

St. Mary's crushes LaSalle in 42-0 homecoming route

NATCHITOCHES, La. – The second ranked St. Mary's Tigers had little trouble following a bye week as they dominated the LaSalle Tigers 42-0 Friday night for homecoming in the district 3-1A opener.

St. Mary's (5-0, 1-0 in 3-1A) jumped out to a 14-0 lead on a pair of touchdown runs by Drake Griffin. The senior scored his first one from seven yards out then broke one later in the first quarter from 38 yards out.

Moments later, LaSalle (3-3, 0-1 in 3-1A) threw an interception as SMH senior Payne Williams picked off a pass near midfield helping set up a 29-yard touchdown run by Ethan Busby.

The route continued in the second quarter as SMH quarterback Mixon Bankston broke free for a 47-yard touchdown run making it 28-0. St. Mary's added another score before halftime on a 1-yard run by Busby taking a 35-0 lead into the locker room.

In the third quarter, Ben Bienvenu scored from 2-yards out to put the stamp on another dominating performance by St. Mary's for their 13th straight regular season win.

St. Mary's finished with 340 yards of total offense while holding LaSalle to 127 yards and just six first downs. Griffin led the Tigers' rushing attack with 93 yards and two touchdowns. Bienvenu led SMH in receiving with three receptions for 91 yards and also led the defense with 10 tackles while Griffin had nine.

Next up, St. Mary's will hit the road for non-district action against 4A Peabody (4-2) in Alexandria Friday night at 7 p.m. Peabody was routed by Neville in Week 5 51-0.

Fans can tune into Friday's game by listening live at 100.7 KZBL locally. Live updates will be available as well at the Inside Natchitoches Sports Facebook page.