

## Bulldogs survive another one

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Sir Winston Churchill's road to a repeat of its Varsity 1 football title leads directly through the trainer's room.

The now 3-0 Bulldogs entered Friday's match at Holy Cross (1-2) with star running back Gary Spero dressed, but on the sidelines nursing a shoulder injury.

Kicker/running back Jon Demetriades was back from an ankle injury and carried the ball nine times for 56 yards before leaving in the first half with another ankle injury. Spero filled in as kicker and made a perfect lob wedge shot on Churchill's second touchdown.

Things took another turn for the worse when fullback/linebacker Ryan Saunders went down with a knee injury late in the game. He walked off under his own power, but wasn't on the field as the game ended with the Bulldogs celebrating a 21-3 victory.

Saunders was the best player on the field before the injury, rushing for two touchdowns, notching two sacks and recording plenty of tackles. Any injury to the 17-year-old would be a big blow to the Bulldogs.

"When he goes down, you get your heart in your throat and you wonder what's going to happen," Bulldogs head coach Peter Perron said. "But he's walking, which is a good sign."

After the game, the 6-foot-1, 210-pounder was optimistic the injury wasn't too serious.

"I think it's OK," he said. "At least we hope so."

Saunders admitted the team is worried about the injuries in its backfield.

"It's definitely a concern, but we're a deep team this year with people that can play a lot of positions," he said.

That being said, Saunders' and Demetriades' replacements were held to 25 yards on 11 carries against the Raiders. Saunders' play was particularly effective on the defensive side of the ball.

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"He's an excellent player," Raiders head coach Jim Craig said. "He must have been in on 90 per cent of their tackles."

Playing for Churchill and the Niagara Spears, the Grade 12 student has caught the eye of several Canadian universities.

"I'm going to go to different universities, check out their campuses, see what I like and talk to people who go there," Saunders said. "I may even come back for another year of high school."

Holy Cross played the defending champions tough, but Craig wasn't pleased with his team's performance.

"I thought we played horrible

today. We missed a lot of assignments and any time we did get things going we kicked ourselves in the butt with a penalty, a missed block or a fumble."

But the loss wasn't all about the Holy Cross effort.

"They're an excellent football team and they played well today," Craig said.

Holy Cross gave the Bulldogs a decent fight, which didn't surprise Perron.

"They were going back and forth with us in the first half. We expected that and we conditioned hard this week for it."

Bucs 14 Cougars 12 Ryan Dalley ran for a 23-yard touchdown, tossed a 12-yard TD pass to Spencer Cherwaty, and added an interception to lead Beamsville (1-2) over visiting Centennial (1-2) in Varsity 1 action.

Adam Cherrie added a fumble recovery for the Bucs.

For the Centennial Cougars, Kyle Smith scored on a two-yard run and Brian Lawrence ran one in from five yards out.

Lakers 14 Bears 6 Calvin Mech had 15 tackles, including a sack, to help Lakeport (2-1) record a 14-6 victory over visiting South Lincoln (1-2) in Varsity 2 action.

Steve Pauls had a 10-yard rushing major for the Lakers and an interception and Mitch Punton scored on a seven-yard run. Dayton Kruitbosch added a two-point convert on a run and Souny Xayamoungkhoun added a fumble recovery.

For South Lincoln, Jeremy Muizelaar scored on a five-yard run.

## Marauders 37 Falcons 14

The Myer Marauders improved to 2-1 on the season.

Nathan Billard led the way with three

touchdowns including a 70-yard punt return, a 30-yard touchdown reception and a 40-yard rushing score. Sean Halderson had an 80-yard punt return for a touchdown on the opening kickoff of the game and Nick Williams added a major on a 15-yard run.

Chris Juras added a one-point rouge and Myer also completed a two-point conversion on one of its touchdowns for the 37-14 win.

For the Falcons (0-3), Will Ryder had a five-yard touchdown reception and quarterback Danny Bradt scored on a one-yard rush.

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## THE SCOOP

### Bulldogs 21 Raiders 3

Standard Star of the Game: Sir Winston Churchill fullback/linebacker Ryan Saunders with two sacks and 12 carries for 50 yards, including TD runs of 18 and four yards.

For the Sir Winston Churchill Bulldogs:Saunders, two TDs; 23-yard TD pass from John Krzeczkowski to Max Cameron; two-point safety on tackle in end-zone by Ryan Peters; nine carries for 56 yards by Jon Demetriades; fumble recovery by Andrew Gordon; interceptions by Jarod Cardas and Jaegar Perna.

For the Holy Cross Raiders: 29-yard field goal by Mike Diaz; interception and convert block by Jared Nunn; fumble recovery by Tyler Gamble; 50-yard pass from Matt Sills to Dillon Hendsbee.

Game stats:First downs: SWC 10, HC 5.**Net**offence (pass-run-total): SWC 60-130-190, HC 74- 17-91. Turnovers: SWC 2, HC 4. Penalties: SWC 6-for-46 yards, HC 7-for-45 yards.

Up next:Westlane at Myer, St. Francis at Grimsby, Fort Erie at Centennial and Holy Cross at Collegiate. All games Wednesday at 3 p. m.

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