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## Cubs score first district win since 2008

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### *Nevada whips Algona on homecoming night, 28-6*

By Joe Randleman

NEVADA – A huge second quarter on offense and a dominant defensive effort carried the Nevada football team to its first district victory in three years with a 28-6 drubbing of Algona on homecoming night Friday in Nevada.

The Cubs scored all of their points in the second quarter and the defense took care of the rest as Nevada evened its record at 3-3 on the season and improved to 1-3 in Class 3A District 3.

“With homecoming comes a bunch of distractions that we don’t normally have to deal with, but when all was said and done, we were able to overcome them and play one of our finest games of the year,” Nevada head coach John Pelzer said. “I was really proud of the guys. It all started with an outstanding week of practice and it ended with a fantastic team win.”

Andre Thomas tallied three touchdown runs and Colynn Black hooked up with Tanner Hanson on a 32-yard scoring pass in the second quarter to blow the game open for Nevada.

Thomas found the end zone on short runs of two and three yards, and then blasted through the Algona defense for a 39-yard scoring scamper to put Nevada up 21-0 with three minutes, 39 seconds left in the second. Hanson scored the final Cub touchdown with just 54 seconds left in the half to give Nevada an overwhelming lead.



Photo by David Runneals Nevada’s Brook Thompson comes down with a reception during the Cubs’ 28-6 homecoming victory over Algona Friday at Cub Stadium in Nevada.

“You know things are clicking when you can put 28



Photo by David Runneals Nevada’s Andre Thomas sprints toward the end zone on a 39-yard touchdown run during the second quarter of the Cubs’ homecoming triumph over Algona.

said.

on the board in one quarter,” Pelzer said. “Special teams did a great job of setting up our offense with good field position, as well as not giving it up to Algona.”

Thomas finished with 160 yards rushing on 27 carries and Black completed 6 of 9 passes for 130 yards with no interceptions; he also ran for 25 yards. Hanson caught two passes for 51 yards, Brook Thompson made three receptions for 59 yards and Sam Lodestein had one 20-yard reception. The Cub defense continued its first half shutout through the third quarter. Algona got on the board with 9:53 left in the fourth on a 1-yard Derek Person touchdown run, but it was the only glitch in an otherwise flawless defensive outing as Nevada limited the Bulldogs to 237 total yards and forced two turnovers.

“Defensively, we played our finest game of the season,” Pelzer

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Ethan Lund led Nevada with nine tackles, including five solo stops, Seth Gerlach delivered six tackles and Thomas and Tanner Johnson each finished with six. Le recovered a fumble and returned it seven yards and Brandon Becker came through with an interception for the Cubs.

On special teams, Alex Bainter made all four extra-point kicks, totaled four touchbacks on five kickoffs and averaged 44.5 yards on two punts. Patrick Stephenson added a 30-yard kickoff return for the Cubs.

Overall, Pelzer said he was happy to see several players step up and contribute to the Cubs success.

"I'm especially proud of Tanner Hanson, T.J. Fey, Zach Anderson, Mason McCarville and Gabe Dubberke," Pelzer said. "Those guys stepped up when we needed them."

Sawyer Frideres rushed for 88 yards on 18 carries and Person had 42 on 10 attempts for Algona. Derek Person completed 5 of 14 passes for 83 yards for the Bulldogs, who dropped to 1-5 on the season and 1-3 in 3A District 3.

Nevada next goes on the road to face Hampton-Dumont (2-4). The Cubs are currently in a four-way tie with Hampton-Dumont, Algona, Ballard and Humboldt for the fourth and final playoff qualifying spot in the district with just three games left.

"This Friday is a big game," Pelzer said. "Time for us to keep building on the momentum we generated last Friday and put ourselves in a position for a playoff run."

The Cub-Bulldog game is set to start at 7:30 p.m. at Hampton.

Nevada 28, Algona 6

A 0 0 0 6 – 6

N 0 28 0 0 – 28

Scoring

Second quarter

N – Andre Thomas 2 run (Alex Bainter kick), 11:56

N – Thomas 3 run (Bainter kick), 7:29

N – Thomas 39 run (Bainter kick), 3:39

N – Tanner Hanson 32 pass from Colynn Black (Bainter kick), 0:54

Fourth quarter

A – Derek Person 1 run (kick blocked), 9:53.

Team statistics    A    N

Rushes-yards    36-154    49-227

Passing    5-14-1    6-9-0

Passing yards    83    130

Total yards    237    357

Fumbles lost    1    2

Punts-average    4-30.0    2-44.5

Individual statistics – Nevada

Rushing: Andre Thomas 27-160, Tai Le 7-32, Colynn Black 10-25, Seth Gerlach 2-5, Patrick Stephenson 2-5, Alex Bainter 1-0.

Passing: Black 6-9-0-130.

Receiving: Brook Thompson 3-59, Tanner Hanson 2-51, Sam Lodestein 1-20.

Tackles: Ethan Lund 9, Gerlach 7, Thomas 6, Tanner Johnson 6.

Fumble recoveries: Le.

Interceptions: Brandon Becker.

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