

Thank You!!

The Twinsburg Football program wants to thank all of those who supported us this year. From the Tiger Den, students, parents, teachers, administration, the athletic boosters, and everyone who wore Tiger colors with Pride, we thank you!!

Mentor shows off firepower, routs Tigers in season finale

by Steve Batko | Correspondent ~ Twinsburg Bulletin

Just like the driving rain and heavy winds up at the Jerome T. Osborne Stadium, fans could feel Twinsburg's football season coming to a slow end in a 41-0 season finale loss in Mentor Oct. 26.

For the Tigers, they just ran out of gas after a competitive start. With the win, Mentor claimed the Northeast Ohio Conference Valley Division championship.

When high-powered Mentor scores 30 or more points, the Cardinals have an incredible 73-4 record since 2002.

One of those four losses came in 2011 when Twinsburg upset the Cardinals 38-35 in the finale.

That didn't happen this year as Mentor (9-1, 5-0) won in the NOC Valley title clash and earned a home game in the first round of the state division I playoffs.

Twinsburg fell to 6-4 overall and was second place in the NOC Valley at 4-1.

"Our kids battled and our defense hung with Mentor," said head coach Joe Schiavone. "Our players and our coaches did an outstanding job all year handling different situations and adversity."

"This group of seniors was a special group and they will be missed," added Schiavone, after the emotional loss.

Mentor's features a potent no-huddle, spread offense led by North Carolina recruit Mitch Trubisky and a slew of gifted receivers, who can also run the ball.

What made Mentor impressive were their running game, a strong defensive front, and a superb defensive secondary that limited Tiger senior quarterback Jalen Washington.

Mentor receiver/back Nick Delisa rushed for 179 yards on only 11 carries and had touchdown runs of 62 yards, 1 yard, 30 yards and 5 yards, plus he had a 57-yard jaunt to the Tiger 2-yard line.

"Our defense was able to hang with Mentor early, but we made a few too many mistakes against them," said Schiavone.

Trubisky hit 13 of 23 passes for 171 yards with one touchdown and one interception. He added 39 yards rushing while all-star wide out Conner Krizancic caught 11 passes for 96 yards and had 33 yards rushing.

"When you face a quality opponent such as Mentor, your mistakes can be magnified and things happen quickly," said Schiavone.

Twinsburg reached the 50 on three pass completions by Washington to start the game, but the drive stalled after a three straight sacks, including a high snap in the shot gun. Suddenly, it was fourth down and 46 yards to go.

Mentor cashed in after that stalled Tiger drive as Trubisky ran three yards up the middle for a touchdown at the 6:10 mark. It was 6-0 as the point after kick was no good.

Senior tailback Tyrone McGuinea and Washington helped produce a couple first downs on the next drive, but Twinsburg stalled again after a dropped pass.

The Tigers defense held on the Cards ensuing series as Twinsburg neared the 50, but a tipped pass off a Tiger receiver was intercepted by Reese Armstrong.

However, Twinsburg's defense held again on another incomplete 4th-down pass by Trubisky. Once again, another bad snap and a rush sack halted the Tigers.

In fact, Twinsburg had 95 yards lost in the game that were resulted either by quarterback sacks, high snaps, and fumbled snaps in the slippery conditions.

With 5:56 left in the first half, Delisa busted loose on his 62-yard TD run.

Twinsburg then moved the ball to the Mentor 35 on the following drive, but Jaylen Dowdy intercepted a Washington pass.

Mentor responded with a nine-play, 88-yard scoring drive as Delisa scored from a yard out with 53 seconds left to make it 20-0 at the half.

Washington passed 25 times and completed 17 in his final game for 177 yards. He had 15 rushes in the game and McGuinea was the Tiger's top rusher with 28 yards.

Senior Cooper Rea had a stellar game on both ends for Twinsburg as he caught eight passes for 95 yards and had a pass attempt. On defense, Rea had five tackles.

Junior wide receivers Tay Johnson and Mike Peelman also helped the offense along with senior Anthony Ellis.

