

# Sports and RECREATION

---

## Canfield rushes to 43-19 victory in opening test

*The Cardinals ran for 301 yards against Marion-Franklin.*

By **CHUCK HOUSTEAU**  
VINDICATOR CORRESPONDENT

CANFIELD — The Canfield High football team's recipe for success has been the same all season long: Keep it simple. Hit harder than the opponent and don't make any mistakes.

That formula proved impressive Friday night as the Cardinals handled Columbus Marion-Franklin a 43-19 defeat in the opening round of the Division II playoffs at Cardinal Stadium.

Canfield (10-1) rushed for 301 yards and four touchdowns and tallied twice more through the air without turning over the football.

"I thought our offensive and defensive lines controlled the ball game the majority of the night," said Canfield coach Mike Pavlansky. "That's what it all comes down to in the playoffs."

Columbus Marion-Franklin coach Brian Haffele, whose Red Devils came into the contest with an impressive 9-1 record, agreed with that assessment.

"They kicked our butts up front," Haffele said. "They were very physical up front and that's where the games are won and lost."

Canfield raced out to a 15-0 lead and it looked like smooth sailing for the Cardinals.

Senior Jimmy Hudson scored the first of his two touchdowns on a 26-yard completion from Mark Carrocce to get the Cardinals on the

*See Canfield on Page C5*

# CANFIELD

Continued From C1

board and Pat Fening followed with a 3-yard run later in the quarter.

Marion-Franklin, however didn't make the three-hour ride to Canfield to roll over and play dead and the Red Devils quickly showed why they were the champions of the Columbus City League.

Jeremy Hill led an impressive drive for the Red Devils that covered 80 yards in 10 plays before the quarterback raced into the end zone for an 11-yard score.

Following a Canfield punt, Marion-Franklin's Tyrell Massey burst through a hole and outran Canfield defenders 90 yards for another score that cut the Cards' lead to 15-12.

Pavlansky said that the Cardinals never panicked despite the sudden resurgence by the Devils.

"We knew we had to play 48

minutes," Pavlansky said. "We've learned that lesson for the last few years.

"In a playoff game especially, nobody is going away easy because if you lose you are going home."

The Cards weren't ready to go anywhere but to a second-round game against Columbus De Sales next week.

Canfield righted the ship when sophomore Kyle Vaclav intercepted Hill with two minutes to go before half and on the next offensive play the Cardinals used trickery to regain control of the game.

Fullback Dan Banna took a pitchout from Carroce and tossed a perfect pass to Hudson that covered 30 yards for a touchdown.

"That was huge," Haffele said. "We should have run the clock out because we were out of timeouts but we let them get the ball back and they took advantage."

It was all Canfield in the second half as Fening, Banna and Carroce chewed up yards and the clock.

Fening led all rushers with 112 yards in 13 carries while Carroce added 72 in 15. Banna added 71 yards in 12 carries as the Cardinals put together 21 first downs.

Fening's 41-yard touchdown run right up the middle in the third quarter seemed to deflate the Red Devils and opened up a 29-12 lead for the Cardinals.

Canfield put the game away with two fourth quarter scores on touchdown runs of 21 by Banna and 6 yards by Carroce.

Canfield's defense was impressive all night behind the strong play of Luke Franken, Tony Carney and Colin Hoelzel.

The Cards held the speedy Devils to 157 yards rushing although 90 came on the one scoring run by Massey.



**THAT DESERVES A FLAG:** Canfield High quarterback Mark Carrocce (10) is grabbed by the facemask by Kierre Roberts (45) of Columbus Marion-Franklin during Friday's game at Cardinal Stadium.



**OFF TO THE RACES:** Canfield High's Pat Fening (20) goes for a 42-yard romp as he scores with Columbus Marion Franklin's Earnest Lunsford on his heels during the third quarter of Friday's game.