

Randolph Oilers get bitten by Cobras

Lose 17-7 for fourth consecutive loss



The Oilers Will Price takes a well-deserved rest after his electrifying 86-yard kickoff return against the Middleboro Cobras.

By Bob Whitney

Wicked Local Randolph

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Randolph — It was a game of first's between the Eastern Football League's league-leading Middleboro Cobras and the upset-minded Randolph Oilers last Friday evening under the lights at Randolph High School stadium.

The Oilers started the contest with the game's first turnover as defensive back John McNeil fell on a loose ball at the Oilers 4-yard line.

The Cobras responded with the first touchdown, with 3:55 left in the first quarter, on a 32-yard bomb from John Speidel to Alex Smith.

The Oilers came right back to score their first touchdown of the game on an electrifying 86-yard kickoff return by the speedy Will Price.

Unfortunately for the Oilers, the unbeaten Cobras had a little too much offense and defense and they held on to defeat the determined Oilers, 17-7, in a very hard fought and sometimes chippy, EFL contest.

Middleboro's talented quarterback and the 2011 EFL Offensive MVP, John Speidel, was the story in the game as he directed the Cobra offense to two scores and setup a final field goal to seal the win for Middleboro (6-0).

Speidel hooked up with wide receiver Dywayne Williams for the Cobras second score of the game on a beautiful 19 yard pitch and catch just before the first quarter ended.

The Cobras added a field goal in the second quarter and left the field with a 17-7 halftime edge.

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The Oilers were frustrated offensively as they were unable to sustain a decent scoring drive against the veteran-laden Middleboro defense. James Merrick got the start at quarterback for the Oilers in place of the injured Mark Reale and fell victim to a formidable Cobra pass rush.

In addition, the Oilers vaunted ground game, missed the services of the injured Leon McBean. Brooke Payne did a yeomans job carrying the running workload by himself but was stymied time and again by the gang-tackling Cobra defense.

Will Price was a bright spot for the Oilers as he returned a kickoff 86-yards in the first quarter.

Said Price, "I took one step back and saw a seam on the right side of the wedge. I turned up the right sideline and all I could see was the endzone."

The Oilers (2-4) defense once again was huge all night led by the inspired of linebacker Colby Gallgher as well as John Guy, John McNeil and Norm Burns.

The key for the Oilers will be to find some offensive consistency to go along with their superb defensive play.

The Oilers will host the Worcester Fury, another EFL powerhouse, this Saturday, August 25, at Randolph High School. Game time is slated for 6:00p.m.

Read more: [Randolph Oilers get bitten by Cobras - Randolph, MA - Randolph Herald](http://www.wickedlocal.com/randolph/sports/x1167782126/Randolph-Oilers-get-bitten-by-Cobras#ixzz24NHdKOJ9)
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