Johnson had four catches for 50 yards, Peelman had three receptions for 25 yards, and Ellis had two catches for seven yards.

Junior defensive linemen Cameron Dial led the defense with 10 tackles, including four solos. Senior linebacker Scott Tegowski was also strong with seven tackles and one for a loss.

Senior tackle Chris Rode also had seven tackles while senior strong safety Ben Bisesi had six stops and one for a loss. Junior corner Kon Grewal had an interception.

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Final Top 25 football poll by The Plain Dealer for 2012 high school season

Plain Dealer staff, October 29, 2012 1:35 p.m.

FINAL PD FOOTBALL TOP 25 (Previous week's ranking in parentheses)

1. St. Edward, 10-0 (2): Hosts Mayfield on Saturday.

Eagles edged archrival St. Ignatius, 20-13, to win Plain Dealer poll championship.

2. St. Ignatius, 9-1 (1): Hosts Austintown Fitch on Saturday.

Wildcats need to forget loss to St. Edward and get ready for the postseason.

3. Mentor, 9-1 (3): Hosts Warren Harding on Saturday.

Cardinals have outscored their foes, 158-28, over their past three games.

4. St. Vincent-St. Mary, 8-2 (4): At Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin on Saturday.

Fighting Irish got much-needed win over Youngstown Ursuline.

5. Willoughby South, 10-0 (5): Hosts North Royalton on Saturday.

Rebels breezed through season, but postseason is called "second season" for a reason.

6. Chagrin Falls, 9-1 (6): Hosts Woodridge on Saturday.

Tigers racked up 530 yards in total offense in a 56-16 win at Perry.

7. Aurora 9-1 (8): Hosts New Philadelphia on Friday.

Greenmen stayed grounded while soundly beating Kenston, 48-20.

8. Avon, 9-1 (9): Hosts Perrysburg on Friday.

Eagles ran off nine straight wins after opening-season loss at Avon Lake.

9. Midview, 9-1 (10): At Toledo Central Catholic on Friday.

Middies need to sharpen play if they are to go deep into the postseason.

10. Hudson, 8-2 (13): At Canton GlenOak on Saturday.

Victory over North Royalton should give Explorers a running start into the postseason.

11. North Royalton, 9-1 (7): At Willoughby South on Saturday.

Bears fall just short of an unbeaten regular season in Week 10 loss to Hudson.

12. Euclid, 7-3 (11): Season is completed.

Panthers end year on a 55-0 blowout win over Warrensville Heights.

13. Cleveland Heights, 8-2 (17): Season is completed.

Tigers' victory over Shaw turned out to be too little, too late.

14. Westlake, 9-1 (18): Hosts Mansfield Madison on Friday.

Demons must shorten conference title celebration and focus on the big picture.

15. Twinsburg, 6-4 (14): Season is completed.

Tigers had successful season considering they didn't have their ace tailback.

16. Brunswick, 7-3 (15): Season is completed.

Blue Devils never gained the consistency needed to extend their season.

17. Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin, 8-2 (19): Hosts St. Vincent-St. Mary on Saturday.

Lions were unstoppable from Week 3, culminated by Week 10 win over Lake Catholic.

18. Elyria, 7-3 (12): Season is completed.

Football is a game of inches and, as Pioneers learned, so is making the postseason.

19. Avon Lake, 8-2 (21): At Toledo Whitmer on Saturday.

Shoremens' win over Amherst gave coach Dave Dlugosz his 200th career triumph.

20. Kirtland, 10-0 (20): Hosts Beverly Fort Frye on Saturday.

Hornets rebounded from their Week 9 scare to pound Independence, 63-28.

21. Nordonia, 7-3, (16): At Massillon on Saturday.

Knights slid into the postseason despite last Friday's loss to Wadsworth.

22. Glenville, 8-2 (22): Plays John Adams in Senate Athletic League title game Friday at Collinwood.

Tarblooders beat John Adams on Friday but league shutout streak was snapped at six games.

