

Benzie 32 Mesick 20

#### 1st Q

Within the first 10 seconds Benzie was in a hole with a kick off returned for a touch down. Then Benzie took a 47 yard kick off return and was only able to advance 7 yards before punting. The Benzie defense dug in and forced Mesick to punt with 7:50 remaining in the first quarter. Shane Roelofs took the punt 26 yards to the Mesick 49 yard line where the offense took control. Benzie used an impressive combination of seven players rushing and catching the ball while eating up 4 minutes of clock to score with 3:31 to go. The two point conversion failed. As Mesick took over with the Benzie kick off, two plays into their drive the Bulldogs fumbled which was picked up by Roelofs and he raced in 55 yards for another touch down. The two point conversion again failed the Huskies were now up 12-7. Toward the end of the 1st quarter the Bulldogs were able to put together a drive scoring a touch down but missed the extra point ending the quarter 12-13 in favor of Mesick.

#### 2nd Q

Benzie made another offensive drive with 4:44 left in the half with some hard rushing by Wixson, Roelofs and Nick Long. Each running back made contributions of 7 yards or more per carry in this drive. Nick Long found pay dirt over the left side running behind Jacob Cox and Zach Fallowfield. This time the offense held together and completed the two point conversion Stapleton hooking up with tight end Nate MacGirr. Benzie closed out the first half with a 20-13 lead, the first in a long time.

#### 3rd Q

Benzie received the opening kick off and went to work. They moved the ball 24 yards but amassed 20 yards in penalties thereby punting the ball away. Their next possession at 7:00 left on the clock was short lived as they basically went two and out with a fumbled snap on their third attempt. Following a Mesick score the Benzie kick off team and Shane Roelofs returned the football 64 yards before being pushed out of bounds. Wixson brought the Huskies to the 7 yard line on three rushes setting up a 4 yard TD by the young man who got things started Roelofs. The Two point was intercepted. The third quarter ended Benzie 26 Mesick 20.

#### 4th Q

At the 10:31 mark Benzie utilized Roelofs, Long Stapleton and Tanner to move the chains on the ground while eating up almost 4 minutes of clock. Long bust in the end zone from 10 yards out making the score 32-20. Benzie was given one more attempt to score late in the 4th but penalties forced the Huskies to turn the ball over on downs. Mesick scrambled to put points on the board but resulted in giving the ball back on downs. Benzie took a knee to end the game 32-20.

#### Defensively

There were great things happening on defense throughout the night. Roelofs contributed to the defense with 8 tackles and a scoring fumble recovery. Ryan Wixson had another stellar night with 15 tackles. Stapleton had 6 tackles and caused a fumble as well. Jake Fekete had 6 tackles and blocked an extra point. Parker Nugent also had a couple of tackles and was recorded with a fumble also. However, the most impressive effort came from Maurice Nash. He amassed 13 tackles, had a solo sack caused a fumble and returned an interception that led to a touch down.

#### Comments

Following four weeks of giving our opponents easy gifts in the form of touch downs and creating huge mental errors I'm very proud and happy for our guys that they came away with a win. As a staff we never doubted our guys but one important key to winning is to minimize or eliminate mistakes and we finally were able to do that. Offensively we only accumulated a total of 172

yards both in passing and rushing. However with kick off returns, punt returns and fumbles that were picked up we gained 270 plus yards and 1 touch down. So finally it was our turn to come away with some big breaks going for us. Shane was in on some huge plays for us tonight and we appreciate his efforts. Another big impact player for us was Maurice Nash. I've believed that this young man was due for a big game sometime this year and fortunately it was tonight. He was everywhere on defense. Sacks, interceptions he was just everywhere. What was special to me was that every one, I mean every player on our team came together and made a contribution to this win. It's been hard the last few weeks coming up short on wins and that plays hard on these young guys. We told them this week when you come together as one team and play unselfishly good things will happen. Every one got time on the field and that's always important.