

WEEK EIGHT GAMES



**Panther Nation remains upbeat as Paschal looks to surprise Timberview**

There are times in life when the best you can do is reach into the cliché bag, grab a big handful, and do whatever it takes to keep the fire of hope alive. This is such a time for the Paschal Panther faithful, who have seen their outmanned but gutsy varsity continue to come up just short in its bid for a "W." Good things come to those who wait. It's always darkest before the dawn. Slow and steady wins the race. To some, such words offer but the most slender of hopes in a season of discontent. To True Purple Panther faithful, such words are sweet inspiration.

True, the Panthers came up wanting in the October 19 tale of the tape against Bureson. The Elks had more first downs, more rushing yards and more passing yards. About the only areas in which the Panthers outdid the Elks was in punting average -- K Hoby Milner had six punts for an average of 31.2 yards -- and in fumbles lost as the Elks lost three and the Panthers but one. Nevertheless, the Panthers had much on which to build. QB Robert Gallagher scored a second quarter touchdown on a one-yard run. Milner added the point after. Gallagher connected with TE Mike Goetz for a nice 14-yard pass play. Joseph Robinson rushed for 38 yards and Lee Davis for 22. Jeffery Tillmann added another 5 hard-fought yards.

The Panthers will look to build on those successes Friday, October 27, against Timberview High School. The road game is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. Throughout the season, the Panthers have shown flashes of brilliance that foreshadow the promise of future success. Whether that promise yields fruit this year, next year or beyond is anyone's guess. Despite the uncertainty, one thing is clear: It's only a matter of time.



**JV Panthers brace for clash with Timberview**

Playing a squad with a large contingent of juniors, Paschal's JV Panther team did themselves proud against Bureson October 18 but in the end could not overcome a number of turnovers and untimely penalties.

Paschal opened the game with what appeared to be a promising drive that ultimately was stymied by a penalty. Bureson made the most of the opportunity and jumped to a quick lead. However, Paschal answered with another impressive drive that was capped by a TD and two-point conversion on the legs of QB Sasha Lovett.

Both the offensive and defensive lines played with fortitude, and the offense moved the ball well.

Fumbles, however, short-circuited many a promising drive. Bureson, meantime, capitalizing on the bulk of its juniors, ran a power game designed to wear defenses down.

Unbowed, the JV Panthers will be looking for revenge when they face off against a stout Timberview team Thursday, October 26, at home. The Panthers are hoping to be cheered on by a roaring sea of purple at the 6 p.m. game.

**Freshmen Panthers look to bounce back after comeback bid falls short**

It was a winnable game against a beatable opponent, but in the end, the freshmen Panthers gave up one big play too many and ran out of time in their October 18 contest with the Bureson Elks.

The Panthers are now 5-2 and will look to return to the win column Thursday, October 26, against a tough Timberview squad in what promises to be a difficult road game. The B team is scheduled for a 5 p.m. kickoff, with A team action to follow on the heels of that contest.

Though the offense struggled at times, the frosh at others demonstrated why they have become a beacon of hope in Panther Nation. Trailing just 7-0 at the half, the Panthers got on the board quickly in the third quarter when RB Emmanuel Smith broke several tackles to rumble into the end zone.

Lamentably, the Elks broke some big plays thereafter, and the game became an uphill slog for Paschal. The Panthers never gave up, however, and when QB Tyler Nurdin hit RB Kevin Deal on a nifty touchdown pass, fans could not help but hope for a miraculous comeback. On this night, however, it was not to be.

In B team action, RB Rochell Johnson came up big, scoring the team's first touchdown of the season. Spencer Parchman and Sam Rhea also had strong games for Paschal.

The injury bug which has so tormented the varsity squad has trickled down to the freshmen. RB/DB Tyler Rogers missed another game to a collarbone injury and was joined in the malady by RB/LB Kirby Campbell. Both are doubtful for the Timberview game. Austin Nash remains sidelined with an elbow injury and is likely out for the season. Christian Payne was sidelined with an infection. Lineman Alex Deeds (hand) gutted it out against the Elks and is expected to play Thursday. TE/LB Gavan Smithhart left the field woozy but is expected to play Thursday.



Date	Opponent	Varsity		Junior Varsity			Freshman A/B	
		Location	Time	Date	Location	Time	Location	Time
Fri 10/27	Timberview	Away	7:30	10/26	Home	6	Away	B 5 / A 7
Fri 11/3	Summit	Farrington (West)	7:30	11/2	Away	6	Home	B 5 / A 7
Fri 11/10	North Crowley	Away	7:30	11/9	Home	6	Away	B 5 / A 7

Questions or comments? email [PHSFootballBooster@msn.com](mailto:PHSFootballBooster@msn.com).

*Special thanks to Geoff Campbell for his insightful game day analysis.*

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