

Gators Slosh Past Channelview

By JOE LEENEY

CHANNELVIEW — Last week's Dickinson-Channelview football game had a little bit of everything — pouring rain, gusty winds, 40 degree temperatures, punts on second and third downs, numerous fumbles and bad snaps from center on punts, a punt that traveled backward one yard, a touchdown via a fumble in the end zone, a scoreboard clock that ran continuously from the middle of the 3rd quarter to the end of the game despite scoring plays and other time-outs, and of course, a final score of Dickinson 47, Channelview 0.

In a word, the playing conditions were "miserable." The Gators "warmed up" on the field prior to the contest, while the Falcons ran pass patterns and such things in the gym.

Channelview should have stayed there, in the gym that is; but they weren't having much success there either as the Falcon receivers couldn't even hold a dry football, much less a wet one on the field about 45 minutes later.

The Falcons ended the evening with only 4 first downs, minus 31 yards rushing, and only 28 yards passing for a total offense of minus 3 yards. Credit Gator defensemen Edward Shavers, Randy Battistoni, Mark Lussier, Robert Gerasimowicz, and Allen Welch with making some key tackles.

Meanwhile, the Dickinson offense rolled up 184 yards on 36 rushing plays and 94 yards on 5 of 10 passes. Bobby Pawlik led the ground gainers with 105 yards on 10 carries. Carl Woods was next with 32 yards on 6 trips, while Joey Altemore had 31 yards on 6 carries, and Shavers romped for 29 yards via only two runs.

The scoring was fairly evenly divided as Lewis Little, Al Moffett, Altemore, Mike Mills, Shavers, Pawlik, and Chuck Bulot tallied touchdowns, while Altemore and Woods ran over extra points and Leonard Barajaz booted one PAT.

Woods took the opening kick-off on his own 17 and returned it 19 yards to the Dickinson 36. Nine plays later the Gators had the ball on the Falcon 13 as Woods sparked the drive with 26 yards on 5 car-

ries and Altemore had a 17-yard gainer. A fumble at the 13 killed the action.

The Falcons ran 3 plays and gained 4 yards. Their first punt of the evening was a 19-yard job to the Channelview 36.

Young and Little wasted little time at that point. From his split end spot, Little sloshed straight downfield, made a move to the inside that faked his defender into a muddy fall, and caught Young's aerial for a 36-yard TD. Barajaz booted the PAT with 6:30 showing. Gators 7, Falcons 0.

After the kick-off, the Falcons lost 3 yards on 3 plays and punted to their own 45, a 28-yard effort. After Young fell on the slippery pig-skin on the first play, he fired a 32-yarder to Altemore to the Channelview 14. Woods gained 6, but another fumble stopped things at the 8.

Early in the second quarter, defensive end Mills charged through to recover a fumble of a snap from center in a punting situation on the Channelview 17.

Pawlik gained 12 on two carries, and Altemore added one more to the four. Young ziped a jump pass to tight end Al Moffett over the middle for the second touchdown of the night with 10:20 left in the half. Barajaz' kick was off to the left. Gators 13, Falcons 0.

Following a number of second and third down punts, the Gators had the ball late in the first half when Tommy Godard, Shavers, and Battistoni nailed the Falcon quarterback for a 15 yard loss on the Gator 33.

Pawlik picked up 16 to the Gator 49. Young scrambled for 21 and a penalty tacked on 15 more to the Falcon 15. Young threw incomplete, but hit Woods for 11 yards and a first down on the 4. Pawlik gained 3 to the one and wisely called "time-out" with 0:03 to go. Altemore went the final distance and the Gators led at the half, 19-0.

Altemore returned the second-half kick-off 20 yards to the Gator 46. Two plays later Bobby Thompson got off the best punt of the night, a 50-yarder, to the Falcon 9 as the Gators had been penalized back to their 41.

Three plays netted 6 yards

for Channelview. Mills once again came through on defense, this time to recover the fumbled 4th down snap from center in the end zone for a six-pointer with 9:48 in the third period. Gators 25, Falcons 0.

Punting a few minutes later on third down, the Falcons booted one for 22 yards to the Dickinson 47. Young lost 16 on the first play, but Pawlik got back 15 of it and then Shavers bulled his way for 15 more to the Falcon 44.

A 30-yard scamper by Pawlik put the ball on the 14, and Shavers rambled the final 14 around right end for the score with 5:32 showing. Woods ran over the PAT. Gators 33, Falcons 0.

Three plays netted minus 15 yards for the Falcons a partially blocked punt went from the Falcon 10 back to the Falcon 9.

Young lost 15 on the initial play again, but once again Pawlik came through with a fine effort, this time finally making it to the end zone from the 24 yard stripe with 2:01 left. Gators 39, Falcons 0.

Just to show that the clock was running, the Falcons returned the kick-off and the quarter ended.

Only 18 plays were run in the fourth quarter as the clock never stopped. The officials had conferred with the coaches about the action in order to end the "game" as soon as possible. Gator coach Bill Ford commented after the game, "It would've been fine with me if they would have stopped it (the game) at the half."

But the contest wasn't and both sides had reserves in the affair in the final quarter.

Following a 15 yard punt and with Thompson at quarterback, Bulot and Altemore at running backs, and Bobby Sam Palermo at wingback, the Gators had the ball on the Falcon 19. A Thompson to Bulot pass gained 11 to the Falcons 8; Thompson ran for one, and a couple of plays later Bulot carried over from the one with 0:19 left. Altemore ran over the extra points as the clock ran out.

The Gators now have a 3-1 District 12-AAA mark and a 4-4 season record by winning their last 3 outings in a row.