

**Rugged rugby**

C.R. Headhunters trying to rebuild in their quest for a national title, 8C

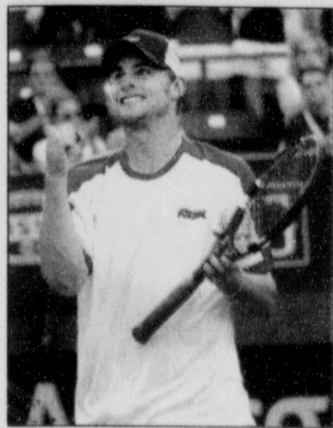
# SPORTS

P R E P S ■ C O L L E G E S ■ P R O S

**C** The Gazette  
Saturday  
September 25, 2004

www.gazetteonline.com

**Rocket Roddick**



AP

Andy Roddick of the United States celebrates after defeating Belarus' Vladimir Voltchkov, 6-1, 6-4, 6-4, during a Davis Cup semifinal singles match Friday in Charleston, S.C. Roddick hit a record 155 mph serve in the final game, which eclipsed his record of 153 mph.

**SIDELINE**

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

**ISU-Texas A&M game to start at 6 p.m.**

AMES — Iowa State's homecoming football game Oct. 9 against Texas A&M will start at 6 p.m. at Jack Trice Stadium, the school announced Friday.

The game will not be televised.

**PRO BASKETBALL**

**Broken thumb sidelines Suns' Vroman 4-6 weeks**

PHOENIX — Phoenix Suns rookie Jackson Vroman, a 6-10 forward from Iowa State, broke his thumb this month and will be sidelined 4 to 6 weeks.

Vroman hopes to return for part of training camp and plans to be ready for the NBA season opener Nov. 3.

The Suns selected Vroman in the second round of the 2004 draft as the 31st player overall. The first year of his two-year contract is guaranteed.

**PRO FOOTBALL**

**Former Dolphin Williams must replay \$8.6 million**

MIAMI — Former Miami Dolphins running back Ricky Williams was ordered Friday to repay the team more than \$8.6 million for breaching his contract when he suddenly quit before training camp.

Arbitrator Richard Bloch ruled Friday that Williams must repay \$8,616,353 in bonus money under the contract he left behind.

**TELEVISION**

**Today's highlight**

College football

Iowa at Michigan, 2:30 p.m. KCRG

More TV listings, 3C  
Gazette staff and wire reports

## Prairie rolls to victory

5 Hawk players score TDs in a 36-24 defeat of Linn-Mar

By Jeff Johnson  
The Gazette

MARION — Let's get this straight. The Cedar Rapids Prairie Hawks scored on a short run by Adam Reutzel last night.

They also scored on a fullback trap run by Adam's younger brother, Ben Reutzel. Fellow fullback Drew Blahnik played his first game of the season and scored on a short run.

**On the Net**

■ For more photos from last night's football games, visit [www.gazetteonline.com](http://www.gazetteonline.com)

Then there was a nifty short-catch-and-long-run pass play from quarterback Joe Cooper to wide receiver Spencer Stumpff. Add a nice 25-yard pass play from Cooper to Glen Fox in there, too.

That's five Hawk touchdowns coming from five Hawk players. That's called balance — winning balance.

Moving the ball effectively through the air and on the ground, Prairie scored at least one TD in every quarter in a 36-24 win over Linn-Mar in a drawn-out Mississippi Valley Conference football affair at Armstrong Field.

"I think we've kind of been slotted as strictly a run team," said Prairie Coach Craig Jelinek. "But we can do what we have to do to win the game."

"Last year, we had me and Spencer and Glen, and we were pretty effective throwing the ball," Cooper said. "This year, we just started out running so well that we've stuck with it. But we can do both."

The unbeaten Hawks (4-0) are sure to at least remain ranked 10th in Class 4A next week and may move up a couple spots, depending on what other rated teams do.

"I guess we'll have to wait and see," Cooper said diplomatically, when asked whether Prairie was the 10th-best team in 4A or better.

This was certainly a stiff midseason test against an improved group of Linn-Mar Lions (2-2). It's fair to say Prairie passed — no pun intended — with plenty of room to spare.

Prairie set the tone for this one on the very first

► PRAIRIE, PAGE 4C



Cliff Jette/The Gazette

Linn-Mar's Seth Vogel tackles Cedar Rapids Prairie's Adam Reutzel during the first half of the game at Linn-Mar High School in Marion last night. Prairie defeated Linn-Mar, 36-24.

