Malvern Prep squad rolls past Henderson

* By John Dicandilo Sep 18, 200

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MALVERN – Joe game message to his Henderson football smacked partly of Julius Caesar and part Tony Soprano. "I came, I saw, fah-get about it." Bumping and grinding with Malvern Prep is tough enough this year even when you field a healthy team. Walsh was missing a couple of his starting skill guys and massive tackle Brandon Heath due to various and sundry injuries and illnesses. saying, "Sic the tanks. Bleed the clock

Walsh knew he had to bleed the clock with a ball-control offense and play good, solid straight-up defense to have a chance. The Warriors tried, but the kitchen sink was being used somewhere else. It was 42-0, Friars.

So Walsh pumped up his team, telling them this Memorex moment, and still a decent bunch of football players, defend their Ches-Mont title, and that was one heckuva team it just played. "Going back to when they had D.J. Driscoll, this is the best team Malvern has had," said Walsh. "They have three backs who can go the route. Their defensive front is the best [Pellegrini] was a gentleman as always. He called off the dogs early in the second half. "We down. They have too many weapons. We thought we could slow them down, but we could-It seems every four or five years along comes a Malvern team that people want to anoint as the best team Pellegrini has had since he arrived at "The Hill" in 1978. Just two games into this season, the whispers are already beginning. To qualify, this team will need to go undefeated and win the Inter-Ac championship. At a minimum. As it stands currently, the Friars have only a nine-game schedule. If a couple of possibilities emerge, including a Thanksgiving tilt, then this team will be properly bled and tested. "So far, bled performing," said Pellegrini. "We have a good football team, no question about it. I thought Henderson in the second quarter did a good job of moving the ball. They enthusiasm when they have all of their kids here. "I have a tremendous amount of respect for Joe. You always have to worry about his teams. You can look at it that they were 2-0. They are big wins, but you still have to worry about them. They have a tough offense to work against. And as well as we did." Actually, the winning points, which came less than two minutes into the contest, came courtesy of a Neil Willis 49-yard punt return, the first of his four touchdowns. With Willis and James Connelly gulping up yardage hungrily, Willis ended Malvern's first possession, from its own 35, with a two-yard run over right tackle.

Only two plays

When Ty Hovington was stopped cold on fourth-and-goal at the Malvern two-yard line to end the Warriors' best drive of the day, the Friars needed only two plays to go 98 yards. Connelly blasted over right guard for a 36-yard pickup. Willis swept right end, cut back across the field, caused two would-be tacklers to crack into one another, and scored on a 62-yard run.

The Friars went right back on the offensive at the Henderson 39 when Bob Hill picked off a tipped pass immediately after the kickoff. Rob McCabe blasted in from the two-yard line six plays later, making it 28-0 with 2:38 to go in the first half.

We're still not done. Kevin Costello tried to run out of a punt formation, but he was nailed for a two-yard loss at the Warrior 25. Willis ran a counter around right end on the next play and it became 35-0 one minute and 33 seconds after the last score.

The last of the day's points were scored by Michael Bolte, when he bolted around right end from five yards away.

"They were missing some of their best players," said Pellegrini, "but I thought this would have been a great test if they had all of their people.

This was a nice win for us." Malvern Prep 42, Henderson 0

Henderson 0 0 0 0 - 0 Malvern Prep 14 21 7 0 - 42 M-Willis 49 punt return (Tiberi kick) M-Willis 2 run (Tiberi kick)

M-Willis 62 run (Tiberi kick)

M-McCabe 2 run (Tiberi kick) M-Willis 25 run (Tiberi kick)

M-Bolte 5 run (Tiberi kick) TEAM STATISTICS: First downs: H 7, M 16; Net rushing: H

36-112, M 37-303; Net passing: H 22, M 68; Total offense: H 134, M 371; Fumbles lost: H 2, M 1; Intercepted by: H 0, M 1; Penalties: H 1-15, M 3-25; Punts-avg.: H 4-36.0, M 1-20.0.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS: Rushing - H: Hovington 17-85, long

33; Mann 9-26, long 21; Richards 1-4, long 4; Morgan 4-4, long 6; Costello 5-(-7), long 12. M: Willis 7-117, long 62; Connelly 6-82, long 36; Stark 5-48, long 19; Bolte 4-24, long 14; Scaramuzza 3-18, long 13; Spencer 3-16, long 14; Stroh 1-5, long 5; Gunther 1-4, long 4; Posillico 2-3, long 7; McCabe 1-2, long 2; Hill 1-(-2), long (-2); Dallas-Feeney 1-(-3), long (-3); Flynn 1-(-5), long (-5); Keefer 1-(-6), long (-6). Passing - H: Costello 3-7, 12 yards, 0, 1 INT; Richards 1-4, 10 yards, 0 TD, 0 INT. M: Conners 3-4, 68 yards, 0 TD, 0 INT.

Receiving - S: Feeley 1-12; Barnes 1-10; Iezzi 1-6; Hovington 1-(-6). M: Price 2-57; Connelly 1-11.