**Ponte Vedra and St. Augustine tie in Pre-season Contest**.

In a pre-season game that had everything, in the end nothing was decided but both teams can look forward to the regular season feeling good following a 27-27 tie game in St. Augustine. Trailing at one point 19-7, the Sharks battled back to score 20 unanswered points before the Yellow Jackets came back to knot up the game thanks to the heroics of Miami University commit Sobourian Wingo.

It appeared the Sharks had locked the game up after Cohen Kegley picked off a Yellow Jacket pass and raced untouched 65 yards for a touchdown for what appeared to be a clinching TD for the victors.

However, St. Augustine mounted an improbable a 98-yard drive with the big blow being an 88 yards TD bomb to Wingo with less than a minute remaining in the contest. Wingo, with two Sharks draped all over the four-star wideout, caught the pass in heavy traffic and somehow shook off the pair of Shark defenders and sped into the end zone. St. Augustine than went for the two-point conversion and converted to tie the game at 27 all.

The Sharks still had life as they moved into Yellow Jacket territory to set up a possible field goal from 48 yards out. However, for the second time in the game the Yellow Jackets broke through to block Noah Ash’s attempt for a game winner.

St. Augustine capped their best drive of the entire game on their second possession as they traveled 72 yards with their TD coming on a run from 6 yards. The Sharks were ball hawks on defense the entire game as they forced numerous Yellow Jacket turnovers. After an earlier St Aug. drive was stopped thanks to an interception by sophomore defensive back Trey Butz, sophomore Mike Akers blocked a Yellow Jacket punt deep in St. Augustine territory that sent up a short 55-yard TD run by junior Alex Winkles.

Following a lightening delay of several minutes St Augustine scored the first of their three long touchdown strikes of the game to enjoy a 19-7 lead at halftime. The second half was all Ponte Vedra except for the final few ticks on the clock. The Sharks took the second half kickoff and marched 63 yards to tighten the gap to 19-14. The big play on the drive was a 44-yard pass completion from first year starting quarterback Cole Rosendahl to Jack Berquist, one of eight receptions caught by Berquist.

Behind the tenacious Shark defense led by Senior Talon Babin, the Yellow Jackets were stymied for much of the second half. Babin’s stop on a broken play on fourth down gave the Sharks excellent field position at the Yellow Jackets 42-yard line midway through the final quarter. Alex Winkes 11 plays later found the end zone from two yards out for his third TD of the game to give PV the lead for the first time at 20-19. Although it didn’t appear to be a critical play at the time, the blocking of Noah Ash’s point after try would turn out to be a huge factor in the game.

With less than two minutes to go in the contest it appeared the Sharks had sewed up the victory following Kegley’s pick six. Ash did convert on the PAT but thanks to the blocked kick on the previous touchdown the Yellow Jackets trailed by one score. Wingo then deprived the Sharks of a certain victory with his outstanding catch and run from 88 yards out.

Although they gave up four touchdowns, with three of those tallies coming on the long variety, the Shark defense was outstanding. The Sharks forced two fumbles, two interceptions and a block punt to offset an offense that sputtered at times. Another big weapon on the night was the punting of Noah Ash who punted six time with an impressive average of 47 yards per boot.

Talon Babin was a monster on defense with a team leading 15 tackles as well as causing a fumble. The Sharks played a St Augustine team who was one win away from playing for a state championship to a standstill, giving the Sharks much optimism when they host their archrivals from Nease next Friday night.

Stats: Ponte Vedra @ St Augustine Pre-Season)

NOTE: These stats will not be included in the regular season

Stats and will be deleted shortly after the start of the 2025 season

PASSING

Player Comp Pass INT Total TD Longest

Passes Attempts Yards Passes

#7 Cole Rosendahl 15 33 1 136 0 44

Totals 15 33 1 136 0 44

RECEIVING

Player Total Total Longest Touchdowns

Catches Yards Catch

#2 Angelo Kekelek 1 10 10

#14 Jack Berquist 8 89 44

#18 Tucker Henderson 3 24 12

#34 Alex Winkles 3 13 10

Totals 15 136 0

RUSHING

Player Total Total Longest Touchdowns

Carries Yards

# 7 Cole Rosendahl 5 1 8

#34 Alex Winkles 18 45 8 3

Totals 23 46 3

PUNT RETURNS

Player Return Total Longest Fair

Attempts Yards Return Catch

None

KICKOFF RETURNS Return Total Longest

Attempts Yards Return

#13 Cohen Kegley 2 38 25

#18 Tucker Henderon 3 63 31

PUNTS

Player Total Total Longest AVG

Punts Yards

#6 Noah Ash 6 282 56 47.0

KICKOFFS Total Total Longest Touch

Kickoffs Yards Backs

#6 Noah Ash 5 297 60 3

SCORING

TDS Ex Pts Field Goals Longest

#6 Noah Ash 3/4 0/1

#13 Cohen Kegley 1

#34 Alex Winkles 3

PONTE VEDRA DEFENSIVE STATS vs. ST. AUGUSTINE

PLAYER Tackles Ast T TFL PD H Sacks Int FC F Rec

#4 Fion Day 3

#13 Cohen Kelley 2 1 1

#20 Talan Babin 12 3 1

#21 Cole Otteson 3

#22 Ethan Holmes 4 1 3

#24 Bennet Baumgartner 1

#26 Cooper Sobieski 2 1

#29 Trey Butz 6 1 1

#32 Davis Latina 3

#40 JP Dolan 3 1 1

#41 Caden Kartsmark 1

#44 Robert Gilvarry 5 1 1 2 1

#56 Mike Akers 3 1 + 1 Blocked Punt

#92 Reese Beck 2

#95 Chirstian Purnell 1 1