## Air Kennedy beats Jefferson

Thompson, Meier connect for 2 long TDs in 48-21 win

By Jeff Dahn  
The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — The Mississippi Valley Conference has a new prolific pass-catch duo, and fans better be prepared to pay attention to this

**HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL**

talented tandem from Cedar Rapids Kennedy.

Quarterback Tyler Thompson and running back Curtis Meier hooked up for a pair of touchdown passes that covered 23 and 41 yards, and Kennedy put 28 points on the

board in the third quarter to beat crosstown rival Jefferson, 48-21, on an absolutely beautiful evening last night at Kingston Stadium.

Thompson came in as the Mississippi Valley Conference's top passer, averaging 136.3 yards per game. Meier, who averages 127 yards per game rushing, came in as the league's top receiver with nine catches for 91 yards.

The duo kept it going last night as Meier caught five Thompson passes for 85 yards and the two TDs. Just to cap things off, Meier rushed for 171 yards and a touchdown, and Thompson — who finished 13 of 17 for 201 yards with three TD passes —

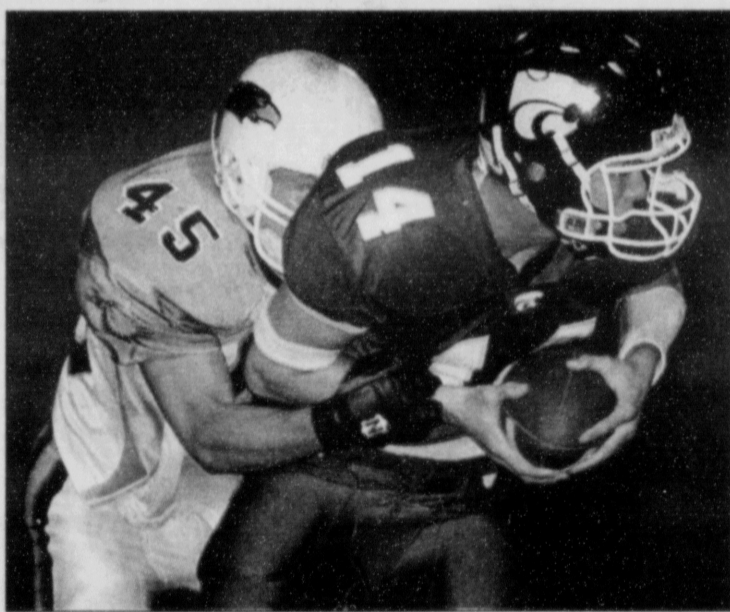
scored two rushing touchdowns.

"I don't think I was the primary receiver, but I think it might have been a surprise for (Jefferson) that I was out there running some routes," Meier said. "You can't run it down their throats all the time."

Thompson said the reason so many passes went Meier's way was simply because the back has an uncanny ability to get open.

"It just kind of worked out that way," he said. "I try to get it to as many guys as I can. We really try to mix it up."

► KENNEDY, PAGE 4C



Liz Condo/The Gazette

Jefferson senior Josh Burhite (left) sacks Kennedy senior quarterback Tyler Thompson in the first half last night at Kingston Stadium. Kennedy sacked Prairie in the game, however, 48-21.

## RoughRiders look talented and tough

Carlson sees balance in 6th version of team

By Jeff Johnson  
The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — They've been a team full of tough guys who would have checked your mother if she was wearing an opposing

**JUNIOR HOCKEY**

sweater. They've been a team full of highly skilled guys who would rather skate around your mother than through her.

The word is this year's Cedar Rapids RoughRiders are a hybrid of both. You might be safe with some of these guys, mom, but not so safe with others.

"We've had five teams here," said RoughRiders Coach/General Manager Mark Carlson, whose squad begins the United States Hockey League regular season tonight at 7:35 in Des Moines. "You look at the first couple of years, maybe we overloaded on the grit and

**Inside**

■ RoughRiders' roster, schedule, 6C

toughness side, and maybe we didn't have enough skill. Then the last couple of years, maybe we overloaded on the skill side and speed side and maybe needed a little more grit, some more agitators.

"I think with this team, we've got great balance. We've got the skill and the speed. And we've got the tough and aggravating players. I'm real excited about this team."

You know a lot of the skilled guys.

