Crosstown rivalry yields lopsided score with impressive integrity by both teams

Written by Story and photos by Duane Haven Sun Correspondent
Friday, 20 October 2017 08:43









The Oct. 13 game under the lights at Angelo DiPaolo Memorial Stadium went much the way fans on both sides expected, a 54-0 win by the third ranked Miyamura Patriots (now 7-0) over the Gallup Bengals (1-6). Gallup is temporarily without a head coach because of a personnel matter.

“Gallup’s kids were classy and played the best they could,” said opposing coach Wes Shank. “They are just struggling a bit.”

The Patriots scored early and often, as the cliche’ goes, twice in the first quarter and five times in the second. Players scoring in order for Miyamura were, first quarter: Santos Santiestaban (one yard run at the 5:38 mark, - two-point conversion on a pass from Matt Chavez to Brett McFarland), and Chavez on an eight-yard run at 3:46 mark with Chavez throwing to A.J. Silva for the two-point conversion.

In the second quarter, Brandon Vidal scored on a five-yard pass from Chavez with 11:55 remaining and Santiestaban running in the conversion, Giovanni Chioda catching a 17-yard pass at 9:46 with conversion failing, Chavez on a 34-yard run at 7:02 (conversion failed), Aaron Alejo on a 28-yard run at 3:46 (conversion failed again), and Vidal with a pick-six 43-yard run at the 1:39 mark (conversion failed).

All that was left at that point was the final nail in the coffin, otherwise known as the mercy rule of 50 points. Kaeden Kirk scored that one for Miyamura with a one-yard run with 4:02 showing on the clock in the third quarter.

With three games remaining in the regular season, Patriot head coach Wes Shank is anxious to go head on with the Farmington Scorpions (4-3) and the Aztec Tigers (3-4). “We prepare a pattern for our upcoming matches, and it starts at practice. Farmington and Aztec will be the two most difficult games we’ll play this year,” he said.

Miyamura will host Kirtland Central on Oct. 27 at 7 pm and Gallup will travel to play Bloomfield on the same date.

Story and photos by Duane Haven

Sun Correspondent