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# Marc Narducci: Clyde Folsom earns 200th win as West Deptford beats Woodbury



West Deptford coach Clyde Folsom patrols the sideline. He earned his 200th coaching win. CURT HUDSON / For The Inquirer

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By Marc Narducci, Inquirer Columnist

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Predictably, on a night West Deptford football coach Clyde Folsom reached a milestone win, he talked about others.

Folsom is a terrific coach and leader, but he detests being in the spotlight. So after Friday's 45-24 win over a resilient

Woodbury team earned him his 200th victory, Folsom did the only thing he knows how to do - look ahead.

"This is nowhere near the end," he said.

It seems appropriate that Folsom would earn a milestone win by not deviating much from the norm, at least offensively.

The norm over the years for Folsom-coached teams, first at Bishop Eustace and now at West Deptford, was to run that wing-T offense, confuse the opposition (and fans, not to mention sports writers) as to who has the ball, and then run to daylight.

On this night, West Deptford pounded the ball with Gerald Owens, with the 6-foot-2, 250-pound junior rushing for 192 yards and three touchdowns on 22 carries. Senior Josh Cornelius added scoring runs of 45 and 31 yards in the second half. The Eagles, so proficient over the years on special teams, also received an 88-yard kick return from Shai Mumford. They attempted only three passes.

All the pounding was needed because Woodbury (1-1) would not go away. Make no mistake, the 200th win was earned over a Woodbury team that has the look of a major South Jersey Group 1 contender.

Folsom is now 200-66-5 overall; 166-55-2 at West Deptford and 34-11-3 at Bishop Eustace.

He has won at a Non-Public and a public school, but the most impressive aspect is how he resuscitated a West Deptford program that struggled mightily before his arrival.

Folsom not only talked about all the great coaches and players he has guided, he mentioned Woodbury quarterback-defensive back Anthony Averett, the Alabama recruit whose toughness rivals his immense athletic ability.

"If he isn't the best player in South Jersey, I haven't seen one," Folsom said.

Folsom played linebacker for Mainland, and his old defensive coordinator, Ken Williams, attended Friday's game. Folsom calls him his mentor.

Williams calls Folsom one of a kind.

"He's a great person and a great coach, and I feel fortunate to have coached him," Williams said.

And the players feel the same, being guided by someone who has made a living by outworking the opposition.

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"It's great to play for him," Owens said. "He works us so hard, but it really pays off."

It sure does.

Folsom appears relieved that he won't have to go through this again for a while, but make no mistake, more milestone wins are likely in the future.

By now, Folsom is only concerning himself with what matters the most - striving for win No. 201 and many others beyond.

Woodbury 0 16 8 0 - 24

West Deptford 7 17 14 7 - 45

WD: Gerald Owens 5 run (Luke Cornelius kick)

WD: Owens 2 run (Cornelius kick)

W: Mark Jenkins 60 yard fumble return (Anthony Averett run)

WD: Shai Mumford 88 kick return (Cornelius kick)

W: Dwaun Martin 10 pass from Averett (Averett run)

WD: Cornelius 27 FG

WD: Josh Cornelius 45 run (L. Cornelius kick)

W: Jenkins 32 pass from Daevon Ayers (Ty Brown pass from Ayers)

WD: J. Cornelius 31 run (L. Cornelius kick)

WD: Owens 15 run (L. Cornelius kick)

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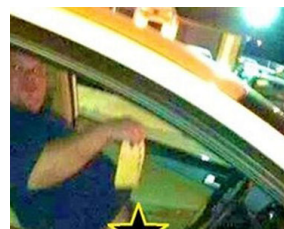
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