Winger Jon Grabarek set the club single-season points record last year with 57, on 22 goals and 35 assists. Winger Greg Collins and centers Rob Ricci and Matt Vokes all had at least 34 points, helping the RoughRiders score a team-record 207 goals.

"Our forwards, this is the one of the fastest teams I've ever been on," Grabarek said.

"They've got great skill."

Then there's the muscle.

Defenseman Zach Miskovic led the RoughRiders in penalty minutes last season and has a definite edge to his game. He's the guy with the black eye and missing front tooth in those touched-up RoughRiders billboard ads you're seeing around town.

And don't forget newcomer Phil Axtell, all 6-foot-5 and 258 pounds of him. It should be fun watching the massive 18-year-old from New Windsor, Md., do his thing.

"I don't think we got pushed around last year, but I think there were times when we got outmuscled," Miskovic said. "We definitely needed more grit on our team. I think Coach saw that, and he put that (kind of) team together this year. It'll be good."

Miskovic is one of three returnees on the blueline, along with Shane Lovdahl and Ray Eichenlaub. Lovdahl set the club record for

► RIDERS, PAGE 6C



Jim Slosiarek/The Gazette

Cedar Rapids RoughRiders goalie Al Stalock blocks a shot during a two-on-one drill at practice Friday at the Cedar Rapids Ice Arena. The RoughRiders begin the season tonight.

# Geppert lifts Xavier past East, 45-6

Saints hand Trojans 40th consecutive loss

By Jim Ecker  
The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — Xavier High School tailback Jon Geppert is color blind, but he knows how to collect big chunks of lovely green grass on a football field.

Geppert rambled for 174 yards and tied a school record with three touchdowns last night as Xavier handed Waterloo East its 40th straight loss, 45-6, on homecoming at Saints Field.

Geppert, a shifty 165-pound senior, probably could have shattered the single-game rushing mark of 207 yards as well, but Xavier Coach Duane Schulte cleared the bench in both halves and limited Geppert to 12 carries.

"I really wasn't thinking about records," said Geppert, who scored all three of his touchdowns in the first quarter on runs of 10, 38 and 4 yards. "The line opened up the holes, and I didn't have to do much. I was just taking what they gave me."

The Saints (2-2) broke the school record for most points

in one game, Taylor Lynch set a school mark with nine points by a place-kicker, and quarterback Dane Gilmour established a school record for accuracy by hitting 100 percent of his passes.

Lynch, who has a powerful leg, went 6-for-6 on PATs and kicked a 27-yard field goal. Gilmour went 6-for-6 for 162 yards and two touchdowns, all in the first half.

Gilmour connected with Andy Knapp for an 8-yard score on a pretty fade pass and hit Tommy Breitbach on a 45-yard bomb for another. The Saints managed to

have fun and display good sportsmanship as well, knowing Waterloo East (0-4) is going through a tough stretch. The Trojans have not won a game since 1999.

Waterloo East began the game with only 26 players, yet kept plugging away despite the odds.

"It shows a lot of character on their part," Geppert said. "They play hard every week and they played us tough all the way to the end."

Schulte yanked his starters midway through the second quarter with a 35-6 lead. He let them play again in the

second half, then inserted the reserves again with eight minutes left in the game.

"Any coach will tell you if they've coached long enough, that they've been on both sides of the stick and it's the right thing to do," Schulte said. "I give Coach (LeShane) Saddler and his staff a lot of credit. They've got big hearts and at some point it's going to happen for them."

The Saints grabbed a 45-6 lead with 3:08 left in the third quarter on a 5-yard run by Pete Zach, and the rest of the game was played with a continuous clock due to the prep

35-point rule.

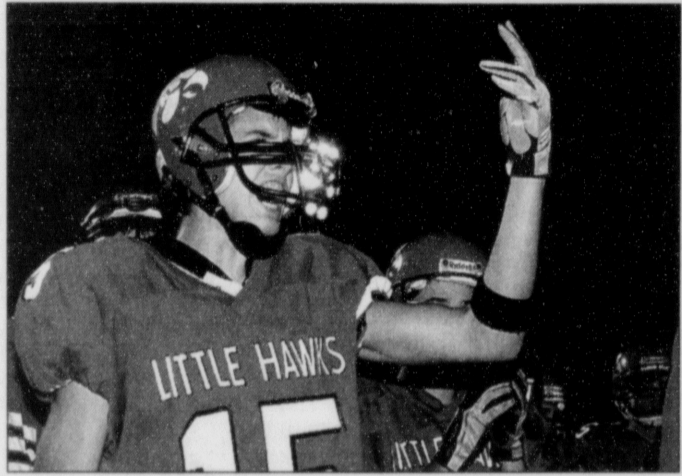
Waterloo East scored on a 78-yard fumble return by Derrick Turner.

