Kenny Howell

Managing Editor

Mt. Juliet recorded their second shutout of the season Friday, with a 27-0 win over LaVergne.

The Bears were well below their average for the season, as they came in averaging 46 points a game. The Wolverines were the toughest opponent Mt. Juliet had faced this season, but the Bears still managed to dominate the game.

It didn't take long for Mt. Juliet to get on the board. After a 10-yard LaVergne punt set the Bears up at the Wolverines 29-yard line, four runs got Mt. Juliet in the end zone. Ben Cheatham's 17-yard run set the Bears up inside the 10-yard line. Two plays later, Caleb Hopkins scored from three yards out to put Mt. Juliet up 7-0.

Two drives later, the Bears went 54 yards in eight plays, all small runs. Kyle Mahler plunged in from three yards out to put the Bears up 14-0.

Late in the second quarter, LaVergne looked to be driving, but Chase Mang picked off a Wolverine pass and returned it to the LaVergne 48. Mt. Juliet's drive stalled at the 31-yard line, and Ryan Jenkins lined up and boomed a 48-yard field goal. A penalty wiped it off the board, and moved the ball back five yards. It didn't matter, as Jenkins blasted another, this time from 53 yards to put Mt. Juliet up 17-0.

Mt. Juliet had a rare turnover, and couldn't execute in the third quarter. However, the Bears finished strong in the fourth. After a Wolverine drive stalled, Mt. Juliet gashed LaVergne with runs of 13, 7, 17, 13 and 15, with the final being a Hopkins touchdown.

The Bears would get the ball back late in the fourth, and the reserves moved them down the field. Jenkins capped it off with a 25-yard field goal to get the final score of 27-0.

Beech and Jalen Hurd come to Mt. Juliet Friday. Hurd, who has interest from Alabama, Ohio State, Tennessee and many other schools, has 1,230 yards rushing and 17 touchdowns in the first four games of the season. Kickoff is 7 p.m.

Photo by Evan Butler, D1 Highlights