23. Kent Roosevelt, 9-1 (24): Hosts Ellet on Friday.

Rough Riders needed double overtime against Ravenna to clinch conference championship.

24. Mogadore, 10-0 (25): Hosts Steubenville Catholic Central on Friday.

Wildcats are thrilled with league title but they want much more.

25. Cuyahoga Heights, 9-1 (--): Hosts Bellaire on Saturday.

Redskins' only blemish was loss to defending Division V state champion Kirtland.

Dropped out: North Olmsted.

Mentor turns to running game, plows over Twinsburg to win Northeast Ohio Conference Valley Division title

Tim Warsinskey, Plain Dealer Reporter, October 26, 2012 10:38 p.m.

Mentor's Nick Delisa, shown during a game earlier this month, had 179 yards and four touchdowns on 11 carries Friday night against Twinsburg. - (Joshua Gunter, PD file)

MENTOR, Ohio - By now, it's an urban legend that Mentor doesn't have a running game. The Cardinals clearly do; they just don't use it very much.

Friday night in a 41-0 dismantling of Twinsburg, Mentor made it clear they can hit and run with tailback Nick Delisa. The quick, 5-9 tailback rushed for 179 yards and four touchdowns on just 11 carries.

"We're not really used to that. It was a good to see some big runs," Mentor quarterback Mitch Trubisky said. "It adds another dynamic to this offense. We love it."

The Cardinals (9-1, 5-0) won the Northeast Ohio Conference Valley Division championship and appear set to host a first-round playoff game next Saturday, with Warren Harding the likely opponent. Pairings will be announced Sunday.

Clearly motivated by an upset loss to Twinsburg last year, the Cardinals eliminated Twinsburg (6-4, 4-1) from postseason contention.

Motivation was in deep supply on the Mentor sideline. "That one was for Billy," Mentor coach Steve Trivisonno said in reference to former Mentor captain Billy Deitmen, who died Oct. 18.

The cold, rainy and windy night began with a somber pregame tribute to Deitmen, who also played for Case Western Reserve and died of unknown causes two days before his 24th birthday. He starred on the 2007 state runner-up team, and his teammates gathered at midfield wearing red shirts with his uniform number, 28, and the words "Forever our captain."

"Those guys were my heroes growing up," said Trubisky, a ball boy on Deitmen's teams. "It was very emotional, but it was good to get this win."

With playoff weather descending on Northeast Ohio, Mentor began the game determined to do what it does best -- pass -- regardless of situations or conditions. Trubisky threw deep frequently, including third and fourth downs.

"That was one of the objectives," Trivisonno said. "It was nice to be able to handle the wind."

Trubisky completed 13 of 23 passes for 171 yards and one touchdown with one interception. Conner Krizancic caught 11 passes for 96 yards and had 33 yards rushing.

Delisa scored on runs of 62 yards, 1 yard, 30 yards and 5 yards, and he had a 57-yard run to the 2-yard line.

"There were a lot of big holes," he said. "Running the ball is really big because if we can't pass the ball, we can run the ball."

Twinsburg moved the ball in big chunks, but in both directions. Quarterback Jalen Washington passed for 179 yards, but five sacks and three fumbled shotgun snaps resulted in losses totaling 95 yards.

"When you face a team of that caliber, every little mistake gets magnified," Twinsburg coach Joe Schiavone said.

No magnification of Mentor's young, talented defensive line was required. Junior ends Kent Berger (6-4, 225) and Delvon Maddox (6-2, 215) and sophomore tackle Nico Lautanen (6-3, 240) made plenty of big plays on their own.

"That's what we wanted to do," Berger said. "We wanted to punch them in the mouth early and take them back."

Defensive back Reese Armstrong and Jaylen Dowdy had interceptions for Mentor.

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No. 14 Twinsburg at No. 3 Mentor

What, when, where: Northeast Ohio Conference Valley Division game, 7 p.m., Mentor High, Jerome T. Osborne Stadium, 6477 Center Street, Mentor. Call 440-974-5304.