Waterloo East Coach Saddler, a former star for the Trojans, was proud of his team's effort.

"That's one of the things I compliment our kids on every single time, is their effort," said Saddler, now 0-22 in three years at East.

"I never doubt their effort, I never doubt their spirit."

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Greg Undeen/The Gazette

City High's Kyle Bowsby encourages his team from the sidelines of the Little Hawks' 45-21 win over Dubuque Senior at Bates Field in Iowa City.

## City makes quick work of Senior

By John Riehl  
The Gazette

IOWA CITY — Iowa City High wasted no time taking the drama out of last night's football game against Dubuque Senior.

The Little Hawks needed only three plays to score the first touchdown — a 27-yard run over right tackle by senior tailback Phil Kenney on the game's first possession.

And that was that. Class 4A seventh-ranked and undefeated City High rolled over winless Senior, 45-21, at Bates Field in a tune-up for next Friday's showdown with cross-town rival Iowa City West.

"Every game in the MVC is important. Every team is tough. We knew we had to come out and hit them with everything we had," City High quarterback D.P. Eymann said. "I thought we did a pretty good job of that. The third play of the game we had a touchdown."

The Little Hawks (4-0) had equal success moving the ball on the ground and through the air against the Rams (0-4), who had the worst defense in the Mississippi Valley Conference entering Friday's play, allowing 422.7 yards and 45.7 points per game.

Kenney keyed the running game, gaining 139 yards on 14 carries and scoring three touchdowns. He had TD runs of 27, 9 and 53 yards in the first

half, which ended with City High comfortably ahead, 38-7.

"Phil sees the field so well. He just slashes and cuts," City High Coach Dan Sabers said. "Then he finishes well. With the guys we've got, I think any offense would look pretty good."

Eymann didn't let Kenney steal the show for the offense. The senior signal-caller completed 7 of 8 passes for 140 yards and three touchdowns — a 45-yard scoring strike to Brent Jenn and a 40-yarder to Ben Evans in the second quarter, and a 4-yarder to Alex Smith in the third.

"We have a lot of weapons on this team," Eymann said. "We have a lot of ways we can hurt people. Obviously, Phil is a great tailback and we have a lot of great receivers who can make big-time plays."

Jayne Murphy was the lone bright spot for Senior. The junior tailback kept running tough even though the game's outcome was decided, finishing with 231 yards on 28 carries and three touchdowns.

Murphy put the Rams on the scoreboard with a 68-yard touchdown run with 2:52 left in the first half. That score, however, cut City High's lead only to 35-7.

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## Mississippi Valley Conference standings

Miss. Division	Conf	All
Iowa City High	4-0	4-0
Linn-Mar	2-2	2-2
C.R. Xavier	2-2	2-2
Dub. Hempstead	1-3	1-3
C.R. Jefferson	0-4	0-4
Waterloo East	0-4	0-4
Dubuque Senior	0-4	0-4
Valley Division	Conf.	All
C.R. Prairie	4-0	4-0
Dub. Wahlert	4-0	4-0
Cedar Falls	4-0	4-0
Waterloo West	2-2	2-2
C.R. Kennedy	2-2	2-2
C.R. Washington	2-2	2-2
Iowa City West	1-3	1-3

### THURSDAY

Washington 35, Iowa City West 28

### FRIDAY

Cedar Falls 39, Waterloo West 14  
City High 45, Senior 21  
Wahlert 21, Hempstead 14  
Kennedy 48, Jefferson 21  
Prairie 36, Linn-Mar 24  
Xavier 45, Waterloo East 6

## Prairie/Reutzal has 234 yards

► FROM PAGE 1C

possession of the game. The Hawks took the opening kick-off and used all of four plays to travel 80 yards, all of it on the ground and all of it courtesy of Adam Reutzal.

