

F.O.O.L. Update Season 5

Week 4 (Home Team in caps):

Gold Rush 38, MAROON DRAGOONS 51

This Championship rematch saw struggling Maroon meet a Gold team that had just lost to Violet in a battle of unbeaten teams. This was expected to be a defensive struggle, since each had the best front 7 in their division, and Maroon with a new QB could be expected to run. The story of the game was that Maroon was indeed able to run, with FB #27 Sidney doing much of the damage around the right end. Gold struck back with long pass plays, mostly to rookie speedster W #80 Berkely. But last season's rushing leader, Gold's H#20 Cromwell was well controlled by Maroon's defense and gained only 71 yards on 28 carries. Maroon challenged Gold to pass, and Q #9 Beaufort did, for an amazing 444 yards, with 4 TD's and 5 for 30 yards or more, including short passes with long runs for 56, 79, and 57 yards. Maroon was up by two FG's at halftime when H #26 Emerson caught a deep pass and broke a tackle by S #35 Volk to put Maroon up by 13. But #25 Surrey fumbled Gold's punt setting up a 30 yard strike to TE #86 Hastings to keep Gold close. Maroon matched the pace with a 14 yard Sidney run up the middle set up by a 48 yard run when B #21 Swift caught Gold's defense in a blitz. Gold got a FG and forced Maroon to punt. To this time, Gold had zero turnovers to two lost fumbles for Maroon. But Gold was only effective through the air, and their two starting receivers, #84 Young and #88 Snow, were under treatment in the locker room. Q #9 Beaufort was intercepted on each of Gold's next 3 possessions. Maroon scored 10 points off them to put the game out of reach, despite later fireworks.

Key play: With Maroon ahead by 10 early in the second quarter, Gold had driven from their own 12 to a 1st down on the Maroon 8, with a 56 yard toss to #80 Berkely getting most of it. FB #23 Northumberland went left for a yard, and a bullet pass to #86 Hastings was knocked down by S #39 Piles. On third down TB #20 Hastings got around right end but was dragged down from behind by DE #97 Carew at the 2. On 4th and goal at the 2, Hastings ran right again. Carew grabbed a leg as Cromwell cut back and #67 Shakespeare fell on him a yard short of the goal. Maroon escaped, and thus late in the half kept the lead despite a scoring flurry.

Game Ball: B #27 Sidney: He had 113 yards on 22 carries and 3TD's against a tough on the run defense, with his speed to the outside and an ability to break tackles giving Maroon the advantage of sustained drives.

Key Stat: Maroon 49 rushes for 249 yards, vs 28 for 93 for Gold

Also of importance:

Rookie wonder: Gold's W #80 Berkely got 218 yards and 2TD's on 7 receptions, most short dumps in which he used his speed to outrun the secondary.

Next up: Unbeaten Violet will travel to Maroon; Gold will host the White Knights.