**St. Mary’s Defeats Lakeview 42-20 in Jamboree**

**(Tigers Outlast Gators in Shootout)**

The St. Mary’s Tigers ran for five touchdowns on its way to a 42-20 victory over the Lakeview Gators Friday night at the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center High School Football Jamboree at Turpin Stadium in Natchitoches.

The Tigers were led by senior quarterback Mixon Bankston who threw two touchdowns to Ethan Busby and scored on a 5-yard touchdown. Senior Drake Griffin got the Tigers on the board however by scoring the game’s opening touchdown, a 3-yard touchdown run.

SMH’s backup quarterbacks Preston Tilley and Jackson Godfrey both got in on the action as well. Tilley, a freshman, threw a 30-yard touchdown to Ben Bienvenu in the second half while Godfrey battled his way in from one yard out for SMH’s final touchdown. Defensively, St. Mary’s Braylon Normand recovered two fumbles to help hold off the Gators

The Gators got a huge game from junior Amarion Pierre who found the endzone three times. The Lakeview running back scored on a 5-yard touchdown in the first half to trim the St. Mary’s lead to 14-6. Pierre also broke two more; one from 49 yards out and the other from 55 yards.

The Tigers held a 21-6 halftime advantage and led by as many as 22 points after Bankston’s second TD pass to Busby, 28-6.

However, the Gators kept pace as Pierre scored his second and third touchdowns of the game to keep Lakeview within striking distance, 35-20. But Godfrey’s touchdown with just over two minutes left sealed the win for SMH.

The Tigers and Gators will begin regular season play next Friday night, Sept. 1. The Tigers will host Abbeville at 7 p.m. at Turpin Stadium. The Gators will travel to face D’Arbonne Woods High School in Farmerville, Louisiana.