

Oilers face Cobras in EFL semifinal

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The Randolph Oilers' dream of sharing the Eastern Football League regular season title with Marlboro was dashed by the Shamrocks last Saturday night.

The Oilers, however, could get a chance to avenge their loss to Marlboro, but that opportunity has to be put on hold as Randolph has to get by Middleboro first in an EFL semifinal game this Sunday at 2 p.m.

Both Randolph and Middleboro ended up the regular season with 8-2 marks, but the Oilers defeated the Cobras, 25-14, in the second

week of the year in the only meeting between the two.

In that game, played back on July 24, the Oilers had to come from a 14-0 deficit to pull the game out as quarterback Bobby Witt led the comeback with three touchdown passes. Witt's scoring passes, which all came in the second half, were to Jim Clifford, Sean Crowley, and Tony Cavallo.

The Oilers' passing game also had some help that night from a strong running attack in the person of Jay Magee who ran for 141 yards which included a 78-yard scoring dash in the fourth quarter.

Middleboro got first-half touchdowns in that game by Kelly

Brooks on a short touchdown run and John Montabano's 27-yard scoring reception on a pass from David Harrison.

Sunday's meeting will feature many of the league's top performers in various statistical categories.

Magee ended the regular season as the league's top rusher with 970 yards (6.2 average) and was second in scoring with 66 points.

Brooks finished third in rushing with 805 yards (5.2 average) and was tied for third in scoring as well with teammate David Moitoso (who finished sixth in rushing with 372 yards) with 48 points.

The difference in this game could come down to the passing of Randolph's Witt who will face possibly the league's best ball-hawking pass defense in Middleboro.

The Middleboro trio of Greg Pimenta, Bill Royal, and Bill Jones combined to pick off 13 passes while defensive lineman Dave Aruda of the Cobras was second in the league in sacks.

Randolph was no slouch in forcing turnovers either as Ted Clinkscale had six interceptions and Mike Issler recovered four fumbles, both good enough to lead the league.