

Lone Peak Loss Is More Bitter Than the Score

By Bruce Smith
MatchupUT.com

MIDVALE – One week after suffering their worst loss of the season, things got worse for the Hillcrest Huskies.

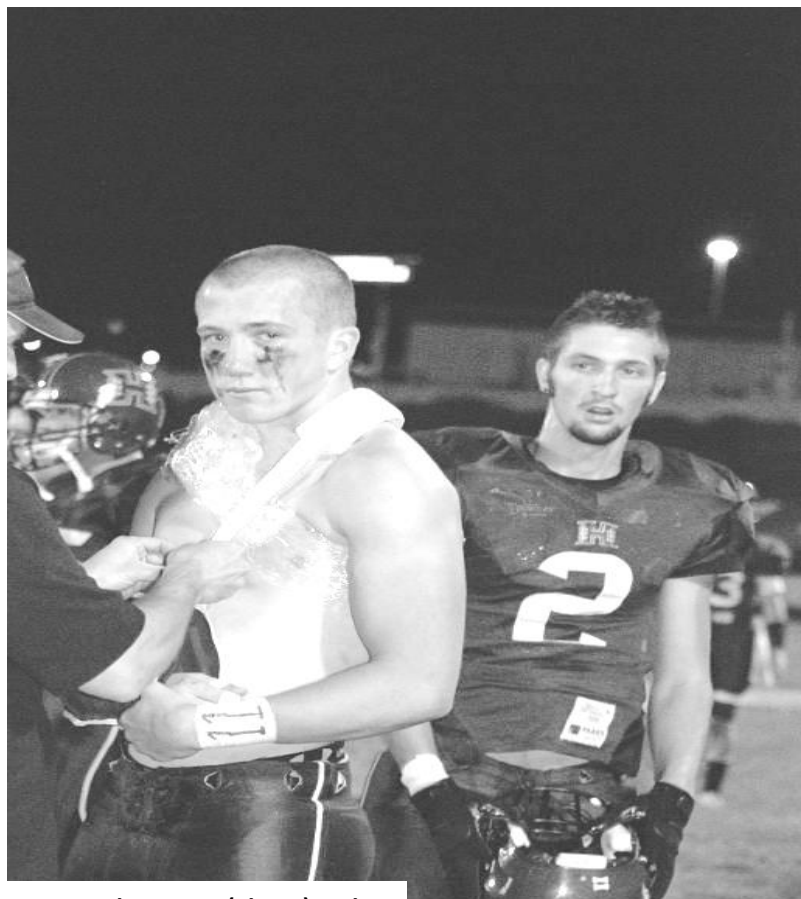
The Huskies lost three of their best players to injuries Friday night, and fell 49-9 at home to the Lone Peak Knights.

The loss dropped Hillcrest to 2-3 on the season, and 0-2 in Region 4 play. Lone Peak won its fourth straight after a disappointing loss to Bountiful to start the season. The Knights are 2-0 in region.

“They threw (the football) all over the field,” said Hillcrest coach **Kirk Merhish**. “Their quarterback was on.”

That was just the start of their problems. In the game, **Danny Thompson**, **Nick Merhish** and **Matt Pecht** left the game with injuries. Thompson and Merhish will probably be lost for the season.

“That took a huge toll on the team,” said coach Merhish. “We lost all of them in the same quarter. It gave the kids a helpless feeling.”



Danny Thompson (above) and Nick Merhish (lower right) were lost for the season in this game.

That feeling may have started even earlier.

The Knights rode the passing of quarterback Tannon Pedersen, who completed 9 of 12 passes for 112 yards and three touchdowns. Lone Peak led 21-0 in the first quarter and extended to 35-7 at halftime.

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HILLCREST FOOTBALL: Lone Peak 49, Huskies 9

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Chase Lindsley. He also found the end zone on a 20-yard run – all in the first half. Lone Peak was able to substitute freely in the second half as the “mercy rule” was initiated when the Knights got above a 35-point lead.

The Huskies’ home crowd got to cheer just before intermission when **Tanner Kemp** found **Matt Augustyn** on a 28-yard scoring pass. Hillcrest also added a safety in the third quarter.

The injury problems, however, were the story of the game.

Thompson was Hillcrest’s leading receiver and had caught four passes for 64 yards, including a 43-yarder, before he had to leave the game.

Merhish was – once again – all over. He had 17 tackles, including 11 unassisted, in this game alone before he was helped off the field.

Pecht only carried the ball once. His status, however, was uncertain.

Smith took over on defense. He finished with 12 tackles, including a sack, and was credited with the safety. **Adrin Vigil** and **B.J. Edman** had fumble recoveries.

On offense, Kemp was under constant pressure. He completed 11 of 27 passes for 139 yards and the one touchdown. He was also intercepted three times. **Trae Kranz** was the top runner with 37 yards on 11 carries.

SCORING SUMMARY

Lone Peak	21	14	7	7	49
Hillcrest	0	7	2	0	9

LP – Kyson Flake 2 run (Ryne MacPherson kick)

LP – Tannon Pedersen 20 run (MacPherson kick)

LP – Ryan Savage 28 pass from Pedersen (MacPherson kick)

LP – Cameron Deere 13 pass from Pedersen (MacPherson kick)

LP – Chase Lindsley 5 pass from Pedersen (MacPherson kick)

H – Matt Augustyn 28 pass from Tanner Kemp (Jeff Brown kick)

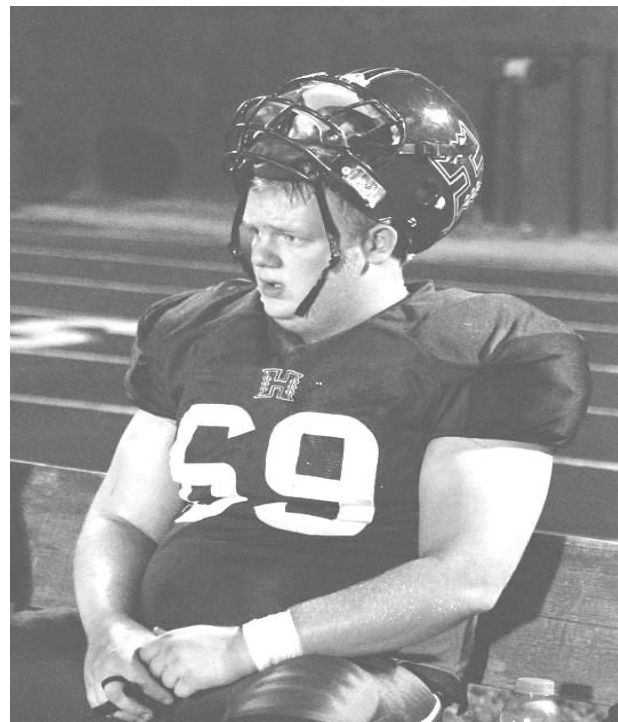
H – Safety

LP – Eric Pollard 4 run (MacPherson kick)

LP – Matt Olson 9 pass from Mitch Flygare (MacPherson kick)



Trae Kranz checks his position with a nearby official.



Dylan Foote takes a rest on the sidelines.