

Looking back on Friday night's loss, it is abundantly clear that the Pioneers' 24-14 loss at Bryan Station was a result of one too many failed attempts to capitalize on opportunities to gain any true momentum. The offense got started quickly, however, as a spectacular catch by Senior WR Grayson Harris on the first play of the game and an eventual touchdown for Harris gave hope for an offensive breakout. However, after a quick response by the Defenders' offense (which sounds just as confusing to type as I'm sure it is to read), in addition to a botched snap that led to a failed extra-point attempt, Simon Kenton and Bryan Station were knotted up at 6-6 after one quarter.

In the second quarter, it was the defense that fought to keep the Pioneers tied. Senior CB Colton Farfaring came up with an interception that set the offense up near midfield, but a slow night on offense allowed for Bryan Station to take over with just over two and a half minutes in the half left to play. In a situation where the Pioneer defense needed to bend, and not break, a Bryan Station touchdown and successful two-point conversion with just 22 seconds to play came as a huge blow for Simon Kenton. Headed into the half trailing 14-6 with the Defenders set to receive the second half kickoff, it seemed all momentum lay within the hands of the home team.

The continuing offensive struggles seemed to be a detriment to the Pioneer defense in the second half, as a third-quarter score for Bryan Station extended the deficit to 21-6. Despite trailing by two possessions, there was no quit in Simon Kenton. A rushing touchdown and two-point conversion run in by Senior RB Landon Brown helped to give the Pioneers a glimmer of hope. After yet another defensive stop, Simon Kenton regained possession. This turned out to be very brief, however, as Sophomore QB Grant Webb's second interception of the game handed Bryan Station the ball in Pioneer territory. After a missed field goal attempt, the Pioneers had one last shot to tie it up with little time to play. After an incomplete pass and two runs for minimal gains, Simon Kenton was quickly up against a fourth-and-long situation, ultimately resulting in a turnover on downs after an incomplete pass intended for Senior WR Christian Bounds.

After a Bryan Station field goal, the Pioneers had the ball down two possessions with just under two minutes to play, and only one timeout. The Pioneer offense would fall flat on their final possession, as time expired with a final score of 24-14.

Heading into the bye week, the Pioneers sit once again where they were just a week ago, having battled to a .500 record. After a highly earned week of rest, district play looms, as Great Crossing will make its way to Chlorine Menefee Stadium on October 10th. At 0-4, it is safe to assume the Warhawks will be playing with a chip on their shoulders to break their losing streak. On the other hand, at 3-3, the Pioneers will hope to avoid falling below the .500 mark for the first time this season in what is sure to be a tight matchup for both teams.