

## Late strike helps Beverly top Winthrop

**By Matt Williams**  
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PEABODY — Perhaps the Cincinnati Bengals aren't the only orange-and-black "Cardiac Cats" snatching football games deep in the fourth quarter.

Beverly quarterback Mark Hannable hooked up with co-captain Steve Dubois for the go-ahead touchdown with 5:28 remaining to lift the Panthers over Winthrop, 21-14, in a game played at Bishop Fenwick's Donaldson Field due to forecasts of heavy rain for today.

The victory was the third down-to-the-wire victory for the Panthers and coach Dan Bauer's first over the Vikings (3-4, 1-1 NEC Small). It puts Beverly (4-2, 1-1) back in the race for the conference title.

"We hit some bumps in the road but we had to get past them as a team," said Hannable, who finished 14-of-19 and threw for 286 yards with 3 TDs against one interception to help Beverly bounce back from a league opening loss to Danvers last week.

Justin Marris (3 catches, 115 yards) hauled in a Hannable pass on the first play of the game and took it 70 yards to the end zone. The speedster also caught a second quarter TD to give the Panthers a fast start.

Later, with the game tied 14-14 in the fourth, Beverly took over near midfield. Hannable hit Dubois for a 22 yard pick-up to move the chains, and consecutive quarterback keepers made it first and goal.

Lined up wide to the left, Dubois cut to the middle of the field and Hannable put it right between his number 44 for the scoring strike.

"Steve made a perfect cut so I could throw it right on his break," said Hannable.

The Panther defense held the lead. Theritchnide Roc sacked Viking QB Will Milano on fourth down near midfield to get the ball back and tough running from Dylan Terry ran out the clock.

"Our front seven was tremendous," said Bauer. "Our defensive line really came to play and our linebackers made plays — especially against a team that can score points."

Winthrop running back Nick McCarthy was held to just 53 yards and as a team the Vikings ran for only 107 for the game. That's a credit to backers Roc, Nick Kozlowski and Dubois as well as Joe Wioncek and George Kallas.

In truth, the Panthers could've won handily if not for untimely mistakes. Hannable fumbled going into the end zone in the second quarter and saw Curtis Manuel (3 catches, 95 yards) tackled at the Winthrop 2-yard line on the last play of the first half, essentially leaving 14 points on the table.

Then in the third quarter, the Panthers were victimized by an interception and a fumble on their only possessions. That combined with Milano's 29 yard scoring strike to Mark Jenkins to knot things up 14-14 had things looking bleak.

That's when the defense stepped up and Hannable regained his rhythm to put the Panthers on top. Beverly's offensive line was also strong, giving the senior QB plenty of time to survey the field and find the open man.

"This showed our senior leadership. This group has a lot of character," said Bauer. "We blocked a great game; Winthrop brings a lot of heat and I thought the line did a super job."

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