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Sports

Wolves exorcise Demons

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On an unseasonably cool night, the gridiron Wolves chilled the undermanned Maine East Demons 46-7 last Friday at Basrak Field.

The game was never a serious competition. After an opening series that saw the Demons go three and out, the Wolves' junior running back Rashard Mendenhall found daylight on the third play from scrimmage and scored a 57-yard touchdown to put the Wolves up 6-0.

After the ensuing Demon drive stalled on a failed fourth down attempt at the West 39 yard line, the Wolves took the ball and the game over. After a big run by senior Blerim Delisi put the Wolves at the Maine East 20, Rashard again found the end zone when he flew through a big hole opened up by the Niles West offensive line.

The men who battled in the

trenches were praised by Coach Mark Egofske. "I told the line to step it up during the week," he said. "[Senior Steve] Coorlas and [junior Tom] Maddex played solid football."

With the Wolves ahead 13-0, an interception by senior Damien Kulikowski set up a 38-yard touchdown run by—you guessed it—Rashard Mendenhall.

The Demons gained access into the Niles West red zone for the first time all night early in the second quarter, but their attempt to score was thwarted by the Wolves' strong defensive stand.

Not to be outdone, Rashard's older brother, senior Walter Mendenhall broke a 70-yard run all the way to the end zone and a 26-0 lead at the six minute mark of the second quarter.

A little more than a minute later, senior quarterback Mike Pantazis passed to Rashard for a 54-yard touchdown connection to build the insurmountable lead to 33-0.

Although the Demons finally broke through for a touchdown with two minutes left in the first half, the Wolves regained their 30+ point lead 93 seconds later on yet another Rashard Mendenhall touchdown run, this time from 15 yards out, to make the halftime score 40-6 in favor of the Wolves.

After a one yard touchdown run by Delisi gave the Wolves a 47-6 lead with 9:07 left in the 3rd quarter, the scoring stopped and the tempers flared as the frustrated Demons committed several personal fouls in the fourth quarter. Despite the antagonism, the Wolves did a good job of maintaining their composure as Egofske made sure his team kept its cool by pulling players who retaliated.

This Thursday, the 3-1 Wolves play host to the undefeated Evanston Wildkits at 7:30 p.m. in a game that ultimately may decide the CSL South championship.