Records: Twinsburg 6-3, 4-0; Mentor 8-1, 4-0.

What to watch: A victory by the pass-happy hosts could give Mentor home field advantage in a Division 1, Region 1 quarterfinal but the Tigers, even with a victory, would need some help to sneak into the postseason. Mentor also wants revenge from last year's upset loss, which cost it an unbeaten regular season and forced a three-way tie for the Valley Division title. Teams have found out it's tough to defend Mentor's no-huddle, spread offense that's score in bunches with QB/North Carolina recruit Mitch Trubisky throwing to Conner Krizancic, Brandon Fritts, Nick Delisa, Corey Plavcan or Matt Schaefer. Twinsburg's Jalen Washington is a dual-threat QB who's gotten plenty of help from TB Tyrone McGuinea and WRs Mike Peelman, Cooper Rea and Tay Johnson. The Tigers have hung tough despite

losing standout RB John Barton to injury in Week 1. LBs Jacob Turay and Scott Tegowski and tackle Cameron Dial have led the defense. Mentor needs to contain Twinsburg's running game, while the Tigers have to play ball-control and keep Mentor's offense off the field.

PD pick: **Mentor** .

Twinsburg shuts down Medina

by Steve Batko | Correspondent~Twinsburg Bulletin

The stage is set as Twinsburg will again play state-ranked Mentor in Week 10 for an outright Northeast Ohio Conference Valley Division football championship.

Twinsburg (6-3, 4-0) plays at Mentor (9-0, 4-0) on Oct. 26 for the Valley Division title and an outside chance for a state playoff berth Division I, Region 2.

For the match up to take place, Twinsburg had to beat visiting Medina on Oct. 19. Despite a sluggish start, the Tigers posted a 27-6 win over the Bees (2-7, 1-3) on Senior Night.

"The guys on defense are really gelling as a unit right now and it was a big win for us," said head coach Joe Schiavone. "Defensively, we are gelling at the right time and as a unit, the defense has gotten better each week."

Schiavone realizes his defense will have to be ready for Mentor's explosive offense.

Last year in Week 10, Twinsburg upset Mentor squad 38-35 for a share of the NOC Valley, but just missed making the state playoffs.

This time around, a Division I state berth may be a stretch for Twinsburg, but Schiavone and Co. have plenty of fuel for an outright league title against Ohio's seventh-ranked team.

"We find ourselves in the same predicament as last year -- and Mentor is a strong, veteran team," stressed the coach. "We are excited about an outright league championship being on the line."

Twinsburg's defense held Medina to only 49 yards rushing on 30 attempts plus held the Bees' passing game with three quarterbacks to just 114 total yards in the steady rain.

In fact, 78 of Medina's 164 total yards came on its final drive, capped by a 1-yard sneak against Twinsburg's subs with 1:20 left.

Until that series, the Bees' deepest penetration was the Twinsburg 43 with a single play in Tiger territory.

A scoreless first quarter featured a host of missed opportunities by Twinsburg.

A blocked punt led to Twinsburg having the ball at the Medina with 8:36 left in the first quarter. On fourth-and-1 from the 9, senior running back Tyrone McGuinea was stopped for no gain by the middle of Bee defense.

After another Medina punt, the Tigers had the ball in the Bees territory again and moved to the red zone.

On third down, the Tigers dropped a pass in the end zone and then on a subsequent 30-yard field goal attempt, the snap was high and holder Cooper Rea threw an incomplete pass.

Twinsburg again started at the Bees 41 and facing a fourth-and-1 from the 32, McGuinea was stopped shy again.

The Tigers finally scored with 7:24 left in the second stanza on a 4-yard touchdown run by McGuinea. He capped an 11-play, 78-yard scoring drive.

"It was a little frustrating that we had some missed scoring opportunities, but we knew the offense would get going," said Schiavone. "We just needed more consistency."

