

R.F. Hall Wolfpack 3-0 after 8-0 home opener win

By Brian Lockhart

The Robert F. Hall home opener on the gridiron Friday (Oct. 4) may have been a low scoring game, but a win is a win.

The Wolfpack football team left the field with an 8-0 victory over the Cardinal Ambrozic Riverhawks after a game that saw neither team score a touchdown. The match was played in a slight drizzle and made for slippery conditions on the field.

The Wolfpack was leading 2-0 at the half after scoring single points on a pair of rouges when kicker Gabriel Siemieniec placed the ball at the back of the end zone.

The game turned out to be a very defensive game on both sides, with much of the third quarter being played at mid field and both teams staying with the running game because of the wet conditions.

An attempt to get on the scoreboard by the Riverhawks was stopped when they attempted a field goal and the kick was blocked by Hall's defensive players Jake Monk and Jake Sutherland.

The turning point in the game came late in the third quarter when Nicholas Ristucci returned a punt 55 yards to bring the Wolfpack into a good field position.

Quarterback Jake Smith hit receiver Connor Reiners, who carried for a first down and on the next play Curtis Fillier drove for another first down on the 18 yard line.

Siemieniec placed the ball between the uprights for a field goal and a five-point advantage late in the game.

With a lot of time still on the clock, the Wolfpack had to concentrate on a defensive strategy to stop the Riverhawks.

A huge kick-off after the field goal pinned Cardinal Ambrozic at their own 10 yard line.

A pass interception by Jake Sutherland sealed the deal for the Wolfpack when they took possession and again found themselves within field goal range.

Another successful kick by Siemieniec gave the Wolfpack an eight-point lead with less than three minutes remaining on the clock.

It was a sloppy game because of the conditions, said Wolfpack head coach Jason Sweeney. We had some passes dropped that should have been caught. On a dry day we would have caught those balls.

Kicker Siemieniec scored all the Wolfpack points; an accomplishment that earned some praise from the coach.

He's in Grade 10. He's got a heck of a leg, Sweeney said. He got us two field goals and even on the rouges, he punted it right through.

The Wolfpack now have a 3-0 record for the season.

They will travel down to Sandlewood this week for an away game.

They will return for their next home game on the Robert F. Hall field Oct. 16.



Wolfpack ball carrier Nicholas Ristucci sprints down field with some back-up from Philip Hasfal during Friday's home game against the Cardinal Ambrozic Riverhawks. The Wolfpack left the field with an 8-0 win. Photo by Brian Lockhart