

Football: Clearwater Central Catholic 35, Admiral Farragut 23

By Bradley Richardson, Times Correspondent
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ST. PETERSBURG — Early on Admiral Farragut used the rushing power of junior Keondrae Miller, who rushed 110 yards and scored two touchdowns. But dynamic seniors Jervon Newton and C.J. Cotman helped CCC (7-1) break through the AFA defense to keep it close. The Marauders trailed 17-7 at halftime, but senior quarterback Jakob Parks connected passes with ease in the second half, leading CCC to pull ahead and win.

Stars of the game: Newton and Cotman came alive in the third quarter. Cotman scored three of the five Marauder touchdowns, two on big passing plays. He gained 190 rushing yards. Newton scored one touchdown in the third quarter and rushed for 111 yards.

Play of the game: During the fourth quarter on fourth down, a punt return fell into the hands of Cotman, who took it 75 yards for a score, evading all the Blue Jacket linesmen. That put the final points on the board. "When I got the ball I was thinking about going to the outside, but then I saw my boy George (Nistazos) make a good block, I decided to go up the middle," Cotman said. "I did like coach (Chris Harvey) always tells me: Get into the traffic because that's what going to bring you out and take you (to) the touchdown."

Key stat: The Blue Jackets (3-3) outgained the Marauders in the first half 162-114. But by the end CCC outrushed AFA 408-265.

Final word: "This game for us was a true wake-up call because the second half team was the team that many are used to seeing. I thought when we got beat by Tampa Catholic (25-21), that game might be a wake-up call. I think since we've had so much success and at times had a problem getting things started, we have a problem keeping the energy going. Ultimately, you got to wake up and take it and if you don't, someone else will." — Harvey