensburg High School. PHOTOS BY JOE ANDREWS | STAR-JOURNAL

‘new setting, we’re a different team now, they’re a different team now. We cannot think that how we played earlier is going to be fine in this game. We have to push hard.’ I think we had these two big leads in the second set, and California caught up to us and picked up every single ball they could. They were scrappy, scrappy, scrappy. They definitely came out wanting to win. It showed on the court.”

Warrensburg began the tournament with a 25-23, 25-18 win against Crest Ridge.

“We came out against Crest Ridge, I didn’t have Peyton [Ernst] in that game,” Vaughan said. “I think overall, my team battled and put up a good fight against them.”

The Tigers split with California in the second session before heading into their break.

Warrensburg closed off pool play with a 25-15, 25-22 win against Santa Fe.

“Our best game of the day was against them,” Vaughan said. “I told my girls going into that game, I was like, ‘we have to come out of this game 2-0 to go to the championship side of the bracket. If we don’t, we’re not in the

championship. That, I think, lit some fire in them to play really well. And they did a tremendous job.”

The tournament was Warrensburg’s third and final of the season.

They begin their final two weeks of the regular season at Pleasant Hill on Tuesday, Oct. 7, before hosting Harrisonville on Thursday, Oct. 9.

The regular season wraps up at Clinton on Oct. 14 and a home match against Center Oct. 16.

“We have Pleasant Hill coming up, and we have Harrisonville,” Vaughan said. “It will be fun seeing those games. We’re playing against some really good teams coming up.”

Crest Ridge finishes seventh

Crest Ridge volleyball finished seventh in the tournament, defeating Lexington 25-14, 25-19.

The Cougars went 0-6 in pool play, losing to Warrensburg 25-23, 25-18, Santa Fe 25-19, 25-21 and California 25-13, 25-12.

Crest Ridge hosts Santa Fe on Monday, Oct. 6, and travels to Kingsville on Tuesday, Oct. 7.

Joe Andrews can be reached at 660-747-8123.



Warrensburg’s Bella Bryant and Faith Taylor attempt to block a Lexington pass in tournament action Saturday, Oct. 4, inside the Warrensburg Aux Gym.

FOOTBALL

Continued from Page A7

Maham had eight catches for 128 yards, McCracken had five catches for 63 yards, senior Cruz Villegas had eight catches for 55 yards, senior Tucker Small had two catches for 24 yards and junior tight end Dorian Lee had one catch for 16 yards.

Smith ran for 89 yards and a touchdown on 17 carries. Sophomore running back Hunter Michel ran for 64 yards on six carries.

Warrensburg hosts Center in its homecoming game at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10.

Joe Andrews can be reached at 660-747-8123.



Odessa defenders tackle Warrensburg sophomore quarterback Camden Mannering on Friday, Oct. 3, at the Warrensburg Activities Complex.

PHOTO BY JOE ANDREWS | STAR-JOURNAL