

## Quality teamwork boosts Newark

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Inside Bay Area

Article Last Updated:09/15/2007 02:33:57 AM PDT

NEWARK — The Newark Memorial High football team didn't have a running back rush for over a 100 yards. The quarterback, Michael Gates, completed just one pass for 54 yards.

Yet when it was all said and done, the Cougars played quality team football in a 33-27 win over visiting Milpitas in non-league action Friday night.

There are no individuals striving for recognition on this Newark team. The Cougars had six running backs combine for 247 yards rushing.

They forced a fumble and recorded four interceptions. And the one completion by Gates was for a touchdown, to Robert Hawkins that gave the Cougars a 7-6 lead early in the second quarter.

"We practiced hard together (in the offseason), and we really came together as a team," Gates said. "All the seniors that came back have really shown up and are ready to play."

Gates also rushed for 48 yards and scored on a 1-yard touchdown that put the Cougars up 33-20 with 8:34 left.

That touchdown turned out to be the difference in the game. Milpitas (0-2) struck first with a 79-yard pass from Jacob Cuellar to Charles Satchell that put the Trojans up 6-0 midway through the first quarter.

While the Cougars (2-0) would go scoreless in the first quarter, they opened up the game with a 20-point second quarter and took a 20-13 lead into the half.

All three of the touchdowns in the second quarter came off three turnovers. The first touchdown was the Gates-to-Hawkins connection. The drive was set up by a Myles Gates interception.

The second touchdown was an 18-yard interception return for a touchdown by Antoine Mabray.

The third scoring play of the second quarter was set up by a recovered fumble by Milo Anderson.

Six plays and 27 yards later, Hawkins scored on a 7-yard scamper. Hawkins finished with one reception for 54 yards and rushed 18 times for 78 yards and scored a pair of touchdowns.

Running back Myles Gates finished with 61 yards rushing on eight carries. Fellow running back Eric Stewart finished with 54 yards rushing on nine carries including a 39-yard touchdown run in the third quarter.

"We're still finding out where some kids still belong," Newark coach Rich Swift said. "We had three kids play running back, two full backs and 16 players on the defense. ... The kids answered the call."

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