

September 15, 2017

## **WHAT...A...GAME, Fairhope holds out Theodore in a 17-14 win!**

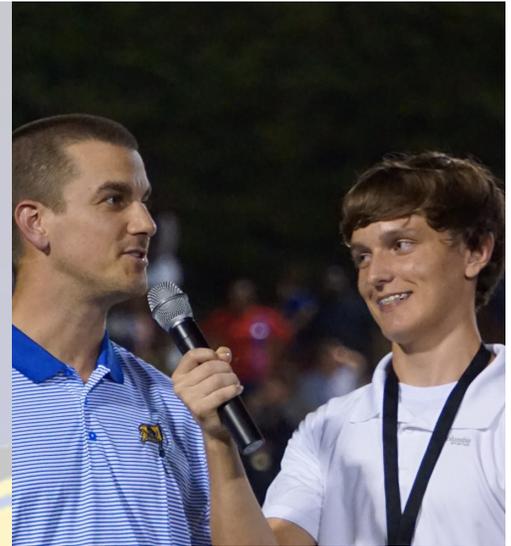
*This game had to be the most heart-pounding, the most stressful game I have ever watched on that sideline. The varsity pirates scored 2 touchdowns, one on Defense and one on Special Teams, while the offense came up with a Field Goal for the 17-14 win!*

The offense, although impressive through the first 3 games, struggled to finish drives against a very talented Theodore defense. The rushing appeared great in the first half but the Bobcat's defense held out the Pirate's offense and Fairhope would eventually have to punt on most drives. The good news is, that the coaches can potentially make any adjustments needed this week getting ready for Daphne.

The Pirate's defense and special teams were absolutely OUTSTANDING. They came up with turnovers and points that were needed to win the game. In the first defensive drive of the game, Wes Baumhower came up with an amazing pick six to gain the lead and the only points for the entire first half. The Special teams in the 4th quarter blocked a punt where the ball went into the end zone and was recovered by the Pirates to make the score 17-7 and this created some momentum for the defense. Later, just 6 seconds off of the clock, the defense came up with yet ANOTHER interception that looked like would end the game.

In a later drive, Fairhope's offense gave up a fumble that the defense recovered and returned for a touchdown to make the score 17-14. The offense was given the ball back but eventually tried to kick a field goal that was blocked by the Theodore defense. So, there it was the most heart-racing, most fearful drive I've ever gone through. Theodore had the ball on their own 10 yard line with about 2:10 left on the clock. The Bobcats made the right plays to get down the field throughout the drive eventually coming around the Fairhope 10 yard line. However, they were sacked and had to spike the ball to get 0.4 seconds left on the clock around the 15 yard line. After initially lining up for a tying field goal, they decided to go for the win after coming out of a timeout. I held my breath as the quarterback got the snap; there was a man that was nearly open in the end zone. The quarterback let it fly. It felt like the ball was in the air for an eternity, but the receiver was being guarded by Fairhope's great defense, and he dropped the pass. Fairhope won the very, very close game.

Overall throughout the process, Fairhope played exceptionally solid defense and were able to come through in the clutch through great coaching from Carter and his staff.



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***Tune in next week to piratenation.live @7 as it looks to be a great game when Fairhope goes on the road to take on the Daphne Trojans. GO PIRATES!!!!***