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Photo by Tracy Dreslinski
 Roseville High junior David Middleton makes a diving tackle on Fraser High senior receiver Chris McCall Sept. 12 at Fraser High.

Holding on

Fraser High outlasts Roseville High in gridiron thriller

By Brad D. Bates
 C & G Sports Writer



FRASER — The Fraser High and Roseville High football teams found out what a difference two minutes can make.

The Ramblers built a 19-0 lead entering the fourth quarter of their Sept. 12 game, but in less than two minutes, the Panthers rattled off 13 points.

Roseville senior running back Derrick Johnson scored a 1-yard touchdown run at 10:14 in the fourth, and senior quarterback Brett Makowski connected with senior receiver Kwan Thomas for an 18-yard score at 8:25.

Roseville’s comeback bid extended after the initial scoring frenzy, as junior linebacker Chris Nash recovered a Fraser fumble at the Ramblers’ 14 with 1:15 to play.

With the Panthers knocking on the door at the Fraser 7-yard line, senior defensive back Eric Szczesny broke up the final pass attempt of the game with 41 seconds on the clock to win 19-13.

The Ramblers improved to 1-2 overall, 1-0 in the Macomb Area Conference Blue Division.

“They really like to compete,” Roseville coach Melvin Richendollar said of his players. “(The fourth-quarter effort) tells me they’re in shape, and they have a lot of fight and pride.”

The Ramblers built their lead with two field goals from senior kicker Randy Mathy and two long rushing touchdowns. Senior receiver Chris McCall opened the third quarter with a 54-yard touchdown run, and senior running back Anthony Allen added a 20-yard run to pay dirt at the end of the third.

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“That’s awesome,” said Fraser senior offensive tackle Jon Czerwienski of the touchdown runs. “That’s the reward for our dirty work. When you see them going down the field, you don’t feel any pain.”

Fraser High hosts Romeo High (3-0) at 7 p.m. Sept. 19. The Bulldogs snapped Macomb Dakota’s 24-game unbeaten steak with a 35-7 MAC Red win at home Sept. 12. Roseville (0-3 overall, 0-1 in the Blue) hosts the MAC Red’s Utica Ford II (1-2) at 7 p.m. Sept. 12.

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