

Patriots Face Roosevelt In Quest For Perfect Season, Inaugural 11AAA Title



No. 1 S.F. Lincoln (10-0) vs. No. 2 S.F. Roosevelt (9-1)
7:30 p.m., DakotaDome

SIoux FALLS LINCOLN
CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY: 2008 — beat Washington 27-20 (11AA)
ROAD TO THE DOME: beat R.C. Stevens 42-7; beat S.F. O'Gorman 28-0
RUSHING: Caden Quintanilla 227-1,644, 25 TD; Matt Wagner 29-247, 5 TD
PASSING: Connor Burchill 77-151, 1,117 yards, 12 TD, 4 INT; Isiah Roach 24-45, 271 yards, 2 TD
RECEIVING: Trevor Naasz 28-413, 2 TD; Dylan Bartow 18-258, 5 TD; Wagner 15-150
DEFENSE: Wagner 66 tackles, 11 TFL, 2 sacks, 3 FR; Taylor Salava 55 tackles, 5 TFL, 1 FR; Braxton Large 45 tackles, 8 TFL, 2 sacks, 2 FR; Levi Foss 33 tackles, 3 TFL, 4 INT; Paul Thanel 29 tackles, 1 TFL, 3 INT; Dylan Arntz 24 tackles, 5 TFL, 8 sacks

SIoux FALLS ROOSEVELT
CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY: 2004 — lost to O'Gorman 14-7 (11AA); 2006 — beat O'Gorman 28-21 (11AA); 2007 — beat Washington 28-24 (11AA); 2011 — beat Washington 31-17 (11AA)
ROAD TO THE DOME: beat S.F. Washington 28-20; beat Brandon Valley 65-35
RUSHING: Taryn Christian 147-923 yards, 19 TD; Seth Bjordal 88-555 yards, 6 TD; Jake Bear 31-236 yards, 3 TD
PASSING: Christian 144-237, 2,231 yards, 22 TD, 6 INT; Jett Thune 10-32, 70 yards, 2 INT
RECEIVING: Chase Vinatieri 38-481 yards, 4 TD; David Mulbah 29-740 yards, 6 TD; Tanner Hennings 27-477 yards, 5 TD; Bear 18-162 yards, 2 TD; Ryan Benson 15-203 yards, 3 TD; Bjordal 11-101 yards, TD
DEFENSE: Kirby Hora 63 tackles, 2 sacks, INT, FR; Trevor Janisch 56 tackles, 2 sacks, 3 INT; Kory Lindquist 55 tackles, 11 sacks, 2 INT, 3 FR; Nathan Durfee 49 tackles, 3.5 sacks, 1 FR; Kyle Olinger 43 tackles, 1 sack, 2 INT; Austin Atwood 39 tackles, 2 INT; Cody Barse 28 tackles, 4.5 sacks; Skyler Newberg 27 tackles, 4.5 sacks

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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Just over two months ago, Sioux Falls Lincoln and Sioux Falls Roosevelt had a shootout, with Lincoln scoring a 35-28 victory.

Neither lost before that game nor has since, setting up a potentially exciting showdown between the two cross-town rivals.

The 10-0 Patriots face the 9-1 Rough Riders in today's (Saturday) Class 11AAA championship, with the winner claiming the first-ever title in the state's new big-school class.

When it comes to this matchup, there are no secrets, according to Roosevelt head coach Kim Nelson.

"They've got every one of our films. We've got every one of theirs," he said.

Lincoln head coach Aaron Beavers said that both experience and depth helped the team outscore opponents by

a 41-12 clip.

"We stayed relatively healthy, and we developed a lot of depth this season," he said. "We have a lot of seniors, as well as a great junior class. The juniors have been able to step in and relieve our seniors."

The Patriots, though, saw quarterback Connor Burchill (1,117 yards, 12 TD, 4 INT) go down in a semifinal win over O'Gorman. Should he be unable to go, backup Isiah Roach (271 yards, 2 TD) has completed better than 50 percent of his passes.

Caden Quintanilla (1,644 yards, 25 TD rushing) has grabbed attention on offense for Lincoln, but Beavers said that the running back isn't all the Patriots have on offense.

"The heart and soul of our offense is our offensive line. They put in the work and made a lot of good things happen," he said. "Then you get a special kid like Caden back there, and a lot of good

things can happen."

Roosevelt has their own "special" player on offense in quarterback Taryn Christian. The junior has thrown for 2,231 yards (22 TD) and rushed for 923 more (19 TD).

"He's gotten better in every way this year," Nelson said. "There aren't too many that can do what he's done. He's more than lived up to billing."

Christian has spread the workload with his 144 completions, with six players averaging better than a catch a game. Chase Vinatieri (481 yards, 4 TD) has a team-best 38 catches, while David Mulbah (29 catches) leads the Rough Riders in receiving yards (740) and touchdown catches (6). Tanner Hennings (27-477, 5 TD), running back Jake Bear (18-162, 2 TD), Ryan Benson (15-203, 3 TD) and running back Seth Bjordal (11-101, TD) have all been effective.

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Harvin Probable To Make Debut Against Vikings

RENTON, Wash. (AP) — Percy Harvin will likely make his long-awaited debut for the Seattle Seahawks this Sunday against the Minnesota Vikings.

Harvin is listed as probable to play after practicing all week with the team. He was limited during practice on Wednesday but fully participated on Thursday and Friday and will likely suit up for the first time in over a year against his former team.

"I definitely think I'm ready to play," Harvin said. "I've still got a lot of work to do, but I think I'm ready to start playing and getting packages in there and getting the ball more."

