

Vacaville overpowers Jesuite

November 17, 2007 - Johnny Feaster kept running, and dodging, and turning, and running, and dodging. And when he finally got a chance to breathe easy, so did his Vacaville High School football teammates.

Feaster"s 102-yard fumble return may have taken a little longer than most plays ... actually, longer than several plays ... but it was worth the wait. The late touchdown put a capper on Vacaville"s 45-14 blowout over host Jesuit of Carmichael Saturday in the opening round of the Sac-Joaquin Section Division I playoffs.

The Marauders were about to score when Dominic Carmazzi fumbled into the end zone on a quarterback sneak. Feaster, who had another huge game, found the ball, scooped it up and raced up the right sideline.

Several Jesuit players gave chase, but Feaster picked up a key block from Joe Lopez and weaved his way all the way down the field.

"It was slow," Feaster said. "I didn"t see the ball come out, but somebody yelled, "fumble," and I looked and it was right at my feet. I didn"t hear a whistle, so I took off."

Feaster basically took off all day long, leading the way as the Bulldogs improved to 10-1. Vacaville will play in the quarterfinals Friday at 11-0 Elk Grove.

The senior, who set a record last we when he was named to the all-Monticello Empire League team at three different positions, did a lot of everything again. He rushed for 170 yards, caught three passes for 52 yards and a touchdown, had his big return for a second score, and helped keep Jesuit's vaunted passing attack in check for most of the game.

Carmazzi completed 15 of 25 passes, but only gained 181 yards and threw just one TD pass. Feaster and Marcus McMillan played tight 1-on-1 coverage all day against Isaac Serwanga and Marquese Smith, holding them to a combined five catches for just 32 yards.

Adding to the Marauders" frustration was the Bulldogs" ball-control offense, which ran 69 plays to Jesuit"s 48. Sixty of those plays were runs, as Feaster and Terrance Dailey combined for 347 of Vacaville"s 405 yards on the ground.

Dailey finished with 177 yards, and scored three first-half touchdowns as the Bulldogs bolted to a 28-0 lead.

But Jesuit came back and trailed just 28-14 midway through the third period when Dailey had perhaps his biggest run. He ran right on a sweep, completely reversed his field and picked up nine yards.

Dailey pulled his left hamstring muscle on the run, but Mark Hansen picked up a Bulldog first down on the next play. It was Vacaville's first first down in almost 10 minutes of clock time.

The run also continued a 12-play drive that led to a 26-yard Keith Leenders field goal, putting Vacaville back up by three scores.

Vacaville added a 15-play scoring drive on its next possession, essentially ending the suspense. But it still took Feaster's big defensive play to put the game away.

Dailey, who has been hobbled for the last five games, added that he will do all he can to be ready for Elk Grove.

"I"m going to go to physical therapy every day with my coach," he said. "I have to play. I can"t not play."