

2010 MIDGET SUPER BOWL

By Kenny Varner

Midget

LEWISTOWN - In the night cap of the Juniata Valley Football League, the State College Little Lions midget team made it a Centre County sweep as it collected the Midget championship 27-0 in their Super Bowl Match against Belletown.

After a first half that saw just one score, the Little Lions exploded in the second half for 21 uncontested points en route to the shut out.

"The kids played great as always," State College coach Scott Fry said. "Again, it was a total team effort. We had one of our main guys out until today. But in the mean time the other kids stepped up and did a good job. It was a little slow start for us today but they started to put it together in the second quarter."

Both defenses dictated the early pace of the game as the first quarter and second quarter provided strong defensive stands.

It would be the State College special team that would make the first noise for the Little Lions.

Facing a fourth down from its own 47, the Bobcats were forced to punt the ball away. The ball went right into the hands of punt returner Kellin Valentine. Valentine went right to the heart of the matter as he got outside the Belletown protection and scampered his way to a 47-yard return, ending his run at the Belletown 13. Belletown tried to do all it could to keep the Little Lions from scoring, forcing the drive to go four plays before State finally crossed the goalline. Drew Friberg cashed it in from three yards out, ending the first half scoring at 6-0.

As the weather got colder, the Little Lions offense started to heat up. When the third quarter got underway, the Little Lions first possession was thwarted by an interception by Belletown's Hunter Goss as he stepped between the quarterback and the receiver to snatch the ball.

However, the Bobcats could not capitalize on the turnover and was forced to give the ball back to State College.

After forcing the Bobcats to turn the ball over on downs, State College went on a 2-play drive culminating in a 54-yard pass reception by Alec Aspray from Greg Copenhagen, upping the score to 13-0.

State College continued to roll on offense as they scored on its next two possessions to end the scoring a 27-0.

But the Bobcats showed their determination and never say die attitude as they refused to give up.

With just under three minutes left, the Bobcats worked their way down the field, highlighted by 12-yard run by Ross Underhill. The drive started at Belletown's own 25 and ending at the State College's 31 before time ran out on the Bobcats

"I am really pleased with the group of kids from Belletown," Bobcat head coach

Bryan Yeager said. "They (State College) has a very big, very strong football team. I told my guys that size doesn't matter its the heart that comes out. I thought we played with heart. I told my guys I am proud of the way they played and they left the impression you like to see as a coach that heart showed when you play."

For the Little Lions its their third championship in four years.