

Bingham has the answer

Gearig, Nichols lead the way for Miners in important road win

By Bruce Smith
Matchup

As highly touted as the Bingham Miners are this year, they still are capable of making mistakes.

The Miners, however, proved they could endure.

Junior quarterback Kyle Gearig shook off a rough start as Bingham rallied from an early deficit to beat upset-minded Herriman 37-24 Friday night in a non-region game in front a stadium full of Herriman fans.

"This team played extremely hard the whole game," said Bingham coach Dave Peck. "In early season games, you're going to make mistakes. For us to be a region and state title contender, we've got to clean it up. That's what preseason is all about."

Gearig benefitted from a strong running game, led by senior Scott Nichols, who rushed for 119 yards on 19 carries, and himself. After an early 3-0 deficit, the Miners rallied and quickly kept a two-score deficit between themselves and Herriman, which is still made up of many players who might have played for Bingham until a couple of years ago.

The game remained in doubt until Gearig engineered an 11-play, 65-yard scoring drive



Sky Manu grabs an interception as teammate Chase Messervy comes up from behind.

late in the fourth quarter.

What kept Herriman close was that the Miners (2-0) committed three turnovers and 10 penalties. Despite the mistakes, Bingham never relinquished the lead. In fact, Bingham seemed to have an answer every time Herriman rallied.

"When it looked like we were right on the verge of taking over, something would happen," Peck said. "But we responded every time they came close. That's the senior leadership on this team."

Both teams combining

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LEFT: Landon Measom runs downfield.

TOP RIGHT: Nate Nay-lor and Austin Bunkall block for Scott Nichols.

LOWER RIGHT: Kade Jensen joins the rest of the team in performing The Haka dance before the game.

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for five turnovers in the first half and most led to quick scores. Bingham scored twice on one-play drives of 9 and 12 yards, while Herriman had a two-play, 3-yard scoring drive.

The Mustangs (1-1) came within 30-24 on Brandon Jensen's 3-yard run with just more than five minutes remaining in the game. However Gearig responded with Bingham's final scoring drive to seal the win.

Gearig, who rushed for 73 yards in the second half, scored on a 2-yard run and connected with Landen Measom on a pair of touchdown tosses.

"We love what we're seeing in him, and we love his leadership," Peck said about Gearig, who only has one year of experience at quarterback. "He lacks experience, but this guy's going to end up being an all-state quarterback."

Though he threw two interceptions, Gearig became more of a running threat in the second half and started getting into a rhythm.

"It took a lot of mental focus to power through the mistakes we made," Gearig said. "We have to be willing to correct the mistakes we make. After we got up by two possessions, we put the game away. We knew it was going to be close."

GAME SUMMARY

Bingham	14	6	10	7 - 37
Herriman	3	7	7	7 - 24

H – FG Colt Andolsek 35
 B – Scott Nichols 17 run (Chayden Johnston kick)
 B – Landen Measom 13 pass from Kyle Gearig (Johnston kick)
 H – Conner Johnson 7 pass from Kyle Strauss (Andolsek kick)
 B – Scott Nichols 9 run (Johnston kick)
 B – Gearig 2 run (Johnston kick)
 H – Brandon Farmer 5 run (Andolsek kick)
 B – FG Johnston 35
 H – Brandon Jensen 2 run (Andolsek kick)
 B – Measom 6 pass from Gearig (Johnston kick)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING: Bing - Nichols 19-119, Gearig 10-77, Aaron Marsh 5-36, Nate Naylor 3-8. Herr – Farmer 17-85, Jensen 9-27, Beau Bequette 1-0, Taylor Whiting 1-(-3), Kyle Strauss 5-(-8).

PASSING: Bing – Gearig 6-13-2-60 yards. Herr – Strauss 14-29-2-178 yards.

RUSHING: Bing – Dalton Schultz 2-35, Measom 4-25. Herr – Johnson 7-76, Jordan Marrott 3-40, Mitchell Martinez 2-29, Farmer 1-26, Bequette 1-7.