

# They are the champions



Macomb Daily photo by David Dalton

Romeo's Ryan Burkard (37) scores a late second-quarter touchdown in the Bulldogs' 38-0 victory over Warren-Mott.

## Romeo shuts out Warren-Mott; South Lake rolls

### Bulldogs claim share of MAC Red Division crown

By Susan Smiley  
Special to The Macomb Daily

The Romeo Bulldogs were more like bulldozers Friday night when they shut out Warren Mott 38-0 on the Marauders' homecoming to clinch at least a share of the MAC Red Division championship.

Romeo scored on its first two drives and the momentum from that 14-0 lead just kept building through the remainder of the game.

Zach Bellas started the game with an onside kick which he also recovered. The Bulldogs scored on the next play when quarterback Blake Laurain handed off to Brian Roth on a reverse and Roth ran 35 yards into the end zone untouched.

"We've had trouble coming out with intensity so we thought maybe the onside kick

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Macomb Daily photo by David Dalton

South Lake's Anthony Johnson catches a touchdown pass in front of Clawson's De-shawn Gilbert in the Cavaliers' victory.

### Cavs earn playoff berth with 35-0 win vs. Clawson

By Jon Machota  
Special to The Macomb Daily

Prior to this season, South Lake had not shut out an opponent since October of 2005.

That year also happened to be the last time the Cavaliers reached postseason play.

That streak came to an end Friday night in front of a homecoming crowd.

Behind its fourth shutout of the 2010 campaign and second in as many weeks, South Lake locked up a playoff berth with a 35-0 blowout victory over Clawson.

"Their brand of football is straight ahead and smash mouth," Clawson coach Jim Sparks said. "They don't try to trick you, they don't try to hide anything."

The victory also gives South Lake sole possession of first place in the Macomb

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# ROMEO: Laurain, Brynaert lead Bulldogs to share of MAC Red

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would surprise them,” said Laurain. “We came out full of energy and got out to a good start.”

Romeo scored on its next drive when Laurain threw 15 yards to Taylor Brynaert in the end zone.

“I think it was really important for us to score on our first two drives,” said Laurain. “That set the tone for the game and we just kept going from there.”

Warren-Mott fought hard, but the Bulldogs simply had too many weapons for them to handle.

Cassel Baker was the Maraud-

ers toughest defender, but in the end, he and the rest of Mott’s defensive line were just unable to contain Brynaert and Laurain.

“Anytime you can score on the first two drives it helps a ton,” said Romeo coach Jason Couch. “It takes pressure off of our defense even though they’ve been playing really well and it throws the other team out of rhythm.

The onside kick was something on film we thought we saw their front guys dropping back pretty quick and we thought we could grab some momentum right from the start.”

Romeo (6-1, 4-0) sits atop the MAC Red, and is assured of at least a tie for the league crown. Eisenhower is second in the division with a 3-1 record.

But Couch believes his Bulldogs are capable of playing better than what they have so far this season. The past two weeks, Romeo has topped Chippewa Valley 41-16 and Cousino 21-17, but Couch didn’t like what he saw in those two games.

“Our last couple of games we really have not played much Romeo football,” said Couch. “But this week It seemed to be

the week we got a few things clicking right away and our tempo was good. We are going to tweak a couple more things and get on track to maybe even play at a higher level than what we have the past couple of weeks.”

Laurain was 8 for 11 for 144 yards and three touchdowns. Brynaert had 10 carries for 78 yards and one touchdown. Roth threw for 74 yards and rushed for 42 yards and one touchdown. Ryan Burkard had six carries for 90 yards. Evan Simpson added three extra points; Ashley Flinn had one extra point and added a

36-yard field goal in the fourth quarter of the game.

Mott falls to 2-5, 1-3 in the MAC Red. Romeo takes on Stevenson next week while the Marauders will face Dakota, ranked second in the MAC Red.

“This was the kind of game we need to have especially going into the playoffs,” said Couch. “But we have a huge MAC Red foe next week with Sterling Heights Stevenson and it is also our homecoming. So we can’t look past anything. We can’t focus on anything else but next week’s game right now.”