

Pembroke MA, Sunday November 15, 2009

In what was described by a league official as “one of the most exciting games ever played in OCYFL Super Bowl history”, the **Norwell Whalers** were able to stop the Hanson Warriors from scoring a two-point conversion with only 6 seconds on the clock to win the Division 4 Pee-Wee Super Bowl Championship.

This game lived up to all the hype as it proved to be the epic battle that everyone anticipated. Both teams started slow with little success in the early going until Norwell, behind Quarterback **Tim Bulens**, engineered a long 50 yard scoring drive capped off by a **Peter Thorbahn** 15 yard scamper into the end zone. Hanson was able to stop the 2-point conversion so the score was 6-0 Norwell. The Whaler Defense was solid for the remainder of the 1st half as they kept the Warriors of the board with several key stops highlighted by **Alex Ferguson's** interception.

In the beginning of the 2nd half Hanson was able to play a little ball control of their own as they put together an impressive drive to tie the score 6-6 with 3:30 remaining in the 3rd quarter. On the ensuing kickoff Norwell averted disaster by recovering a squib kick to retain possession. Unfortunately for the Whalers, their drive stalled and Hanson took the ball back over around the 50 yard line. Like a heavy weight title fight, the two teams battled into the 4th quarter. Then it was time for the Whaler defense to take over as they shut down the high powered Warrior offense with a key 3rd down tackle by **Dan Hilson** followed by a monster 4th down sack by **Charlie Perfetuo**. With the Hanson drive stopped, possession turned back over to Norwell with 7:00 on the clock and the game in the balance.

In what will be forever known as “The Drive”, Whaler Head Coach DJ Robbins strategically scripted a series of plays, on the ground and in the air, that kept the Hanson team guessing and back on their heels. Bulens began by completing a 15 pass over the middle to tight end **Parker Kent**. This was the single biggest play of the game up to that point as it brought the Whalers down to the Hanson 35 yard line. From there Bulens was able to gain chunks of yards on the ground due in large part to the blocking in the trenches by the offensive line of **Adam Siffard, Christian Mudge, Jake Smith, Paul Sheppard** and **Andrew Bostrom**. Pounding the ball deep into Hanson territory, Norwell finally hit pay dirt making the score 14-6 on a Bulens highlight 25 yard quarterback keeper followed by a pass completion to tight end **Chris Ferraro** for the two-point conversion with only 50 seconds left.

Just when you thought the game was over, it wasn't, as the “never give up” Hanson team almost ran the ensuing kickoff back for a touchdown. A holding call slowed down the Hanson offense but they weren't about to go down without a fight. Hanson went to the air with pinpoint accuracy as they drove 45 yards to make the score 14-12 with 6 seconds left. This set up the most exciting play of the game, and season, as Hanson needed the two-point conversion to tie. The Hanson quarterback took the snap and pitched the ball to his running back sweeping left. In what seemed like an eternity to fans of both teams the play continued to the 1 yard line with the Warrior back first slowed down by Parker Kent then fittingly steamrolled out of bounds by Bulens on the half yard line. NO GOOD! With the 2-point conversion stopped and a crucial onside kick recovery by Jake “Hands” Smith, the Whalers were able to take a knee on their final offensive play to seal the victory.

Coach Robbins praised the Hanson team in his victory speech and then turned his attention to his Champion Whalers. Thanking them for the terrific job they all did throughout the season. From the hot “Dog Days” of August right up to the final play. A football season is a grind like no other but they persevered and stuck together as a team and that is what earned them their Championship. Congratulations Whalers. The **2009 Division 4 OCYFL Super Bowl Champions!**