

A massive change in Thunder's Chemerika

By **BERNIE PUCHALSKI , STANDARD STAFF**

There's no secret as to what has made Cody Chemerika a powerful running back for the Blessed Trinity Thunder senior football team.

"He's relentless in the weight room and what these kids need to realize, especially playing in the Premier (AAA/AAAA) League, in order to be significantly better, you have to be in the weight room," Blessed Trinity coach Brad Hubbard said.

Chemerika, who carried the ball 14 times for 167 yards Friday in a 16-3 win by Blessed Trinity (4-2) over visiting Sir Winston Churchill (3-3), admitted he had more than football on his mind as he worked out in the weight room every day last summer.

"It was a bit for sports but also to look good for the girls," the 18-year-old runner said with a laugh.

The 5-foot-10, 190-pounder, who didn't play football in Grade 11 before playing the last two years, added a lot of bulk to his frame.

"I pretty much got too big. I got stretch marks, put it that way," he said.

And while he doesn't like the stretch marks, he and Hubbard like what the muscle mass does for him on the football field.

"He's definitely blessed with some speed and he works really hard in the gym, so we try to incorporate the offence around him to exploit his natural skills," Hubbard said.

Blessed Trinity didn't show all its skills Friday in an effort Hubbard described as his team's sloppiest of the season. He blamed it on a pre-game pep rally at the Grimsby high school.

"I don't like the distraction of a pep rally. As much as it's great for our fans, our guys have a tough time concentrating and you saw that today. It was a number of errors that stalled several drives and probably prevented several points from being put up on the board."

Bulldogs coach Peter Partridge was pleased with how his team bounced back from its 63-8 loss to St. Paul last week. The Bulldogs were within a touchdown of tying the game with two minutes left.

I'm really proud of the way we bounced back after the shellacking we took last week," he said.

IRISH 39 REDMEN 0

Jon Mataya threw three TD passes to Mike Prytula and scored on a run as the Notre Dame Fighting Irish (5-1) rolled over the Denis Morris Redmen (2-4).

Nicholas Beaudoin added a rushing major and Neco Costabile booted a 15-yard field goal

PATRIOTS 52 SPARTANS 21

Ryan Nieuwesteeg scored on TD runs of 50, 18, 22 and 15 yards to lead the St. Paul Patriots over the Westlane Spartans (0-6).

Also scoring for St. Paul were Miklos McMaster on a 15-yard run, Dan Damizio on 35-yard pass from Evan Murdza and Tyler Simone-Masterson on a two-yard plunge.

St. Paul led 45-0 at the half.

MUSTANGS 37 MARAUDERS 0

Alex Nazartchyk scored four rushing majors to power St. Mike's (2-4) over the A.N. Myer Marauders (0-6) Thursday night.

Kyper Yap added a rushing major for St. Mike's.

GATORS 72 HORNETS 0

Kyle Gray scored three TDs to lead Lakeshore Catholic (6-0) over the Stamford Hornets (2-4).

Keaton Spratt and Nick Boulard each added a pair of majors for the Gators and single TDs were recorded by Morgan Lavoie, Jake Fraser, and Clinton Chisolm.

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THE SCOOP

Thunder 16 Bulldogs 3

Standard Star of the Game: Blessed Trinity's Cody Chemerika, 14 carries for 167 yards, including 28-yard TD run.

For the Blessed Trinity Thunder: Chemerika, TD; Jason Baum, 10 carries for 64 yards; Curtis Poos, 9 carries for 59 yards, including six-yard TD run; 38-yard field goal by Ryan

Lambert; fumble recovery by Ryan Lucek; sack by Miles Morton; interception by Tommas Triveri.

For the Sir Winston Churchill Bulldogs: 17-yard field goal by Luca Petriello; Alex Christie, 13 carries for 49 yards and a convert block; fumble recoveries by Nick Terc and Josh Harris; interception by Evan Gwartz; punt block by Terc.

Game stats: First downs: BT 13, SWC 4. Net offence (pass-run= total): BT 2-298=300, SWC 24-57=81. Turnovers: BT 5, SWC 3. Penalties: BT 4-for-35 yards, SWC 5-for-35 yards.

Up next: Churchill host Myer and Blessed Trinity is at Lakeshore Catholic Thursday at 3 p.m.