Possibly the game's biggest play came when Rea fielded a 40-yard punt from Ken Wilder and darted 75 yards down the sideline behind a wall of blockers for a touchdown. That made it 14-0 thanks to another Frank Candau point after kick at the 3:54 mark of the second period.

"We preached this week in practice about special teams play and punt returns," said Schiavone.

"We spent a little extra time on it and it worked out. Cooper made a huge play and we got some blocking."

Senior quarterback Jalen Washington, who completed 14-of-26 passes for 178 yards and no interceptions, connected with junior wide receiver Tay Johnson on a 35-yard strike for a touchdown. That made it 20-0 with 10:41 left in the third.

Twinsburg pushed it to 27-0 on McGuinea's 2-yard touchdown burst with 2:54 left in the third quarter. Backup sophomore quarterback Adam Gannon saw some action for the Tigers.

McGuinea had 16 rushes for 56 yards and two touchdowns while Washington added 38 yards on seven carries as Twinsburg's running game managed only 86 yards.

"I thought our running game was solid -- Medina is not bad up front on the line," said the coach. "We had some dropped passes, but Tyrone ran hard."

Rea, a senior captain, had a huge game as he added six catches for 59 yards plus he added two tackles and broke up two passes on defense.

Joining Rea in the receiving totals was Johnson (3 catches for 53 yards and a TD), senior Anthony Ellis (3-46) and junior Mike Peelman (2-20).

Senior linebacker Scott Tegowski also had a big game with seven tackles, two for losses, an interception, a pass break-up, and a QB hit. Another senior captain, Ben Bisesi, had eight stops, two behind the line, and a pass break-up.

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Tickets for the Mentor game

Adult pre-sale tickets for the Twinsburg vs Mentor game can be purchased on-line by clicking [here](#). The 6-3 Tigers, travel to 9-0 Mentor for a NOC Valley division title game this Friday. Come on out and support your Tigers!

Perfect storm doesn't develop for Bees

Rick Noland - The Gazette

TWINSBURG - The Medina football team had to be close to perfect to have a chance of upsetting Twinsburg, and the Bees were anything but Friday night.

Medina dodged bullet after bullet in the early going, but kept putting itself in harm's way in all three phases of the game and ended up suffering a 27-6 Northeast Ohio Conference Valley Division loss.

The Bees (2-7, 1-3), who close the season next week against Medina County rival Brunswick, finished with 50 yards on 30 rushing attempts, while three quarterbacks - Collin Minor (2-for-13, 27 yards), Jerry Klue (1-1, 13) and Matt Whittaker (4-11, 74, INT) - combined to go 7-for-25 for 114 yards.

Seventy-eight of Medina's 164 yards total offense came on its final drive, which Whittaker capped with a 1-yard sneak against Twinsburg's second string. Until that possession, the Bees' deepest penetration was the Twinsburg 43 and they had run one play in Tigers territory.

"We don't have a 4.4 guy (in the 40-yard dash), so we have to play real solid football," Medina coach Dan Sutherland said. "When we don't block it right or we don't run it right, it hurts us. I love these kids' mindset and how hard they work, but in the end you need playmakers."

Twinsburg (6-3, 4-0), which will play at Mentor next week for the Valley Division title and a spot in the Division I, Region 2 playoffs, has no shortage of playmakers, even with All-Ohio running back John Barton out for the season after suffering an injury in Week 1.

Quarterback Jalen Washington, who completed 14-of-26 passes for 184 yards and a touchdown, is at the top of that list. Washington would have had five more completions, at least 100 more yards and another touchdown if his receivers had caught every ball he threw right on the money in a game played in a steady rain but on a turf field.

"Barton's a special player," Sutherland said. "With No. 4 (Washington) and Barton, they could have been lethal."

The Tigers were deadly enough against the Bees, even after coming up totally empty on three great opportunities at the start of the game.

