

# Knights headline POW awards

*Krammer, Brogdon also take weekly accolades*

**By Dennis Brunson**

What a first half!

That's about all that can be said about Crestwood High School's 56-0 victory over Marlboro County on Friday at Donald L. Crolley Memorial Stadium in Dalzell.

All of the Knights' points came in the first half as they improved to 6-1 on the season and 2-0 in Region 6-3A.

"What was good was pretty much everything," said Crestwood quarterback Javion Martin. "We were able to run the ball and pass the ball efficiently. We were coached up to do that all week in practice and it carried over into the game on Friday."

"It was fun, it was exciting to be a part of that," said left offensive guard Armante Bradford. "The adrenaline was really rushing."

Crestwood head coach Roosevelt Nelson said his team's play was a carryover from the previous week.

"At practice all week we had good, sharp practices," Nelson said. "What we did at practice held true at 7:30 p.m. at kickoff."

Both Martin and Bradford were integral parts in the Knights' offensive success. Because of that, Martin has been selected as the SAFE Offensive Player of the Week and Bradford as the Lineman of the Week for the Sumter Touchdown Club presented by FTC.

The other two selections for the SAFE Players of the Week are Thomas Sumter Academy placekicker Jacen Krammer as the Special Teams Player of the Week and Laurence Manning Academy outside linebacker Chapell Brogdon for the Defensive Player of the Week.

The quartet will be honored at the club's weekly breakfast meeting on Friday at the Sumter County Recreation and Parks' Jasmine Hall located at 155 Haynsworth Street. Breakfast will start at 7 a.m. with the program beginning at 7:30. The guest speaker will be former Coastal Carolina University head coach David Bennett.

## **OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

**JAVION MARTIN**

**CRESTWOOD**

**QUARTERBACK**

**SENIOR**

Martin completed 11 of 12 passes for 236 yards and three touchdowns and rushed for 35 yards and three more touchdowns on five carries -- all in the first half.

“Javion had a very, very clean game,” Nelson said. “He took what the defense gave him. He was in complete control of the offense.”

Martin is a 4-year starter who has been selected as one of two quarterbacks for the South Carolina Shrine Bowl team. Even with all that experience, he said he still continues to mature as a quarterback in the Knights’ high-powered offense.

“I’m better now than I was at the start of the season,” Martin said. “There were a lot of mistakes over the summer and spring that you work on to clean up. When you clean them up, basically you’re good. I’m feeling like I’m playing pretty smooth.”

**LINEMAN OF THE WEEK**  
**ARMANTE BRADFORD**  
**CRESTWOOD**  
**LEFT GUARD**  
**SENIOR**

Bradford graded out at 97 percent on 31 snaps to help the Knights roll up 558 yards of total offense. The 5-foot-9-inch, 274-pound senior said he was intent on having one of his best games against Marlboro County.

“I was locked in, really focused on getting that 90-percent grade,” Bradford said. “I had been in the 80s all year, but I really wanted to get that. I was just thinking about winning, being dominant and uplifting my fellow offensive linemen.”

“Armante Bradford did a heck of a job,” Nelson said. “This is his second year as a starter. He is one of our senior leaders, regardless of position.”

**SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK**  
**JACEN KRAMMER**  
**THOMAS SUMTER**  
**PLACEKICKER**  
**SOPHOMORE**

Krammer connected on all five of his extra point attempts and had an onside kick the Generals recovered in their 35-26 victory over Palmetto Christian Academy.

Krammer wasn’t even on the team at the start of the season. However, the sophomore’s brother, eighth-grader Braden Krammer, starts at linebacker and wide receiver. He told head coach Brannon Tidwell his older brother was a very good soccer player and could help the team as a kicker.

Tidwell talked to Jacen about trying out; he did and started kicking for TSA in the second game against Lee Academy.

“He has gotten better daily, not from game to game, but from day to day,” Tidwell said of Jacen, who is playing on a football team for the first time. “He kicks off the ground (as opposed to a tee). Whether it’s an onside, bloop, pooch, he’s done a great job. He’s a huge weapon.”

Krammer has connected on one field and has missed just one extra point this season.

“I think I’m developing good,” Krammer said. “I’m practicing every day and getting better. The distance I can kick field goals is improving.”

Krammer admits he’s still developing an understanding of the strategy of football. When Tidwell called for the onside kick against PCA though, he knew what was needed.

“I knew I needed it to go 10 yards and I needed to get it to the person I needed to,” Krammer said. “I had practiced it a lot, how many yards I needed to get it.”

Tidwell called the onside kick after the Generals had just scored to go up 21-6. They recovered the onside kick and scored again to make it 28-6.

“He just did a great job of making it look like he was kicking it deep down the middle of the field,” Tidwell said. “He kicked it 10 yards to his right. It rolled three times, and we recovered it at the (PCA) 49(-yard line).”

**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK**  
**CHAPELL BROGDON**  
**LAURENCE MANNING**  
**OUTSIDE LINEBACKER**  
**SENIOR**

Brogdon had 10 tackles and one tackle for loss in the Swampcats' 23-14 victory over Porter-Gaud. Laurence Manning’s defense held a team that was averaging more than 43 points and 350 rushing yards per game to the two touchdowns and 194 rushing yards and 246 yards of total offense.

Brogdon obviously was a key figure in those numbers, Manning head coach Will Furse said.

“He had a great night, but that's nothing unusual,” Furse said. “He's been doing this all year, so it was not surprising he played this well. The defensive line did a good job occupying gaps and people made plays in the secondary that would force the runners back into him.”

Brogdon echoed his coach’s sentiments about the help he had.

“I had a good night, but the whole defense had a good night,” Brogdon said. “Nothing was working for them. We shut down everything they tried to do.

“I'm just trying to get to the ball, The defensive line did a great job filling all of the gaps, so they were coming outside. I was just there.”

Furse said it’s Brogdon’s mindset on the field that makes him such a good football player.

“I think his attitude, his aggressiveness is what makes him so good,” Furse said. “He’s not the biggest (5-10, 160), the fastest, but he has an aggression you can't coach. He’s an excellent football player.”

