

WEEK SEVEN RECAP



Panthers Show Continued Improvement v. Stout Burleson Squad

One train wreck is so much like another that they scarcely bear study. Or so goes the popular thinking. And yet, the National Transportation Safety Board always makes a thorough investigation of each wreck, sending in teams of forensic scientists to analyze what happened.

A casual observer might think that the Panthers' game Oct. 12 against the Burleson Elks was a figurative train wreck. True, the score was more lopsided than Panther Nation would like. But closer analysis reveals a Panther team that is getting better and stronger with each passing game.

On offense, the team launched promising drives, with nice passes from QB Tyler Nurdin and some nice catch and run flash from WR Zach Waters. QB/RB Robert Gallagher made some nifty, gutsy runs, leading the ground attack. As often as not, an untimely penalty stalled progress.

On defense, the Panthers made some key stops. While the team got burned by some big plays, film analysis showed that each Burleson score came on a play when an adjustment in position by one Panther player could have made all the difference.

All of which is to say that scoreboards aside, the Panthers are making progress. They're a hair-breadth away from the Promised Land, aching close to the victories they've worked so hard to achieve.

Samuel Beckett once said: *"Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better."* This, in a nutshell, has been the Panthers' season. Though they've taken great strides over the course of the season, no player is satisfied. The team has continued to work hard, to strive for excellence and to learn from mistakes in the quest for perfection. They've shown they believe, like Honoré de Balzac, *"There is no such thing as great talent without great will power."*

The players deserve mad props for their persistence and dedication, and so do the Panther faithful, who, like Plato, believe that such efforts deserve support. As Plato admonished, "Never discourage anyone...who continually makes progress, no matter how slow."

Panther Nation can show it's appreciation and support for the team's hard work and progress with a big home crowd showing at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 26 at Farrington Field as the Panthers take on the Timberview Wolves.



JV Panthers Flex Scoring Muscle in Game with Tough Burleson Elks

As always, the Burleson JV squad was tough. But as always, so were the JV Panthers.

And though the Panthers came up on the short end of the scoreboard Oct. 18, the team acquitted itself well against a strong opponent.

RB D'Andre Kindles had some breathtaking runs, including a TD. WR Rochelle Johnson made some fine catches and also scored. And QB Kevin Deal scored a touchdown (Doug Parkhurst kick for the PAT) and made a two-point conversion.

In the end, the Burleson ground game, reminiscent of the "three yards and a cloud of dust" style once favored by Woody Hayses' Ohio State teams, wore the Panthers down. But the Panthers fought gamely and with distinction, showing the trademark toughness that has been the team's signature in 2007.

The team next squares off against Timberview in a 6 p.m. road game Oct. 25.



Paschal Freshmen Show No Quit Against Burleson

The Paschal freshmen squared off against Burleson Oct. 18 in games that showcased the group's grit and moxie.

In the Purple game, Paschal found itself in a 28-0 halftime hole, but the boys clawed their way back in the second half before succumbing to Burleson. RB Luis Moreno got the Panthers on the board with a rushing touchdown. And playing hard to the final whistle, Erick Garza scooped up a fumble and took it to the house with just seconds left in the game.

The second game of the night found the freshmen Panther White squad in another dogfight. The team fought hard against a powerful Burleson ground game, and the Paschal offense showed no quit. Though the boys were not rewarded with a "W," the team played hard from start to finish, demonstrating Panther Pride and offering further reasons for optimism about the future of the Paschal football program.

The Purple and White teams will shoot for another victory in front of a home crowd Oct. 25, when they take on the frosh from Mansfield Timberview. The games are scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Paschal.

Questions or comments? email PHSFootballBooster@msn.com.

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

