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STARS AND STRIPES

Sunday, September 22, 2002

Sigonella's Crawford runs for 297, 5TDs

Stars and Stripes

European edition, Sunday, September 22, 2002

SIGONELLA, Italy — Shawn Crawford ran for 297 yards and five touchdowns Saturday as Sigonella welcomed Aviano to Division III by handing the Saints a 48-20 drubbing.

Gaining most of his yardage on sweeps behind the lead blocks of Mike Jewell, Crawford found the end zone on runs ranging from 5 to 69 yards. He carried the ball 24 times and also swept in for three two-point conversions.

Anthony Turner scored on an 18-yard reverse, and quarterback Danny Vazquez sneaked in from the 7-yard line for Sigonella, which led 28-0 at halftime.

Paul Nicholson caught passes of 21 and 26 yards from Vazquez to help bring the home team's offensive total to 421 yards.

Aviano, a Division II European semifinalist last season before a shrinking enrollment put the Saints in Division III for the 2002 season, got a pair of short TD runs from Matt Refsnider and a TD pass from Greg Vogel to Sean Daniels. But the Saints could not move consistently against a defense led by Jewell, Crawford and fellow linebacker Sean Gilbert.

The victory evened Signella's conference mark at 1-1. The Jaguars, who travel to Brussels for a non-conference game Saturday, are 1-2 overall.

Aviano is 0-2 overall, and 0-1 in Division III-Italy. The Saints march into Vicenza on Friday night for their second conference game of the season.

In other Division III games:

Brussels 15, Rota 7

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Deprived of its game by a cancellation at London Central last weekend, Brussels resumed its undefeated season Saturday.

Marc Silos ran 8 yards for a third-quarter touchdown to break a 7-7 halftime tie, and Andrew Isbell, who rushed for 172 yards, ran in for the two-point conversion. The Brigands' defense, led by Travis Keeton, R.J. Blandford, Brian Isbell and defensive end Dominic Collier, held Rota out of the end zone the rest of the way.

Despite the second-half shutout, aided by Kyle Cox's fourth-quarter interception, Rota running back Antwan Edmonds rushed for 203 yards.

Edmonds scored on a 65-yard run that made it 7-7 in the second period. That run answered the 25-yard TD pass from Brussels quarterback Kevin Nichelseon to Lonnie Ruffin in the first period.

Edmonds, Joseph Casey, Tim Ramson and nose guard Cory May anchored the defense for Rota (1-2 overall, 0-1 in III-North) in what veteran Brussels coach Joe Fiedler called a "tough, physical game."

The Admirals will play host to London Central on Friday night in a conference game.

Brussels, which entertains Rota in a nonconference game this Saturday, improved to 2-0 overall and 1-0 in the conference, pending a ruling on whether London Central will be forced to forfeit the game the Bobcats canceled Sept. 14 because of the lack of an officiating crew. That ruling is expected this week.

Baumholder 40, Giessen 14

BAUMHOLDER, Germany — Desmond Isadore ran for 135 yards and three touchdowns Friday night as the Bucs improved to 3-0 overall and 1-0 in III-South play.

Isadore's running mate, Orlando Square, scored two TDs and piled up 135 all-purpose yards. Square returned a punt 64 yards for one score and grabbed a 55-yard pass from Matt Calabria for the other. He also registered a safety, ran for a two-point conversion and intercepted four passes.

Baumholder, which travels to Hohenfels for a III-South showdown on Friday night, led 24-7 at halftime.

Giessen's first TD came in the first period on an 81-yard dash by Michael Moore. Moore, however, carried the ball just five more times for 8 yards. Michael Waters hit Anthony Moore with a 56-yard scoring pass in the third period to close the scoring for the Griffins, 1-2 overall

and 0-1 in III-South play. They play home against Bamberg on Saturday.

Ansbach 48, Bamberg 23

BAMBERG, Germany — Ansbach's 21-player contingent spotted Bamberg a 15-0 lead, then scored 48 unanswered points to romp in the III-South opener for both teams.

Darryl Wiley, who rushed 15 times for 127 yards and all three Bamberg TDs, got the Barons off to a 15-0 advantage on scoring runs of 2 and 50 yards and a two-point conversion run.

But then Ansbach took over. Miles Sheppard ran for touchdowns of 8 and 38 yards, quarterback Shawn Bachtel had a 3-yard TD run, then passed to sophomore Russell Bailey for 22- and 60-yard scores. B.J. Johnson ran 41 yards for the sixth TD. Each touchdown was followed by successful two-point conversions, with Sheppard running for four and Bachtel two.

A 40-yard TD run by Wiley closed the scoring with 1:51 left.

Ansbach (3-0, 1-0 in III-South), which rushed for 294 yards and passed for 130, is idle this weekend.

Bamberg (1-1, 0-1) rushed for 287 yards, but completed no passes.

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