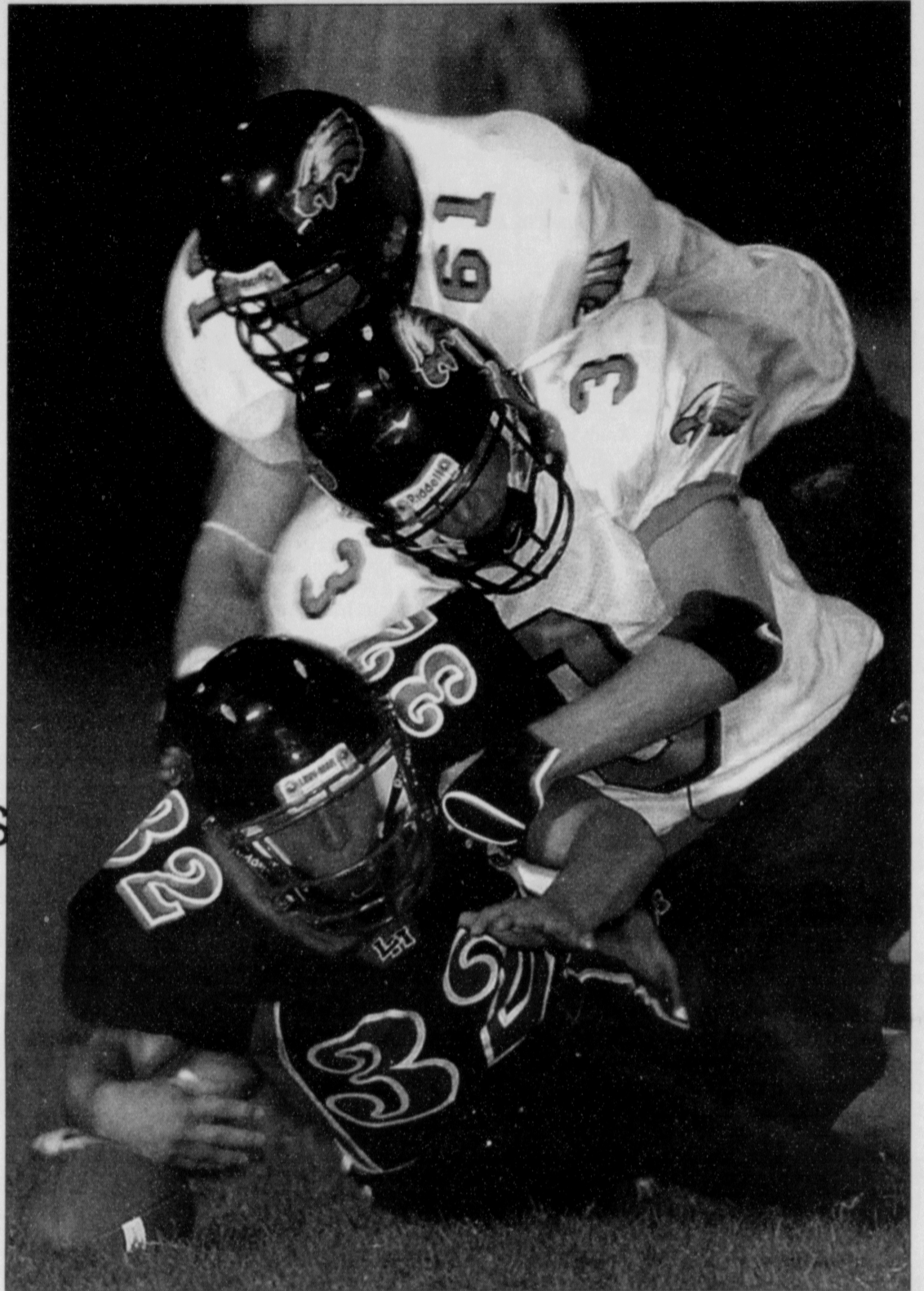
Reutzal broke loose for 68 yards on a simple run off left tackle on the second play of the game to give his team a 1st-and-goal. Two more Reutzal runs finished things off, the senior back breaking into the end zone untouched from a yard out with 10:25 left in the opening quarter. Reutzal's extra-point kick made it 7-0 Prairie.

That was a portent of things to come on many levels for Prairie, which finished with 479 total yards. Reutzal finished the game with 234 yards rushing on 24 carries. Prairie rushed for 294 yards as a team.

But it wasn't just the ground game that worked for the Hawks. Cooper completed 8 of 17 passes for 185 yards, with Stumpff grabbing two balls 86 yards, including a 64-yard touchdown.

