

Jesuit routs Holy Cross in District 9-5A opener, improves to 5-1

BY WILL PENEGUY | SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

Oct. 11, 2014

Jesuit coach Mark Songy started the week wondering about the idea that “our team hasn’t been tested late in a game. That worries me.”

Songy will have to wonder another week.

There were few worries for the Blue Jays during their 56-14 District 9-5A victory over Holy Cross at Tad Gormley Stadium on Friday night. In addition to the eight touchdowns, Jesuit racked up 550 yards.

Jesuit led 35-0 by halftime, had amassed 376 yards and 14 first downs. Even the Jays’ mistakes turned into positive plays.

The game was the 95th meeting between the two Catholic League rivals.

The victory was Jesuit’s (5-1, 1-0) fifth straight after a season-opening road loss to Ponchatoula. Jesuit is ranked No. 3 in the Advocate’s Large School Super 10 and sixth in the Louisiana Sports Writers Association 5A statewide poll.

A pair of early alert offensive reactions salvaged Jesuit’s first two scoring drives.

By halftime, LaForge had completed 10 of 14 passes for 135 yards. Chris Mills, who had a 62-yard run just before halftime that set up the fifth Jesuit’s fifth TD, gained 111 yards rushing on nine first-half rushes.

After the opening kickoff, Jesuit crisply moved 69 yards in 10 plays. Charles Jackson scored from 18 yards out, riding the blocks of Foster Moreau and Brad Daudet off the right side.

The Jays converted a key third down at midfield when LaForge dropped back to pass, fumbled the ball, picked it up and completed a backhand flip to Malcolm for a 6-yard gain.

Holy Cross (4-2, 0-1) went three and out and the Jays need only three plays to take a 14-0 lead. On third-and-4 from the Jesuit 47, LaForge completed a hitch pass to Malachi

Hull. Hull turned up field and gained 6 yards, dropped the ball, but it bounced right back up to him. He stayed in full stride and scored untouched.

Before the first minute of the second quarter was history, 260-pound defensive lineman Hunter Robert did his best masquerade as a sprinter, turning a fourth-and-1 into a 30-yard run to the end zone for a 21-0 advantage. He went in untouched after the Jays offensive line completely sealed off the right edge of the line.

Lipscomb stole a high fade pass from a Tigers defender at the goal line for a 30-yard TD with 4:19 remaining. That play followed a 26-yard Holy Cross punt from its 4-yard line and gave Jesuit a 28-0 lead.

With only 46 seconds left in the half, Mills' 62-yard run gave the Jays a first down at the Holy Cross 18.

LaForge completed a pass to Charles Jackson that moved the ball to the 5. LaForge carried it in from there with 11 seconds left in the half.

by Taboola