Harvin hasn't played since a Nov. 4, 2012, game against the Seahawks while he was with the Vikings. An ankle injury ended Harvin's season and a hip issue this offseason required surgery in August that has kept Harvin sidelined ever since.

The team is waiting to make sure Harvin doesn't have any negative effects from the week of practice but all indications are that he'll play this weekend.

"He made it through the week just right," coach Pete Carroll said. "He did everything that we asked of him. He was full speed on every opportunity. He looked great. We won't load him up with too much and hopefully he can contribute and help us win."

Harvin appeared in 54 games for the Vikings over the past four seasons before being traded to Seattle in March. He racked up 280 catches for 3,302 yards and 20 touchdowns as a receiver to go along with 683 yards and four touchdowns on the ground. Harvin's former teammates wish the injury would have kept him sidelined a little longer.

"I wish it was one more week that he was sitting out. But no, I'm excited to see him. I'm excited that he can get back to doing what he loves to do," running back Adrian Peterson said.

Carroll said Harvin was already pushing him to get him involved on kickoffs as well, but Carroll said that will likely have to wait a while longer.

Harvin even acknowledged it would be "crazy" to think he'd be able to do everything he's been able to do in the past right away.

"I haven't played a game in a year. I haven't had the amount of practices or training camps that a lot of people have got," Harvin said. "I have a lot of confidence in this coaching staff of getting me ready to play and I have all the confidence in the world in my ability and how I prepare."

Harvin was placed on the physically unable to perform list prior to the start of training camp and underwent surgery on Aug. 1 to repair a torn labrum in his hip. He returned to practice three weeks ago for a few days before having some fluid buildup in his hip that needed to be drained. A follow-up MRI showed no structural issues and Harvin was activated from the PUP list Monday.

Notes: Fourteen players are listed as probable for Seattle heading into Sunday's game against the Vikings. Carroll said C Max Unger and DE Red Bryant are cleared to play after missing last week's game against Atlanta due to concussions. ... T Russell Okung likely will be activated from the injured reserve list prior to Sunday's game. Carroll said Okung and T Breno Giacomini would be game-time decisions. Giacomini is probable to play. ... DT Tony McDaniels fully participated in practice Friday and is questionable with a hamstring strain suffered last week. ... CB Brandon Browner is out with a groin injury.

Canton Clips Trojans



BY JEREMY HOECK
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VERMILLION — In what was an evenly-played game the entire way, it was only fitting that Canton and Parkston played to a one-score difference.

The team that made the fewest mistakes ultimately came out on top.

Canton proved to be that beneficiary, scoring two touchdowns after halftime to edge the Trojans 20-14 in Friday afternoon's Class 11B championship game at the DakotaDome.

"The greatest thing you can do in sports is to win a championship," Canton head coach Rich Lundstrom said amidst the post-game celebration.

"To do it the way they did, beating some of the top teams in the state, it's a great accomplishment."

The way the C-Hawks (11-1) did it was by rushing for 194 yards, forcing three turnovers and holding off a late charge by Parkston.

Canton broke a 7-7 tie with a 2-yard touchdown run by Austin Schruers with 2:06 left in the third quarter. Following a short Parkston punt, the C-Hawks scored on a 1-yard run by Tanner Broughton with 6:08 remaining in the fourth quarter.

The Trojans (10-2) — actually the higher seed in the game — got withing 20-14 on a 3-yard touchdown run by Austin Bertram with 1:35 to play. Parkston's ensuing on-side kick was touched early, allowing Canton to run out the clock.

Thus kicked off a celebration for one side and disappointment for the other.

"I give all the credit in the world to our guys, they played their hearts out; fought to the very end," Parkston head coach Eric Norden said. "Canton's a great team and they got some big turnovers on us."

"They got some breaks and we couldn't get the breaks to work our way."

Chief among those breaks were three Parkston turnovers in the first half.

The Trojans scored the game's first touchdown on a 32-yard touchdown pass on a reserve from Josh Rands to Brady Reiff at the 6:26 mark of the first quarter. On its next two possessions, though, Parkston fumbled the ball, then threw an interception on its next series.



ABOVE: Canton's Kyler Kniffen, 33, is tripped up by Parkston's Wes Dvorak during the S.D. Class 11B football championship game on Friday at the DakotaDome. Kniffen kept his balance and fell into the endzone for the score.

LEFT: Parkston's Brady Reiff catches a pass from backup quarterback Josh Rands, 7, for a touchdown during the first quarter of the S.D. Class 11B football championship on Friday at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

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Ponder Feels Ready To Play Against Seahawks

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Minnesota Vikings quarterback Christian Ponder says he is ready to play against Seattle on Sunday.

Coach Leslie Frazier isn't quite ready to go that far just yet.

Frazier said he would wait until Saturday to see how Ponder's injured left shoulder feels before he decides on a starting quarterback against the Seahawks. But all signs point to Ponder, who was listed as probable on the team's final injury report of the week, getting his fourth

straight start.

"My expectation is that I'm feeling good and I'll be ready to go," Ponder said after practice on Friday. "But again, that's coach's call and I'm hoping it's me."

Frazier said he expected Ponder to start barring any setbacks with his shoulder.

Ponder dislocated his left shoulder in Minnesota's previous game against Washington while lunging toward the end zone on a scramble in the third quarter. The injury ended a promising game for the embattled quarterback.

He completed 17 of 21 passes for 174 yards with two touchdowns and an interception before he left with the injury. Matt Cassel finished the game to help the Vikings improve to 2-7. Josh Freeman is also on the roster and signed midseason in hopes of get-

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