

# Loaded Warriors find another weapon

By Bernie Puchalski

The rich keep getting richer.

Blessed with an abundance of offensive talent, the West Park Warriors have made an impressive addition to their attack.

With one practice under his belt, running back Taylor Webb made his debut Thursday afternoon against the visiting Eastdale Eagles. He reeled off a 27-yard run on his first rush and a 47-yard TD run on his second rush helping West Park (4-0) record a closer-than-it-appears 29-3 victory over Eastdale in A action. The 16-year-old finished with 114 yards rushing and added a 17-yard TD reception for good measure.

"When we timed everyone in the 40, he had the second fastest time behind Dylan (Howard)," said West Park coach Frank Popoli, explaining how he came to put Webb in the backfield.

It was a great choice, judging by the results.

"He needs some work because he has never played running back before, but he did a helluva job today. He has good hands and we're running a little low on running backs," Popoli said.

The Grade 11 student wasn't sure what to expect from his first game at running back.

"I practised hard and I came out and played as I could. I wasn't expecting this."

He was thrilled to add running back to his duties as a defensive halfback.

"I've been waiting for this," he said.

He admits to doing a little lobbying with the coaching staff to get his chance.

"I did put it in the back of their minds."

The 5-foot-11 180-pounder hopes he will get a lot more chances as the season progresses.

"I hope I can improve some more. I wasn't too thrilled with some of my runs today."

Eastdale played much better than the score indicated. The Eagles were down 14-0 after three offensive plays by West Park and the score was 14-3 until the final play of the third quarter.

"I'm not displeased with the kids. I don't know if they came in thinking they were going to lose, but the mentality was there in the first quarter. It's unfortunate because it's not the team we've seen through the first three weeks of the season," Eastdale coach Dan Robinson said.

Robinson expects to make some roster changes before his team plays Ridgeway-Crystal Beach next week.

"There will be a shake-up in there. Some kids who think they have a position locked because there is nobody breathing down their neck may be sitting on the bench and someone else is going to come in who is going to hustle a little better. We lost our hustle today."

Popoli was impressed with the play of the Eagles.

"Even though they have small numbers, they are a good team."

Bulldogs 39 Marauders 7

The Sir Winston Churchill Bulldogs improved to 3-1 in AAA football play with a 39-7 road victory against the A.N. Myer Marauders (0-4) Thursday.

Scoring for the Bulldogs were: Alex Coutu on passes of 80 yards, 37 yards and 21 yards from Andrew Krzeczowski; Alex Christie on a one-yard scoring plunge; Ryan Mattei on a 10-yard pass from Krzeczowski; and, Zach Godin on a 30-yard run.

On defence: Eric Haslam had a sack, strip and fumble recovery on the same play; Pat Woodrow recorded a sack; Hy Cho and Jurrell Gaddishaw had interceptions; and, Mattei recovered a fumble.

"We still need to get better, despite the good win today. Too many mental mistakes and periods of low intensity will really hurt us in the playoffs. We need to be ready to play next week against a strong team in Stamford. We can't afford any lapses," Churchill coach Peter Partridge said.

Mustangs 2 Eagles 0

Injuries and a lack of players forced the Grimsby Eagles (0-4) to forfeit their AAA football game Thursday against the St. Mike's Mustangs (4-0).

"With a week to heal, we should be competitive against Myer," Grimsby coach Mark Gilbert said.

Cougars 25 Saints 0

With a 25-0 road victory over the St. Catharines Collegiate Saints Thursday, the Centennial Cougars improved to 3-1 in AA action.

Scoring for the Cougars were: Darion Gilbert on runs of 10 and six yards; Jake Banner on a 20-yard interception return; and, Deven Anderson with a defensive safety.

Raiders 36 Spartans 13

The visiting Holy Cross Raiders improved to 3-0 in AA football action Thursday with a 36-14 victory over the Westlane Spartans (1-2).

Scoring for the Raiders were: Dan Domagala on runs of 27 and 80 yards; Connor Vansteeklenburg on TD passes of 15 and 25 yards from Greg Lamb; and, Mike Domagala with field goals of 37 and 15 yards. Mario Villamizar had an interception for the Raiders.