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Random Lake no match for relentless assault of CG-Belgium football team

The Cedar Grove-Belgium football team has had some tough, nail-biting games against Random Lake through the years.

Last Friday was not one of them.

Controlling the line of scrimmage from the start, host Cedar Grove-Belgium had little trouble rolling to a 47-0 win in Central Lakeshore Conference play.

Not only did the Rockets fire up a rushing attack that collected 357 yards and five touchdowns, their defense put the clamps on a foe that had won three of its first four games.

The Rams were limited to 142 yards in total offense, including just 45 rushing on 24 carries.

"We had a good week of practice and were well-prepared for a good Random Lake team," Rockets coach Chris Zablocki said.

"Their coach (Chris Bichler) is one of the toughest coaches I've faced. He always has his teams ready.

"But our kids just came out and took control. Our defense is really clicking and flowing to the ball well."

Besides stuffing the Rams at the line of scrimmage, Cedar Grove-Belgium made things tough

for them through the air. The Rockets intercepted three passes, including a fourth-quarter theft by Logan Peterson, who returned the ball 80 yards for a touchdown.

Random Lake had its hands full with the Rockets' running game, which was again sparked by tailback Alex Giles.

The senior rushed for a game-high 229 yards and four touchdowns on 19 carries, topping the 200-yard mark for the third straight week.

Giles found the end zone three times in the first half, including a 76-yard sprint that helped Cedar Grove-Belgium take a 21-0 lead in the first quarter.

Greg Wenzel added 54 yards on just five rushes, including a 3-yard scoring run.

"Our offense is just coming together every week," Zablocki said. "With a back like Alex and the emergence of Greg Wenzel, that's a really good combination."

Somewhat overshadowed by the battle in the trenches was Rockets quarterback Drew Emperley. The junior was a picture of efficiency, completing five of six passes for 88 yards, including a 30-yard touchdown strike to Peterson in the third quarter.

The win gave Cedar Grove-Belgium a 2-0 CLC record in defense of its league title. It was also the Rockets' third straight victory overall after they opened the season with two nonconference losses.

Zablocki expects his team to have its stiffest conference test to date this Friday, when it travels to Ozaukee for a 7 p.m. game.

The contest will pit two of the title favorites, with the winner taking over sole possession of first place.

"Ozaukee is 4-1 and has a lot of players back from last season," Zablocki said.

"They're well-coached and have raised the bar with their play the last few years. We expect a tough game."

Image Information: A QUICK LEAP carried Cedar Grove-Belgium's Logan Peterson through the line against Random Lake. Peterson scored two touchdowns in the Central Lakeshore Conference game, one on a 30-yard pass play and another on an 80-yard interception return.
Photo by Sam Arendt