

Estacado beats San Angelo Lake View 33-25

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Through the first five games of the 2014 season, the Lake View High School football team had been doing a good job of winning the turnover battle and that was part of the reason the Chiefs took a two-game winning streak into Friday's homecoming game against Lubbock Estacado.

But the Chiefs weren't able to do that against the Matadors and it came back to haunt them.

Lake View lost both of its fumbles and quarterback Nick Martinez was intercepted once, leading to a 33-25 setback in the final nondistrict game at San Angelo Stadium.

"With the turnovers, it was a huge thing tonight," Lake View head coach Doug Kuhlmann said after his team dropped to 3-3. "We haven't been giving that up and we've been in the plus category on those turnovers this year and tonight we ended up on the negative side.

"(The Matadors) have some athletic people. Kenaris Jackson, who made all the (big) catches, he can run a great route and he does a good job of working in and then going deep on us. Usually we were around him, but we just couldn't make the play and he has a lot of height."

Jackson caught two touchdown passes from quarterback Jalen Tennison, and Jevon Bascus caught one as the Matadors (4-2) finished with 147 yards passing and 210 yards on the ground.

Lake View jumped out to a promising 12-0 lead late in the second quarter after a 17-yard TD run by running back Anthony Chappa, followed by a 7-yard TD pass from Martinez to tight end Tyren Coverson.

Estacado pulled within 12-7 at the half on the first TD pass to Jackson.

The Chiefs converted an onside kick to begin the third quarter and followed that up with an 8-yard TD run by Chappa at the 9:58 mark to take a 19-7 lead.

But a second TD pass from Tennison to Jackson, followed by a 51-yard TD run by Ukedrian Anderson gave Estacado its first lead of 20-19 at the 6:10 mark of the third.

After homecoming queen Juan Luna intercepted an Estacado pass in the end zone two series later, the Matadors recovered a Chief fumble at the Lake View 31-yard line.

Tennison's 19-yard TD run made it 27-19 and the Matadors went up 33-19 on the TD pass to Bascus with 7:04 left in the contest.

The Chiefs pulled within 33-25 on Martinez's 2-yard TD run with 1:04 left and tried another onside kick but couldn't pull it off.

Chappa finished with a team-high 92 yards rushing on 16 carries. H-back Taylor House had 18 carries for 89 yards and Martinez added 69 yards on 15 attempts.

Even though the Matadors had rushed for more than 500 yards last week against Lubbock High, the Chiefs knew they were capable of burning teams with their aerial assault.

“That’s really what we prepared for was to cover the deep routes because we knew that they were trying to use their speed against us,” Chappa said. “The thing that really hurt us tonight was our turnovers on offense.

“We can’t expect our defense to pull us out every time. We’ve got to protect the ball and we’ve got to drive it down their throats.”

Despite falling to .500 heading into next week’s District 4-5A opener on the road against Lubbock Cooper, the Chiefs haven’t lost their swagger.

“We still feel pretty good,” Chappa said. “We needed to run into (the Matadors) and learn that against these good teams we’ve got to go out there and we’ve got to finish. When we’ve got the lead, we’ve got to go out there and keep pushing it to them.”

The Chiefs got the ball first in the first half and took over at their own 41 and House got the ball on the first three plays for a total of 30 yards, including a 20-yarder on his first attempt.

Six plays later, Chappa darted into the end zone for his 17-yard TD run to give Lake View a 6-0 lead at the 7:46 mark of the first. Brandon Lee’s conversion kick was blocked.

For the sixth straight game this year, the Chiefs held their opponent scoreless in the first quarter.

With 9:05 remaining in the second quarter, Luna recovered an Estacado fumble at the Chiefs’ 38.

A 26-yard scamper by Martinez on second-and-9 gave the Chiefs a first down at the Matadors’ 35.

Nine plays later, the Lake View quarterback connected with Coverson for a 7-yard TD pass that made it 12-0 Chiefs with 3:16 left in the first half. The Chiefs tried to make up for the missed PAT on the first TD by throwing a pass on the second conversion, but it fell incomplete.