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Beverly at Salem Thanksgiving 2011 football preview

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BEVERLY (6-4) at SALEM (1-9)

Where: at Bertram Field, Salem

When: 10 a.m. start

All-time series record: Beverly leads, 54-51-7

Beverly points scored per game: 25.8

Beverly points allowed per game: 16.0

Leading rusher: Kenny Pierce (95 carries, 813 yards, 11 TDs)

Leading passer: Dave Rollins (487 yards, 4 TDs)

Leading receiver: Brendan Flaherty (15 rec., 272 yards, 3 TDs)

Top points scorer: Brendan Flaherty (76 points)

Under the radar player: Two-way lineman Marc Babcock might just be one of the area's most underrated players — to everyone that doesn't have to line up against the Panther junior or watch him dominate his opponents on film.

Beverly will be in good shape if: It can impose its will offensively on the Witches. By that, the Panthers will need to control the line of scrimmage and enable their backs to run the buck sweep and get to the outside with huge success. They've also scored big when looking Flaherty's way on wheel routes.

Beverly will be in trouble if: It gives Salem any sniff of momentum. The Panthers come into Bertram Field as a big favorite and need to play like one; falling behind early or committing costly penalties or mistakes will only give the home team life, something the Orange-and-Black want to avoid at all costs.

Salem points scored per game: 12.2

Salem points allowed per game: 29.2

Leading rusher: Christian Dunston (127 carries, 484 yards, 2 TDs)

Leading passer: Dunston (724 yards, 7 TDs)

Leading receiver: Ben Kapnis (12 rec., 252 yards, 3 TDs)

Top points scorer: Shakir White and Ben Kapnis (18 points each)

Under the radar player: One of the few seniors who starts for the Witches, Fernando Cabrera had some success against Danvers earlier this month moving from the outside to a halfback position and scored a pair of touchdowns. He'll line up in the backfield again tomorrow morning while also manning his post at defensive end.

Salem will be in good shape if: It can control the football and take time off the clock. This would serve a dual role; long drives could lead to scores for the home team while also keeping the pigskin out of Beverly's potent offensive grasp.

Salem will be in trouble if: If they give the Panthers any running lanes and can't push them to the outside. If the Witches can't form a wall with their defensive line, or allow Pierce to gain the edge, or let any of Beverly's backs to start running downhill, the rout could be on.

BEVERLY OFFENSE

No.NamePos.Yr.

28Kenny PierceWBJr.

78Mike DoolingQTJr.

50Blake SullivanQGSr.

58Brian PerryCJr.

57Marc BabcockSGJr.

55Kevin KennedySTJr.

12Brendan McGeeWRJr.

40Mark GilesTESr.

10Dave RollinsQBJr.

20Nick TheriaultFBSr.

33Brendan FlahertyRB Jr.

BEVERLY DEFENSE

No.NamePos.Yr.

72Tyler SuggsDESr.

57Marc BabcockCT Jr.

78Mike DoolingNT Jr.

51Rob CattellDE Jr.

40Mark GilesSLBSr.

45Nick QuarteroneMLBSr.

50Blake SullivanWLBSr.

2Dan BrownCBSr.

28Kenny PierceCB Jr.

5Dom AbateSS Jr.

20Nick TheriaultFSSr.

SALEM OFFENSE

No.NamePos.Yr.

13Ben KapnisWR Jr.

54Jared Louf-WoodsLT Jr.

58Wilson JiminezLG Jr.

61Cam HarveyC Jr.

55Starling NovaRG Jr.

56Ian CarterRTSoph.

33Patrick CharltonTESoph.

11Shakir WhiteWRSoph.

15Christian DunstonQBJr.

28Edwin AlcantaraRBSr.

4Fernando CabreraFBSr.

SALEM DEFENSE

No.NamePos.Yr.

4Fernando CabreraLESr.

65J.P. KapnisDTSoph.

54Jared Louf-WoodsNGJr.

74Wilton EchavarriaDTSoph.

56Ian CarterRESoph.

27Josh McRaeLOLBSoph.

34David WalshMLBJr.

59Hal ColemanROLBJr.

25Austin ConnollyLCBSoph.

28Edwin AlcantaraRCBSr.

15Christian DunstonSJr.