

Miners defeat Hawks in another classic

By Michael Black
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SOUTH JORDAN — It was gut-check time.

When Alta faces Bingham in high school football, it is almost guaranteed to be an instant classic. But after a dominating first half by the Hawks, the much-anticipated showdown was in jeopardy of becoming a laugher. That was when Bingham dug deep and found its intestinal fortitude.

"We told each other to relax and that we were better than that," said offensive guard **Tuni Kanuch** of the halftime speech. "We knew that we were playing a good team, but that we had it in us to come back and play a better half than what we had just shown. We looked inside and said, 'Let's go do this.'"

The Miners responded by reeling off 24 consecutive points and dominating every aspect of the game for the final two quarters and No. 2-ranked Bingham upset top-ranked Alta, 38-34.

"I know that every time we get together it seems like it is close like this. But I think that may have been the greatest game all-time between us," said Miners coach **Dave Peck**.



Chris Copier (No. 88) and Ty Hannay run off the field in celebration of Bingham's win, which ended a three-game losing streak to the Hawks.

Alta was up 28-14 after two quarters thanks to some big plays in the passing game. Quarterback Jordan Brown kept finding his speedy receivers in some open space and had 279 yards passing at the break.

Tyron Morris caught a 76-yard score. Skyler Mayne had plenty of catches, and Zach Liston was the on the end of several passes, including an 18-yard touchdown. When Austin Lee added a 40-yard interception return for a score,

it appeared the Hawks were going to blow it open.

"We realized we were going to have to go away from so much man coverage," said

Peck of some adjustments made at the half. "We like to pressure the quarterback and put guys up there, but we decided we better drop our safeties back into coverage and help our corners."

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BINGHAM FOOTBALL: Miners 38, Alta 34



Manoa Pikula



Braden Anderson celebrates a big play during Bingham's victory over Alta.

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That adjustment made all the difference. Alta was held to only four first downs in the second half and only 111 yards passing, with most of it coming on a last-minute 61-yard scoring toss to Mayne.

Bingham went back to what it does best: pounding the football with **Harvey Langi**. The offensive line took over the football game and opened huge holes for its star back.

"There is nothing better than putting a guy on his back and watching Harvey run to the open field," said tackle **Brandon Taukeiaho**.

Harvey finished the game with 189 yards on 22 carries and a touchdown — he also had 116 yards receiving, including a first-half 76-yard touchdown grab. With the Alta defense forced to focus so much of its attention on Langi, tight end **Chris Copier** slipped free down the middle for touchdown grabs.

"I thought the difference was our O-line," said Peck. "The guys up front just took over the game."

GAME SUMMARY

Alta 3 25 0 6 - 34

Bingham 7 7 7 17 - 38

A – FG Vance Bingham 39

B – Ryland Tausinga 3 pass from Ty Hannay (Braeden Loveless kick)

A – FG Bingham 35

A – Tyrone Morris 76 pass from Jordan Brown (Zach Liston pass from Brown)

B – Harvey Langi 73 pass from Ty Hannay (Loveless kick)

A – Liston 19 pass from Brown (Bingham kick)

A – Austin Lee 40 interception return (Bingham kick)

B – Chris Copier 17 pass from Hannay (Loveless kick)

B – Langi 24 run (Loveless kick)

B – Copier 15 pass from Hannay (Loveless kick)

B – FG Loveless 42

A – Skyler Mayne 61 pass from Brown (kick failed)

TEAM STATISTICS

	Alta	Bing
First downs	16	18
Rushes-yards	26-103	43-233
Passing yards	390	200
Passes	14-34-1	10-20-1
Fumbles	0-0	0-0
Penalties	12-95	11-70
Punts	5-45.0	7-34.0

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING

ALTA: Finnerty 5-58, Jefferson 12-37, Brown 7-11, Bagley 2-(-3)

BINGHAM: Langi 22-189, Hannay 19-39, Pikula 1-5

PASSING

ALTA: Brown 14-34-1-390.

BINGHAM: Hannay 10-20-1-200

RECEIVING

ALTA: Mayne 7-151, Morris 2-132, Liston 5-107.

BINGHAM: Langi 3-111, Copier 2-32, Fackrell 1-26, Measom 2-17, Tausinga 2-14