

Vikings Outlast Titans

Written by Mike Kelly

Saturday, 10 September 2011 08:53

The Avery High football team won its third consecutive game Friday night in Marion.

But it was a close-knit affair as the Vikings (3-1) staved off a late rally by McDowell to win the game, 28-21. The Titans, who haven't won a game since 2008, have lost 30 consecutive games. Alex Villanueva, who was sacked twice, threw for 224 yards and a pair of touchdowns. He also ran for 48 yards.

Spencer Blackburn paced the running game with 83 yards; and Thomas Moore was Avery's leading receiver as he caught five passes for 138 yards and a score. Trailing 14-7 with 11:55 to play in the first half, the Vikings closed out the second quarter with 21 unanswered points for a 28-14 halftime lead.

A five-yard run by Moore with 9:11 to play in the first half tied the game at 14. That scoring run capped off an eight-play, 83-yard drive. The Vikings followed that up with a ten-play, 73-yard drive as Michael Arnett scampered in from 11-yards out to give the Vikings a 21-14 lead with 4:56 left in the first half. And Villanueva capped off the rally as he hooked up with Austin Robbie on a 30-yard scoring toss with 1:39 left in the first half for a 14-point lead at the intermission. The Titans (0-4) scored with 6:40 left to play in the game; Grant Robinson scored on a six-yard run, but the Vikings hung to win the game. The Vikings finished with 398 yards offensively, including 174 on the ground; the Titans had 383 offensive yards and 223 yards on the ground. Chaven Lytle paced McDowell with 134 rushing yards and a touchdown; Noah Dunham caught six passes for 98 yards and a score.

Avery begins Western Highlands Conference play next Friday night, September 16, at home against Black Mountain Owen.

FRIDAY NIGHT'S SCORES:

EVERY 28, McDOWELL 21

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WATAUGA 31, WEST CALDWELL 14
ASHE COUNTY 28, ELKIN 6
SOUTH CALDWELL 38, EAST BURKE 0
HIBRITEN 20. PATTON 14
KINGS MOUNTAIN 23, ALEXANDER CENTRAL 22
MAIDEN 36, ST. STEPHENS 10,
HICKORY 41, NORTH GASTON 21
BUNKER HILL 34, FRED T. FOARD 26