

Mavs end season on a high note

Determined seniors help Mountain View dominate Vallivue

By Bruce Smith
Matchup

It was a determined Mountain View team that took the field at Vallivue Friday night.

Playing their final game of the season, and knowing their recent improvement had made them one of the state's best teams, the Mavericks took it out on the Falcons and won handily, 53-20, in a 5A SIC game.

"Coming in, I had an uneasy feeling about this game," said coach Judd Benedick. "I think all the kids did."

The Mavs only chance to make the 5A playoffs was if Eagle had lost to Timberline, and Mountain View won. That hope ended the night before when the Mustangs nailed a field goal in the final seconds. There were many Mavs in the crowd at Eagle's stadium and there was a question about how excited they would be to play.

"We were devastated," said senior Collin Sale. "We knew Vallivue was going to be our last game. I wanted to play it like any other game. Go out and have fun."

Mountain View dominated, even though the Mavericks didn't have the ball much. Instead, they quickly made due.

Kai Turner completed



Dallon Marshall pressures Vallivue quarterback Anthony Castillo.

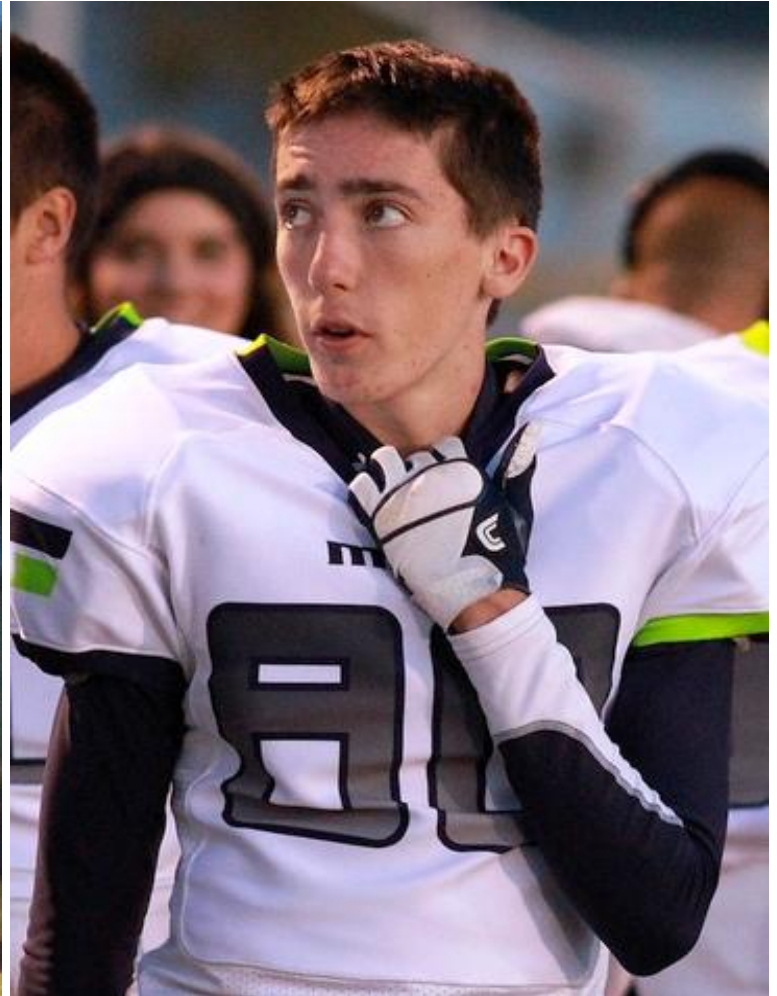
just nine passes, but they went for 214 yards and four touchdowns. The Mavs also rushed for 213 yards and averaged over eight yards per carry.

"We grabbed a good lead and everyone got into the game," said Benedick. "For me, that was one of the highlights. It was a fun night."



Connor Armstrong makes a catch.

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LEFT: Kenny Webster and Josh Buss celebrate after one of Buss's three touchdowns.

RIGHT: Brendan Elwood watches the action from the sidelines.

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Mountain View's offense was never stopped. The Mavs led 19-6 after the first quarter, bumped the margin to 33-14 at halftime and then put it away shortly thereafter. Josh Buss was the rushing leader with 67 yards and scored three times, including a 50-yard pass from Turner. Connor Armstrong had five receptions.

Lane Chadwick anchored the defense with 15 tackles and Asher Wilson had 13. Hunter Birrer had an interception for the Mavs and Chadwick, Beau White and Buddy Bevins recovered fumbles.

"It really was a good effort by everybody," said Benedick. "It was a great way to end the season, all things considered."

Vallivue won just one game all season, but it came the week before, 44-39 vs. Meridian. The Falcons ran 77 plays and dominated time of possession, but couldn't break the big play. Their longest running play was 13 yards.

"They had a running back (Kato Johnson), who used to play here," said senior John Munger. "We were excited to play him. They got some yards, but we played pretty well."

GAME SUMMARY

Mountain View	19	14	14	6	-	53
Vallivue	6	8	6	0	-	20

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING: MV – Buss 8-67, Turner 6-59, Chance Smith 7-39, Kenny Webster 2-44, Collin Sale 1-9, Garrett Collingham 1-(-15). Vallivue – Kato Johnson 22-85, Davis 23-74, Gamble 3-25, Castillo 8-14, Graff 3-13, Zeng 9-6.

PASSING: MV – Turner 9-13-0-214 yards. Vallivue – Castillo 3-7-1-49 yards, Davis 1-2-0-25 yards.

RECEIVING: MV – Armstrong 5-76, Buss 1-50, Webster 1-39, Sale 1-25, Pack 1-24. Vallivue – Bobbitt 3-49, Graff 1-25.