

Highlanders dominate Grizzlies, 48-20

By Jonathan Comeaux

In spite of the score line, Piedmont’s 48-20 demolition of San Lorenzo last Saturday was not looking great. The Highlanders trailed 6-0 at the end of the first quarter. Apparently, coach Jordan Seiden chose to have a traditional halftime pep talk with his players well before halftime.

The Highlanders went on to score 34 unanswered points before SLZ’s next touchdown which came near the end of the third quarter. PHS added 12 more points in the fourth.

The win keeps Piedmont in contention for the WACC’s Shoreline Division title after Alameda lost to Arroyo.

“It was a much-needed win, coming off a tough loss against Alameda. Seeing them lose to Arroyo gives us some life. We weren’t tackling well in the first quarter and weren’t blocking well. Once we got rolling and saw we could make some plays, we didn’t have any doubt,” said coach Seiden.

It was another big day for receiver Sam Shelby, who had 11 pass receptions for 158 yards and two receiving touchdowns. He also had 68 rushing yards on three carries – two for touchdowns. His 55-yard touchdown run on an end-around boosted Piedmont’s lead to 34-6 with 4:17 left in the third quarter.

“As a team, we played solid. We had a slow start but we started applying our offense as the game went on and ran things the way we needed to,” said Shelby.

Shelby has been a catalyst in Piedmont’s breakout varsity season. He emerged as the team’s top receiver as a sophomore. He shows an innate ability to create deception e on the field by faking runs to the interior, only to break to the edge for long runs. It’s been a move Shelby has executed to perfection in several games.

“It’s a credit to track. It’s really where I built up speed. I’m used on offense as a ‘sweep’ player, so I do my best to look for the outside,” said Shelby.

Piedmont was without starting defensive end and left tackle Jordan Alemania, but filling in was senior Ben Breber. Appearing in only his third varsity football game, he impressed coach Seiden with his impact as a blocker and edge rusher.

“Emmett Maxwell really encouraged me to come out and play. It’s my senior year so I thought I may as well play some



Sam Shelby scored four touchdowns against San Lorenzo. Staff Photos

football.” said Breber, a four-year tennis singles player.

Game Recap

Although Piedmont’s defense forced punts on San Lorenzo’s opening two possessions, the Highlanders committed turnovers and fumbles on their first two drives. The Grizzlies scored the game’s opening touchdown on a 51-yard broken play.

With 1:35 left in the first period, Piedmont nearly scored on a 67-yard touchdown carry by Shelby on an end-around. The play was called back due to an illegal formation (no, not the A-11).

Shelby then recorded three straight receptions before capping it off with a 25-yard reception into the end zone. Shelby kicked the extra point to make it 7-6 with 11:14 left in the second quarter.

Piedmont forced a fumble on SLZ’s next possession where Brandon Dicke recovered at Piedmont’s 15-yard-line with 7:25 to go. From there, Piedmont drove 85 yards for a touchdown, sparked by a 30-yard touchdown by Albert Bellinrath, who shrugged off a tackle after catching a screen pass, making it 14-6 with 3:11 left. San Lorenzo’s next pass was intercepted by Miguel Long and returned to the 25-yard line with 1:44 remaining.

PHS scored on four plays, including a seven-yard touchdown run by Shelby on another end-around with 36 seconds left for a 20-6 lead at halftime. Piedmont retained possession to start

the third, and scored on a nine-play, 67-yard drive that featured a 25-yard touchdown catch by Shelby for a 27-6 lead with 7:57 left.

Derek Schleuning forced a fumble on SLZ’s next drive, and the ball was recovered by recovered by Vince Arbit. On the next play, Shelby scored his 55-yard touchdown with 4:17 left in the third. Piedmont was rolling with a comfortable 34-6 lead.

San Lorenzo got one back on its next drive, 34-12 after three minutes.

Piedmont’s next score came from Cash Elmquist on a play-action pass for 23 yards in a 3rd-and-5 situation to boost its lead to 41-12. San Lorenzo scored with 4:46 left, 41-20, but Shelby responded with a 30-yard return to the Grizzlies’ 43, followed by a 20-yard run by quarterback Markos Lagios with 2:04 left.

Final stats: Lagios completed 16-20 passes for 247 yards and four touchdowns, to go along with 48 rushing yards and a score. Shelby recorded 11 receptions for 158 yards and two receiving touchdowns, to go along with 68 rushing yards on three attempts for two rushing scores. Bellinrath had three receptions for 51 yards and a touchdown. Tommy Ashton had 45 yards on nine carries.

NEXT UP

Piedmont (4-3 overall, 2-1 league) heads to Kennedy High in Fremont on Friday, October 20 for a 7:00 p.m. game.



Lineman Ben Breber made a big impact on offense and defense.



Albert Bellinrath walks in a touchdown against San Lorenzo.

Piedmont splits last two matches

Beats NCS rival Lick-Wilmerding 6-1; loses 5-2 to O’Dowd

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont’s tennis team split its last two matches, defeating Lick-Wilmerding at home 6-1 on Thursday, October 12m but losing a key match 6-2 to Bishop O’Dowd at Mills College on October 10.

“We split the singles with Tanya [Kononova] and Kate [Jumper] losing to very strong opponents in straight sets and Carolina [Romanczuk] and Arianna [Kortum] winning in straights,” explained coach Jim Landes. “Carolina and Arianna continued their strong play. Each

seems to be getting better and better as the season progresses. We were able to regain some momentum against Lick, and it feels like our doubles teams are starting to peak at the right time.”

The pair of matches brings Piedmont’s record to 7-6 overall and 3-1 against league opponents. PHS looks ahead to its second meeting with Alameda on October 20 and then will host Castro Valley on October 24.

6-1 over Lick-Wilmerding

Piedmont won three of four singles matches and all three
See Girls’ Tennis on page 30



Staff Photos

Tanya Kononova at No. 1 singles split her last two matches.



Carolina Romanczuk won her last two matches at No. 2 and No. 3 singles.



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