All of Prairie's weapons seem to work.

"I can't say enough about Joe Cooper," Jelinek said. "I thought he really managed a good game for us tonight."



Cliff Jette/The Gazette

Jack Dugger (32) of Linn-Mar struggles to maintain control of the ball as he is tackled by Prairie's Glen Fox (3) and Josh Wagner (61) during the first half Friday at Linn-Mar.

It wasn't as if Linn-Mar's offense didn't move the ball as well, though the Lions were hurt by their inability to finish off drives in the first half. Using a plethora of quick backs, Linn-Mar rushed for 212 yards in the game, getting at least 45 from three players: Jon Krueger (45), Jack Dugger (49) and Matt Greer (57).

Dugger had two TD runs for the Lions. Quarterback Blake Zundel threw for 107 yards and a touchdown to tight end Nick Erdman.

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## Kennedy/Cougars balance allows them to win

► FROM PAGE 1C

Kennedy improved to 2-2 and will attempt to climb over the .500 mark next Friday when it hosts Waterloo West.

The loss left Jefferson 0-4 this season, and J-Hawk teams have now lost five straight and 15 of their last 16 dating to the midway point of the 2002 season.

The Cougars did an effective job of mixing the run and the pass last night, with 215 through the air and 188 on the ground. Tight end Ben Lamaak also caught a pair of touchdown passes, one from Thompson and one from backup Matt Carey.

But Meier was the player the J-Hawks were worried about, and for good reason.

"Curtis is a great running back and we're pleased we were able to break him open

tonight," Kennedy Coach Tim Lewis said. "He's a threat catching the ball, too. We heard the defense calling his name out there."

Kennedy put the game away in the third period with Thompson's two TD passes to Meier, a 9-yard Thompson touchdown run, and Thompson's 14-yard scoring pass to Lamaak.

Jefferson finished with 271 yards of total offense, and quarterback Josh Faaborg completed 10 of 24 passes for 135 yards and a 15-yard TD pass to Derek Bronner in the fourth quarter, but was intercepted three times.

Jefferson's other touchdowns came on a 2-yard run by sophomore Ryan Gorman in the third period and on a 13-yard pass from Travis Bennett to Adam Sankot in the fourth.

The Cougars built a 20-0 halftime lead by punching the ball into the end zone on three of their first four possessions. All three scoring drives featured a nifty blend of the run and pass, and covered 80 yards on 10 plays, 58 yards on four plays and 59 yards on 10 plays.

The first was capped by a

9-yard Thompson keeper to the right side with 5:59 left in the first quarter, the second was punctuated by a 40-yard TD pass from Thompson to Ben Lamaak working in single coverage at the 7-minute mark of the second period, and the third ended when Meier bulled in from a yard out with 1:56 left in the half.

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

"We would also like to thank the 88 golfers who participated in this year's event and for their support of IOWA STATE ATHLETICS."

Area slate

Table with columns for Today, Friday, and Saturday. Includes volleyball, cross country, girls' swimming, and area colleges.

Transactions

Table with columns for Friday and Saturday. Includes MLB, NFL, and basketball transactions.

Pro golf

PGA-81 LUMBER CLASSIC and PGA-81 LUMBER CLASSIC. Lists winners and scores for various tournaments.

Auto racing

NASCAR NEXTEL CUP and NASCAR NEXTEL CUP. Lists drivers, teams, and race results.

Pro football

NFL AMERICAN CONFERENCE and NFL NATIONAL CONFERENCE. Lists teams, players, and game results.

Prep football

METRO/IOWA CITY and MISSISSIPPI VALLEY. Lists schools, players, and game results.

Girls' swimming

IGHSAU Power Rankings and 200 FREESTYLE. Lists swimmers, teams, and race results.

Women's soccer

IOWA COLLEGES and AT IOWA CITY. Lists teams, players, and game results.

Women's golf

WILLIAM PENN INVITATIONAL and IOWA WESLEYAN INVITATIONAL. Lists winners and scores.

Women's tennis

AT IOWA CITY. Lists winners and scores for tennis matches.

Women's basketball

AT IOWA CITY. Lists winners and scores for basketball games.

Women's volleyball

AT IOWA CITY. Lists winners and scores for volleyball matches.

Women's tennis

AT IOWA CITY. Lists winners and scores for tennis matches.

College volleyball

Friday. Lists college volleyball games and results.

College basketball

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