

Burciaga leads Warriors to 20-0 win over Comanche

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Cesar Burciaga was too much for the Comanche defense Thursday in the home opener for the West Warrior seventh graders.

Burciaga scored three touchdowns to lead the Warriors in a 20-0 shutout win over the Coyotes.

“Cesar had a real good night,” West coach Butch King said. “The kids played really well. Early in the game we had a few penalties, but once they settled down they played really well.”

West was forced to punt on its first possession of the game, but the Comanche returner fumbled, and the Warriors recovered deep in Coyote territory.

Three plays later, Burciaga broke around the right side and danced along the sideline on his way to a touchdown and a 6-0 Warrior lead.

The Coyotes had a definite size advantage on their offensive front line, but after some initial success running the ball, the Warrior defense made adjustments and were able to prevent sustained drives.

“They were huge,” King said. “They had two linemen that were big, and they gave us some problems. We had to change things up a little bit.”

Twice in the first half the Coyotes were able to drive into West territory, but the Warriors were able to force fumbles and get recoveries.

West forced four turnovers.

“In football, if you win the turnover margin, you have a chance to win the game,” King said.

By halftime, the Warriors clung to a 6-0 lead, and the second half continued to be a defensive battle as both teams relied on their defense.

But the Warriors made an adjustment late in the quarter that allowed them to put together a drive that stretched into the fourth quarter.

“The kids up front did a good job,” King said. “We had to change blocking on our counter play.”

That adjustment allowed Burciaga to break free and score for a 12-0 West lead.

Comanche attempted to convert a fourth down play in their own territory but failed, and the Warriors tacks on a late score for the 20-0 win.

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West (2-0) will travel to Hugoton Thursday.