NORSE DEFEAT IMPROVED SHELBY TEAM 33-30

The Norse won their 12th consecutive game over the Shelby Tigers, but this was not your Shelby team that the Norsemen used as whipping boys during this stretch. The Norse had to go all out to nip the Tigers 33-30 as they evened their season record at 1-1.

The Tigers even had a chance to pull off a stunning upset late in the game. After Hunter Wilder broke through left tackle for a 24-yard TD to put the Norsemen up 27-16, the Tigers wasted little time to answer when they mounted a six-play drive that closed the Norse lead to 27-24.

The Tigers than executed what appeared to be a successful onside kick but an unfortunate penalty for being offsides negated the play and the very fortunate Norsemen and their fans breathed a sigh of relief. After being bottled earlier up by a staunch Tiger defense where he was limited to but 44 rushing yards in 10 attempts, Wilder raced around left end to score from 46 yards out to make it a two score Norse lead at 33-24 following a Gunner Schmitt made extra point. Two plays earlier Wilder had a 48-yard dash to paydirt called back by a NM penalty on a very similar play but Wilder’s second back breaking play against the Tigers saw no flags.

Not to say die the Tigers did score a last second TD to make the final score 33-30.

Coach Phil Fortier’s Tigers, who have not experienced a winning season since 2013, showed early into the contest that Shelby was not going to be any pushover as they answered an early NM TD with a QB scamper by Isaac Garcia and a two-point conversion to take a 8-7 lead over the Norsemen.

The Norse then took a lead they would never relinquish on a very fortuitous TD aerial that was deflected into the hands of Beckett Hoppa that resulted in a 39-yard TD pass from Bryce Colbert. NM then padded their lead to 19-8 shortly before halftime on a nine-yard run by Cullen Bartos.

The score remained unchanged until Shelby took advantage early into the fourth quarter of a muffed NM punt they turned into eight points to set up the game’s final exciting moments.

After a slow start Wilder would finish the game with 115 rushing yards, 71 of those yards coming on his final two carries of the game. Colbert would complete 12 of his 19 passes for 185 yards with Hoppa on the receiving end of three of those completions for 120 yards and a TD. Hoppa was also a force on defense with 10 tackles, that was also equaled by NM’s defensive all state candidate Cullen Bartos. After playing at home for their first two games of the season the Norse will travel to Scottville next Friday to play Mason County Central.

**Stats: NM vs Shelby**

PASSING

Player Comp Pass INT Total TD Longest

Passes Attempts Yards Passes

#3 Bryce Colbert 12 19 1 185 2 56

Totals 12 19 1 185 2 56

RECEIVING

Player Total Total Longest Touchdowns

Catches Yards Catch

#1 Braylen Burrel 3 45 18

#2 Beckett Hoppa 3 120 56 1

#5 Hunter Wilder 2 -7 -2

#3 Cullen Bartos 4 27 12 1

Totals 12 185 2

RUSHING

Player Total Total Longest Touchdowns

Carries Yards

# 3 Bryce Colbert 3 -15 3

# 5 Hunter Wilder 12 115 47 2

# 6 Cullen Bartos 5 31 9 1

#20 Keefe Kersman 3 19 11

Totals 17 48 3

PUNT RETURNS

Player Return Total Longest Fair

Attempts Yards Return Catch

None

PUNTS

Player Total Total Longest AVG

Punts Yards

#3 Bruce Colbert 1 32 32 32.0

SCORING

TDS Ex Pts Field Goals Longest

#6 Cullen Bartos 2

#5 Hunter Wilder 2

#2 Beckett Hoppa 1

# 9 Gunnar Schmitt 3

**NM Defensive Stats vs. Shelby**

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

#0 Jourdon Ealom-Yff 3 4

#2 Beckett Hoppa 9 1 2

#5 Hunter Wilder 1 1

#6 Cullen Bartos 8 2 2 1

#7 Carlton Williams 5 2

#11 Drew Gabriel 8 1 2 1

#14 Blake Martin 1 1

#20 Keefe Kersman 5 1 1

#52 Oliver Fricke 2 2 1

#54 Jace Thompson 1

#55 Clint Villapando 2 1 1

#60 Brennen Allen 2

#65 Brennen Slayton 1

#69 Eli Gomez 2