



Grizzlies eke out 17-14 win over Vacaville

Granite Bay varsity football coach Joe Cattolico knew his team was in for a tough, physical football game Friday night when they played host to Vacaville.

Cattolico was right, as Granite Bay held on for a 17-14 victory, but the Grizzlies started with a 10-0 lead and never trailed in the game.

Up front Granite Bay's offensive line controlled the game, as star running back Isaiah Ene rushed for 150 yards and two touchdowns on a whopping 29 carries.

Quarterback Nick Harris wasn't as efficient as he was in Granite Bay's victory over Rio Americano last week but was still good enough to get the job done, as he completed eight-of-17 passes for 77 yards. Darnell Turner Jr. was Harris' top target, as he caught five passes for 49 yards.

"The kids battled and played hard against a good football team," Cattolico said. "It wasn't necessarily a pretty deal, but sometimes you've just got to persevere and at the end of the game we had more points than they did. I'm proud of the kids."

Granite Bay's final three points came on a 34-yard field goal from Jimmy Deslaurier.

Granite Bay's defense also played well, as they limited the Bulldogs to only 64 yards rushing, averaging only 3.6 yards per carry.

"We did a good job against the run," Cattolico said. "It was a collective team effort. We also did a nice job against their big, physical tight end. Our kids did a nice job, but they hurt us with a couple of pass plays."

Ivan Stout led the Grizzlies with eight tackles, while Ene was in on seven and Adam Shehadeh made six.

Turner also made an interception for the Granite Bay defense.

The Grizzlies will head down to San Jose to face Overfelt High School Friday night, which is where Cattolico began his coaching career 20-plus years ago.

“It will be nice to go down there and play where I started coaching a long time ago, but it’s a long way to go,” Cattolico said. “We’re looking for a good game.”