

Cobras control ball and game in rout of Randolph

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Middleboro, 24-6

RANDOLPH — Middleboro used its ball-control offense to defeat the Randolph Oilers, 24-6, in an Eastern Football League game played at Randolph High School Friday night.

The game plan for Middleboro according to quarterback Bob Barrett was "to control play at the line and not make any mistakes. And that's what we did."

Middleboro opened the scoring with 8:26 left in the first quarter when Craig Ross went two yards off right tackle.

It was a blast right, said Ross: "The line, Gary Perry and John Korzeniowski, opened up a big hole and I scored. The entire line played well all night."

Dave Hickey made his first of three extra points after the score.

With three minutes left in the first quarter, Hickey threw a 35-yard pass out of punt formation which set up the Cobras for a field goal.

"The pass was nothing special," said Hickey. "We ran the play left, I unloaded and it hap-

pened to go for a first down. The fact the ball was tipped only means we were lucky."

Randolph came into the second half with intensity, but trailing 10-0. That emotion only caused the Oilers more frustration in the form of penalties, dropped passes and the inability to make the big play when they had to.

Oiler Terry Branch said: "We've been one play away all season. This game was the same way. We came in pumped up, ready to beat them. But mistakes are hurting us."

Even though Randolph dropped to 5-4, John Gates thinks his team will beat Middleboro in the playoffs.

"We have better talent and better moral. Pound-for-pound, man-for-man we have a better team. They're only number one in the papers."

That isn't exactly true, Middleboro (8-1) is ranked number two in the country.

On the field, Middleboro took advantage of

its stronger offensive line to grind out two more touchdowns in the second half.

The first came on a four-yard run by Kelly Brooks, the second on a quarterback sneak by Bob Barrett with 5:55 left in the game.

"It was supposed to be a blast pass right," said Barrett "I saw an opening and kept the ball."

That made the score 24-0 at the time.

Middleboro also controlled the line with its defense.

"We were doing a lot of stunting and pulling them around," said Korzeniowski. "We got some breaks early in the game. By the fourth, they started giving up."

Randolph scored its only touchdown when Scott Raines threw a swing pass to Jim Clifford with 4:36 left.

"Tonight (last night) wasn't it for us," said Bill Turner. "There is no doubt we have a better team. I think that last drive proves it."

By that time, the 400 or so faithful Randolph fans had started to head for their cars.