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STARS AND STRIPES

Sunday, October 20, 2002

Division III: Brussels, Ansbach nab division titles

Stars and Stripes

European edition, Sunday, October 20, 2002

There will be no tie-breakers to see who plays whom in the European Division III playoffs. Conference championship-clinching victories on Saturday saw to that, as Brussels turned back visiting London Central 14-13 and Ansbach hammered Hohenfels 30-0.

Brussels 14, London Central 13

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The Brigands mounted a fierce defensive effort to remain unbeaten and claim the III-North title.

“It was really physical,” said Brussels coach Joe Fiedler, whose team improved to 6-0 overall, 4-0 in III-North. Brussels will travel to Ansbach on Saturday for a European Division III semifinal game against the unbeaten Cougars.

Travis Keeton got Brussels started when he stripped London Central quarterback Michael Clark of the ball and fell on it in the end zone. Andrew Isbell tacked on a two-point conversion run that would loom large later.

Daniel Coleman’s 55-yard TD run cut London Central’s deficit to 8-7 before Brussels kicker **Marc Silos** hit field goals of 17 and 22 yards. Brussels then turned the game over to the defense, which got 14 tackles from Isbell and 11 from Keeton, and had four fumble recoveries and two sacks.

London Central (3-3, 3-1) cut the deficit to 1 with a one-yard plunge by backup quarterback Jeremy Tibbets late in the third quarter. But it missed the extra point and was unable to score again.

Ansbach 30, Hohenfels 0

ANSBACH, Germany — The Cougars claimed the III-South title by containing Hohenfels threat Josh Rivera and springing running back Brandon Hollingsworth for 165 yards and two touchdowns.

Hollingsworth hit pay dirt on runs of four and 36 yards for Ansbach (6-0, 4-0). The Cougars also scored on a run by quarterback Shawn Bachtel behind the lead blocking of Mike Ewing, a 37-yard run by TreVarris Leaks, and a 33-yard interception return by Russell Bailey.

Matt Zimmerman led the Ansbach defense with 10 tackles.

Rivera, Robert Bouknight and Perry Helton were the defensive standouts for Hohenfels, which ends its season 4-2 overall and 2-2 in III-South.

Baumholder 33, Bamberg 14

BAMBERG, Germany — Senior quarterback Matt Calabria ran for a touchdown and threw scoring passes to Orlando Square and Desmond Isadore as the Bucs (5-1, 3-1) claimed the European Division III wildcard berth and a trip to Aviano.

Isadore and Johnny Russell added touchdown runs of 10 and three yards, respectively, for Baumholder, which rushed for 190 yards and passed for 53 more.

Darryl Wiley ran for a one-yard TD and Jose Urbaez had a 35-yard TD run for Bamberg, which ends its season at 3-3 overall and 1-3 in league play. Bamberg rushed for 240 yards.

Rota 34, Alconbury 6

RAF ALCONBURY, England — At full strength again after some suspended players were reinstated last week, the Admirals hammered the Dragon behind three Antwan Edmonds touchdowns.

Rota, which did not play last season because of security reasons in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks, won for the first time this season on the field. The Admirals (3-3, 2-2 III-North) received a pair of forfeits from Menwith Hill.

Alconbury (1-5, 1-3) scored on a 22-yard TD pass from David Schiller to Brian Blaska.

Sigonella 14, Vicenza 10

NAS SINGONELLA, Italy — Shawn Crawford, nursing a sore ankle, scored on an 18-yard sweep, and quarterback Anthony Turner connected on a 78-yard scoring play with Paul Nicholson as the Jaguars closed out their season 2-4 overall and 2-2 in III-Italy.

Vicenza (1-5, 1-3) took a 3-0 halftime lead on Sean Penhallegon's 20-yard field goal, but a bad punt put Sigonella on the Vicenza 35 and set up Crawford's third-quarter TD run. Crawford finished the game with 65 yards on 18 carries.

Sigonella returned the favor in the fourth quarter, when Vicenza recoverd a fumble on the Jaguars 23, and quarterback Matt Holyfield cashed in with a 12-yard pass for Andrew Mayville.

But the Jaguars mounted a game-ending drive from their own 16 to run out the clock.

Senior fullback Matt Hoey led the Wildcats with 175 yards on 31 carries. But the Sigonella defense, which got 16 tackles and two sacks from Chris Nalley, kept the hard-nosed Hoey out of the end zone.

David Donnigan had a pair of sacks and stole the ball from the Vicenza quarterback for the Jaguars.

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