**Notre Dame cruises past Newfield**

BY TERRY PRUYNE Sports Writer

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NEWFIELD, N.Y. — Notre Dame Crusaders utilized some big plays on the windy plateau overlooking the Newfield High School to defeat Newfield 34-0 to remain undefeated while the Trojans dropped to 1-2.

Both teams moved the ball on their first possessions and both drives ended in the same manner.

Notre Dame took the opening kickoff and, with a committee of runners, had the ball on the Trojan 29, facing fourth-and-three and handed off to Erik Charnetski. Newfield penetrated and stopped Charnetski for a four-yard loss to turn the ball over on downs.

The Trojans drove into Notre Dame territory behind a pitch-and-catch from Stephen LaBarge to Greg Moravec for 24 yards. Facing a fourth-and-two, Notre Dame’s defense stood firm. LaBarge dropped back only to be sacked by an entourage of Crusaders.

Taking over at their own 44, Gary Raupers hit Nick Clark on a one-yard gain before calling his own number up the middle. Raupers felt the need for speed and raced through the line and into open field for a 55-yard touchdown run.

The Crusaders handed off to Charnetski for the conversion and scored, but the officials waived off the initial call for a 6-0 lead.

The Notre Dame defense forced a punt on Newfield’s next possession. Raupers returned the kicked, weaving and snaking through would-be tacklers to midfield.

Charnetski had all the right moves as he took the first handoff of the drive and raced 25 yards along the away sidelines. Three plays later, Raupers dropped back and flipped a quick pass over the line to their big end Ben Cook, who rumbled 26 yards for the score.

After recovering an onsides kick at midfield, Newfield moved the ball again in part with a 16-yard pass from Stephen LaBarge to Kyle LaBarge, who made a one-hand grab Odell Beckham-style. This time Newfield reached Notre Dame’s 21 where they faced a fourth-and-seven. LaBarge dropped back to pass only to overthrow his receiver far and away due to tight coverage.

Just before the half, the Crusaders put together a 12-play drive as they chipped their way downfield. On a final play of the drive, Charnetski thundered to daylight on a 14-yard run.

On the conversion, Raupers rolled right and found himself teetering on the sidelines with two Newfield linemen closing in. Raupers lofted a tricky pass over several defenders into the hands of Dylan Treat for a 20-0 halftime lead.

The Crusaders opened the second half on defense and LaBarge ran into a few good pass rushers — among them Ethan Dunham and Casey Carson — who took turns sacking LaBarge for losses before forcing the Trojans to punt.

On Notre Dame’s possession, Nick Clark raced 20 yards from the 40 to the 40, but then Newfield tackled Raupers for a nine-yard loss on a broken play. Raupers then found Clark open for a 10-yard gain. Charnetski followed with two runs of 10 yards each. Clark capped the drive with two carries: one for eight yards and one for three and the score and the Crusaders had a 26-0 lead.

LaBarge’s plight worsened on the second play of the next series as he attempted a quick pass over the middle. Cook stepped in front of the receiver and picked the ball off. He raced 53 yards downfield to the three. Charnetski scored on the play, and Jack Chapman ran in the conversion for the 34-0 final tally.

Charnetski finished the game with 14 carries for 93 yards and three touchdowns. Raupers finished with three carries for 63 yards while passing for 56 yards and scoring two touchdowns

“I’m just proud of the kids,” said Notre Dame head coach Mike D’Aloisio. “It’s the way they have bonded and the way they pull for each other. They play well together. We are going in the direction we want to go and we have a tough one next week, so it’s back to work on Monday.”

D’Aloisio alluded to the big game next Friday night with Tioga Central in Tioga Center for maybe all the marbles.