

Hill nets 5 TDs as No.1 Tigers pound J-Hawks

Written by Nick Petaros, Waterloo Courier

Saturday, 17 September 2011 00:27 - Last Updated Saturday, 17 September 2011 16:09

CEDAR FALLS - Cedar Falls tailback Barkley Hill continued to shine under the lights of the UNI-Dome in Friday night's 42-6 thrashing of Cedar Rapids Jefferson.

The Tigers led, 42-0, at halftime.

Oftentimes serving as Hill's personal escort, senior fullback Ben Challengren wouldn't have it any other way.

Hill finished with 219 yards rushing on just 12 carries, recording five touchdowns and 204 yards on his first 10 touches.

"He definitely deserves all the credit he gets," Challengren said of Hill, whom he helped lead into the end zone on outside toss plays for three of Cedar Falls' first five touchdowns. "He's a real athlete.

"It's a lot of fun blocking for him. You're hitting the first guy, but then you're seeing Barkley run by you for a touchdown.

"Whenever he gets the ball, he's a threat," Challengren said. "They've got to put a lot of people in the box and we're physical up front so it should be a fun year."

In addition to Challengren, motion wide receiver Brennan Block consistently pinned defenders down on the edge. In addition, Coach Pat Mitchell noticed sophomore left guard Gabe Clark had a "heck of a night."

While Class 4A's No.1-rated Cedar Falls improved to 4-0 against an 0-4 Jefferson team that has lost 17 consecutive games, the Tigers were challenged early. J-Hawks running back Kyle Mann answered Hill's opening salvo by breaking numerous tackles and scampering 69 yards

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on his first three carries.

But with the ball at Cedar Falls' 13, Challengren stepped up from his linebacker position and stopped Mann for a two-yard loss. The Jefferson back was injured on the play and did not return. The J-Hawks settled for a 30-yard field goal attempt that missed wide right and were held without a first down for the remainder of the half.

"It's mainly just going back to your responsibility, making sure we had them contained," Cedar Falls co-head coach Brad Remmert said. "They were faking one way and countering back the other and we were getting pinned inside a little bit. We talked to the kids about just widening a little bit and that got it shut down."

Defense was a major point of emphasis this week after Cedar Rapids Prairie threw for 361 yards and scored a season-high 28 points against Cedar Falls in Week 3.

"I think we made progress on the field and that's what we needed to do," Remmert said. "We needed to keep going in the right direction. I think the kids took it upon themselves and did a good job this week."

Jefferson's lone score came when Drake Allen's 9-yard run highlighted a continuous clock drive of 68 yards that last lasted nearly the entire third quarter. Cedar Falls' defense recovered two fumbles and also recorded an interception in the victory.

All 42 of Cedar Falls' points came in the opening half. In addition to Hill's touchdowns, the Tigers recorded two second-quarter safeties on tackles by Challengren and Riley Gardner. Jacob Fagersten kicked a 36-yard field goal to complement his 5-for-5 effort on extra points.

Special teams were an area of improvement for Cedar Falls. James Harrington helped set up a touchdown by following a free kick with a 32-yard return and Hill showed his strength as a punter with a high-arching 45-yard spiral to the J-Hawk 5-yard line late in the fourth quarter.

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"Last week we had the gun put to our head and we really responded well," Mitchell said. "I think from a lot of standpoints we grew as a team.

"This week, we had no major special teams errors and so far this year we've had a blip here and a blip there, so that part got better."

CEDAR FALLS 42, JEFFERSON 6

Jefferson	0	0	6	0 - 6
Cedar Falls	21	21	0	0 - 42

CF - Barkley Hill 15 run (Jacob Fagersten kick)

CF - Hill 37 run (Fagersten kick)

CF - Hill 12 run (Fagersten kick)

CF - Hill 46 run (Fagersten kick)

CF - Safety

CF - Fagersten 36 field goal

CF - Safety

CRJ - Drake Allen 9 run (pass failed)

TEAM STATISTICS

CRJ	CF
First downs	6 10
Rushes-yards	26-66 28-284
Passing yards	76 34
Comp-Att-Int	7-14-1 5-8-0
Return yards	5 34
Fumbles-lost	2-2 3-2
Penalties-yards	3-30 2-10
Punts-avg.	2-25.5 2-38.5

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing

JEFFERSON - Kyle Mann 4-58, Drake Allen 11-26, Alex Baxter 7-1, Andrew Patience 1-minus 20, Layne Sullivan 2-minus 1, Patrick Kopecky 1-2. CEDAR FALLS - Barkley Hill 12-219, James Harrington 4-38, Nick Clark 4-18, Jake Gallu 1-minus 5, Ben Challengren 1-2, Brennan Block 1-2, Parker Smith, 1-3, Jacob Seehase 3-9, Grant Grainger 1-minus 2.

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Passing

JEFFERSON - Baxter 6-10-1, 66 yards; Sullivan 1-4-0, 10 yards CEDAR FALLS - Ike Boettger 5-7-0, 34 yards; Grainger 0-1-0, 0 yards.

Receiving

JEFFERSON - Christian Knox 2-37, Austin Short 3-15, Hunter Kloubec 1-14, Baxter 1-10.
CEDAR FALLS - Harrington 2-13, Gallu 3-21