The first came when Twinsburg blocked a punt by Kenny Wilder - the junior averaged 38.5 yards on seven other boots - and, after a series of bobbles and bounces, took over at the Medina 18 with 8:36 left in the opening period. On fourth-and-1 from the 9, the middle of

the Medina defense stuffed tailback Tyrone McGuinea for no gain.

After the Bees went three-and-out, the Tigers took over on the Medina 48 and marched to the 13, where a wide-open Anthony Ellis dropped a perfectly lofted pass from Washington in the end zone on third-and-7. On fourth down, the snap for what would have been a 30-yard field goal attempt was high and holder Cooper Rea threw incomplete into the back of the end zone.

After another Medina three-and-out, Twinsburg took over on the Bees 41 and eventually faced fourth-and-1 from the 32, where McGuinea was tackled for a yard loss on a pitch to the right.

Medina went three-and-out yet again - the Bees lost 6 yards on this possession - and Twinsburg finally scored with 7:24 left in the second period when McGuinea (16 carries for 56 yards, 2 TDs) capped an 11-play, 78-yard drive with a 4-yard run.

"Our kids competed hard throughout the game and we had them sweating for a while there," Sutherland said. "Special teams cost us in the first half and the second half it was our inability to control their quarterback."

The special teams play Sutherland was referring to came when Rea fielded a 40-yard punt from Wilder near the right hash, ran left, got behind a picket fence and raced 75 yards down the opposite sideline for a TD to make it 14-0 at the 3:54 mark of the second quarter.

Washington's biggest completion of the night came on the fourth play of the second half, when he hit Tay Johnson for 35 yards down the right sideline to make it 20-0.

The Tigers made it 27-0 on McGuinea's 2-yard run late in the quarter, then played reserves in the fourth quarter, when Medina forced its first punt since Week 7.

On the positive side, the Bees held Twinsburg to 60 yards rushing on 33 attempts and 244 yards total offense, with Emerson Buckland, Dillon Wiesler and Mitch Doraty leading the way. Other than Johnson's TD reception and a 25-yard catch by Ellis, the Tigers' longest pass play went for 13 yards, while they had just two runs longer than 9 yards.

Offensively, the Bees got on the board on their final possession when Whittaker hit Evan Scherer for 45 yards to the Twinsburg 1, but finishing that drive wasn't easy.

On first down, Whittaker and Klue (14 carries, 29 yards), who was playing his primary position of running back, muffed a handoff for a yard loss. On second down, Whittaker fumbled the snap for no gain. On third down, Whittaker ran a quarterback sneak for a 1-yard gain back to the 1. On fourth down, the 6-foot-3, 187-pounder plowed into the end zone with 1:20 to go.

"They're a fast, aggressive defense and they caused us problems," Sutherland said. "We couldn't get anything going."

Contact Rick Noland at (330) 721-4061 or rnoland@medina-gazette.com.

Twinsburg 27, Medina 6

MEDINA 0 0 0 6 - 6

TWINSBURGH 0 14 13 0 - 27

Second

T - Tyrone McGuinea 4 run (Frank Candau kick), 7:24.

T - Rea Cooper 75 punt return (Candau kick), 3:54.

Third

T - Tay Johnson 35 pass from Jalen Washington (kick blocked), 10:41.

T - McGuinea 2 run (Candau kick), 2:54.

Fourth

M - Matt Whitaker 1 run (run failed), 1:20.

Medina football team travels to Twinsburg this weekend

John Blake, Sun News, October 18, 2012

Medina will face Twinsburg after losing to Mentor.

Mentor scored five unanswered touchdowns to start the game against Medina, and the rest was history.

The Battling Bees (2-6) struggled against the high-powered Cardinal offense during their 63-21 Northeast Ohio Conference Valley Division football loss. The Cardinals improve to 7-1 overall.

Mentor led, 35-0, before host Medina scored on a Jerry Klue 7-yard touchdown run midway through the second quarter.

Klue tallied 19 carries for 55 yards.

Medina travels to Twinsburg Oct. 19. The Tigers (5-3) are coming off a 29-22 win at Solon and are riding a three-game win streak.