

September 7, 2025

The 6th Grade Junior Raiders opened their season at home on Sunday firing on all cylinders in a commanding 32-0 shutout of our long-time rivals, the Needham Rockets. After a great preseason of exhibiting a lot of effort, attitude and team building, the boys came together and played some very clean football.

The Jr. Raiders went up early and never looked back, pounding the ball on the ground as the rain prevailed all afternoon. It was smash mouth football at its finest as the boys in black showed Needham who's boss. Some exceptional performances by the entire Offensive and Defensive lines. We asked a lot from our pulling guards Teddy Halloran and Paul Drews as key men in our new offense while star running back Mason Davies rushed for over 75 yards and a TD. Some hardnosed performances by Fullbacks Luke Estwanik and William Comella running hard between the tackles all day long and a big congratulations to 5th Grade Fullback Mason Speede on his breakaway run and first career Touchdown, Rookie Jack Quinn added to the excitement with a diving catch on

4th and 15 to give the boys a fresh set of downs which led to a Touchdown a few plays later on a rollout keep to the right by Quarterback Grayson Guigli powering into the endzoe.



M. Davies, E. Halloran, M. Flynn, G. Guigli (heading out for the coin toss)

Strong defensive performances by
Graham Stone racking up 10 tackles,
while Estwanik, Halloran, Kenny Arroyo
& Jay Hunt were in the Rockets
backfield all day long causing turnovers
and chaos. Johnny O'Brien and Bradley
Cohn were fierce middle linebackers
clogging up the middle on any inside run
attempt. Chase Mock (starting both
ways) had some nice runs while
defensively making it impossible for
Needham to gain any ground outside
the tackle box or in the air.



The Raiders special teams game showed some promise in what was their first successful field goal try by kicker George Collard, setup beautifully by Morgan Flynn who also carried the ball well all day. It was a great all-around team win and a commanding way to open the season. Next weekend they will be taking on a very tough Brockton Raiders team at 11:15 at Home in what is shaping up to be a fair-weather affair as they jockey for position in the Bay State Conference.

The 7th Grade Junior Raiders fell to Needham in a back-and-forth boxing match. The boys went punch for punch as the two teams traded leads throughout the afternoon. Some untimely injuries to key players Ryan Desimone and Frankie Petz made it difficult for the Raiders to fire on all cylinders late in the game.

Even so, the Raiders showed grit and fight. On offense, Paul Nardone carried the load, rushing for over 70 yards and a touchdown behind strong blocking up front. Brooks Miles, in his first start at running back, added some impressive runs and also converted an extra point on a perfect hold by Petz. Fellow first-year back Bobby Driscoll made his

presence felt with several tough carries and a key interception on defense. Nate Garrison sparked the passing game with clutch receptions, including a touchdown grab that brought the crowd to its feet. Before leaving the game, Frankie Petz ran hard between the tackles, setting the tone inside. Joe Nixon and Jay Drews filled in without missing a beat, continuing to pound the ball on the ground and running tough to keep the chains moving. Quarterback Noah Schneider kept the offense steady, leading a spirited 4th-quarter march that nearly brought the team back.

The trenches were a battle all afternoon, and both the offensive and defensive lines held their ground, giving the Raiders push on both sides of the ball. Defensively, while the big touchdown runs by Needham proved tough to overcome, the Raiders rallied strong and were in position to make plays. Those near-misses will come with experience, and the effort showed the unit's growth and determination.

Most importantly, many first-year players stepped into big roles and refused to back down, showing the depth and future strength of this group.



Despite the narrow loss, the toughness and resilience of this 7th grade squad was on full display. The Raiders look forward to getting healthier and taking on a very tough opponent — the Brockton Raiders — this Sunday at 1:00 on our home field.

The 8th Grade Junior Raiders The 8th Grade The Jr. Raiders got off to a tough start to the season. Starting center, and leader of the offensive line, Tyler Nardone, was lost the day before the game with a season ending hip injury. Tyler's absence, combined with the pouring rain made it difficult for the Raiders to execute their normally lethal passing offense. Down 5-0 early in the game, the defense responded, and held Needham's offense in check most of the day led by Reed Carrol, Bryce McInnis, Tom Hiscox, Levi Kashou and Chase McCabe. The offense began to move the ball in the second half, despite the conditions, but a couple of costly turnovers prevented them from completing the comeback.

In week 3 we see a much-improved Brockton team that we have not played since the 5th grade season. We will have to overcome injuries to stand out two way starters Reed Carroll and Zayn Nuwayhid in addition to the loss of Nardone and Logan Shanks.

The team rallied, and had a strong week of practice. We expect Brockton to be a big strong team that will challenge our defense on the ground and through the air. We will look to Tom Hiscox and Charlie Donahue to fill the void at running back with Zayn's injury. If the weather cooperates, we should be able to get back to the explosive passing game we have seen in the past, led by QB Conor Cullinan and receivers Bryce McGinnis, Levi Hirsh and Nick Carlozzi. While we expect to have a significant size disadvantage up front, our offensive line, led by Finn Keating, Charlie Dube, and brothers Henry and Watson Waller should be up to the task. The team is excited to get back on the field and show that last week was an aberration.



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