

October 13, 2006  
Prospect Varsity Football  
Prospect vs. Elk Grove

Friday the thirteenth – would a black cat cross the Knights path on their way to a Divisional Championship? Besides the first cold night, there was clearly something strange in the air. During the pre-game warm-ups the stadium announcer requested that the Prospect team leave the field, apparently to provide room for the Elk Grove 40 piece marching band.

Prospect elected to kickoff and Elk Grove started their first possession at their 35 yard line. First four running plays the Grens had reached the Prospect 48 yard line. Making tackles were Mack, Kosac, and Scanlan. On third and long they went to the air and OBrill picked it off returning the ball to the Grens 37 yard line. Prospect ground game kicked into gear. O'Mara 9 yards, Sobey 13 yards and on third play of the drive the Mack Attack 15 yards and a TD. 8:48 to go in the first quarter Prospect 6 – Elk Grove 0.

Ziegenfuss kickoff carried into the end zone for a touchback. Elk Grove was four and out. O'Mara returned the punt 19 yards to the Elk Grove 32. Two plays later (O'Mara 24 yard run) and the Mack Attack second touchdown – Prospect 12 – Elk Grove 0.

Elk Grove starts their next possession at their 27 yard line. The Grens mount a drive into Prospect territory. Some good tackles are made by (Baratti, Mack, and Maratea). The Grens QB converted on two third down plays – one was nifty QB reverse – the ball never left the QB hands he just did his own about face. Grens came down to a fourth and three at the Prospect 22. They went to the air but the pass was incomplete. Knights take possession.

O'Mara on the first play gets into Grens' territory on a 29 yard run. Sobey then runs for 7 yards. Sobey gets another first down on the first pass of the night to Munz for 29 yard gain to the Elk Grove 12 yard line. So let's see what is working tonight from 12 yards out – ah, the handoff to Mack – Mack Attack 18 Elk Grove 0. 10:16 to go in the half.

Elk Grove returns the kickoff to Prospect 25 yard line tackles by Kosac and Richardson. The D-Line stops for the first run for no gain. Mack then throws them for a two yard loss. Facing third and twelve the Grens go to the air – interception OBrill. He returns it to the 39 yard line. On first down Sobey runs for 14 yard. On the next play the ball pops free and Prospect returns the ball to Elk Grove. Are the Knights trying to be accommodating guests?

The Grens put together a 9 play drive scoring on a 16 yard pass. 5:36 left in the half, Prospect 18 Elk grove 6.

The Knights become way to accommodating on the kickoff letting Elk Grove have the ball at the Prospect 23 yard line.

Elk Grove fails to capitalize missing a 38 yard field goal.

Mack Attack starts the drive with a 13 yard gain to the Prospect 41. Sobey then gallops to the Wheeling 5 yard line but an illegal block moves the ball back to the Wheeling 35 yard line. In the stands the dispute raged as to how many yards credit does Sobey receive for this run? By the end of the evening the dispute was still not resolved.

On the next play Sobey found OBrill on a crossing pattern for a 35 yard touchdown pass. O'Mara scores on the two point conversion, Prospect 26 Elk Grove 6.

With 4:04 left in the game the Grens start their next possession from their 38 yard line. The Grens are forced to punt away and the ball goes out of bounds at the Prospect 42.

O'Mara continues the ground attack for a 13 yard run and then the Grens used his face mask to help with the tackle so the ball is at the Elk Grove 40. Two more O'Mara runs has the Prospect at the 20 yard line with 58 seconds to go in the half. Pass to OBrill is gets to the one yard line. O'Mara takes it in for the score. Sobey scores on the two point conversion, Prospect 34 Elk Grove 6.

As the second half begins the kickoff is fielded by Zusevics. Fortunately Zus recognized he is playing football and runs with the ball rather than going for the spike. He returns it 14 yards to the 47 yard line. DiCaro takes the first handoff for a 2 yard gain. Beyer then runs for 10 yards. On first down Lazarz runs for 14 yards but a hold returns it to a first and 16 yards to go. Prospect is forced to punt. Elk Grove calls for a fair catch of the Baratti punt at their 13 yard line.

On Elk Grove's first play there is a fumble and Richardson recovers it at the 11 yard line. QB Lazarz runs for 5 yards and on the next play Beyer scores. Smith converts the PAT – Prospect 41 Elk Grove 6.

Smith kicks off. Elk Grove returns it to the 26 yard line where Sawicki makes the tackle. On first down Elk Grove run is stopped by Hamman. On second down the Grens go to the air. The Mack Attack intercepts and returns the ball 40 yards for the touchdown – that is Number Four. Smith converts on another PAT. With 6:04 to go in the third quarter Prospect 48 Elk Grove 6.

On the kickoff the clock starts and now keeps running. With this being the first cold night of the year the crowd was not complaining about the running clock.

The Smith kickoff was deep and fielded inside the five yard line. Prospect makes a huge hit the spurts into the end zone the officials call it a touchback. We missed the plate number of the hummer that made the hit, but it (he) was in all wheel drive at point of contact.

The Grens then put together a drive from their 20 yard line. The drive results in a score although Elk Grove was aided by a disputed pass interference call. (Actually at this point of the game no one raised much dispute, but from this writer's vantage point it appeared that a dispute may have been in order.) During the Elk Grove drive Hamman made or assisted in 4 tackles, DiCaro 3 tackles, and other tackles were made by Smith, Ziegenfuss, Lewis, Beyer, and Radcliffe. Prospect 48 – Elk Grove 12 with 9:25 to go in the fourth quarter.

Prospect starts their drive from their 35 yard line. Runs by DiCaro and Beyer provide a first down. Then they reverse order and Beyer and DiCaro another first down. The ball then goes to DiCaro and then Beyer for another first down. Will anyone catch on to this play sequence? At Elk Grove's 17 yard line the ball goes to Fernandez (no, not Beyer or DiCaro) who sees his chance for pay dirt and capitalizes on it for a touchdown. Another Smith PAT makes the score Prospect 55 Elk Grove 12.

Final tackles by Wadas and Cohen bring the game to an end - Prospect 55 Elk Grove 12.

Next week senior parents – not let's rephrase that – parent's of seniors get their chance to shine as it is Senior Night at Prospect as the Buffalo Bison come into town.

Saturday Night October 21 at 8:00PM is the pairings announcement. The Knights have qualified for a playoff berth. The only questions remaining are; what is their seed and who is their first round opponent?