‘Rodney Delivers’

JMU holds off late Villanova surge, Landers scores winning touchdown to send Dukes to semifinals
The Breeze is published Monday and Thursday mornings and distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community. Comments and complaints should be addressed to Tim Chapman, editor.

The Breeze traditionally doesn’t publish during finals week, but in lieu of the football team’s success, we are publishing an exclusive football special edition. The Dec. 1 issue was also a special edition, as we do not publish the Monday after Thanksgiving.

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If only the voters knew that Rodney Landers was Landers from James Madison University was and throughout the season and right now Rodney deserves Walter Payton Award.
The hardest thing Rodney Landers had to do Saturday against Villanova was not score.

In No. 1 JMU’s second-round NCAA playoff game, Madison’s junior quarterback was told not to reach the end zone by his coach with 1:16 left in the first half, a fumble-happy Wildcats defense aimed at stopping whatever combination of Landers options could come to call one of its three remaining timeouts.

On that first quarterback sneak, in 2:19, Villanova had (or was in) a 14-7 lead, Don’t score, because we wanted to burn some clock,” Landers said. “I told the head coach I thought we could do it for one down, but I didn’t think we could do it for more than one. “His first touchdown pass came on the first play of the second quarter, Landers said. “So this time we had a lot of confidence in our offensive line and Rodney obviously, like everyone does.”

Madison rushed for 13-of-20 for 213 yards, a much to overcome. Matthews encapsulated Landers within 24-20 early in the fourth quarter. Matthews said: “I was like, ‘Fall down, fall down,’” JMU junior quarterback Chris Whitney threw an interception in the half, after Villanova recovered a Landers fumble at the JMU 36-yard line. The Wildcats led 10-7 at the half, after Villanova recovered a Landers fumble near the line of scrimmage on a quarterback sneak.

“The next score came with less than a minute in the half, after Villanova recovered a Landers fumble at the JMU 56-yard line. The Wildcats began their drive with 3:11 remaining, and Sicurello punched it in two yards for the score with 37 seconds left in the second quarter.

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Who Will Win FCS Semifinal?
Villanova coach predicts Montana will be ‘slam dunk’ for Dukes

BY WES SHAW

In a recruiting meeting Wednesday night, JMU coach Mickey Matthews used a few free minutes to ask each member of his staff who they thought would win last weekend’s quarterfinal matchup between Northern Iowa and Appalachian State.

Unanimously, the staff chose Richmond.

Although App State was the three-time defending national champion and No. 2 in the FCS postseason Coaches’ Guide, it was hard for Matthews and his staff to predict the winner.

“App State isn’t a one-man show,” Matthews said before facing fans at 31-27 win Saturday over Villanova on Sarayu Stadium.

Richmond is battle-tested, tough and prepared for any opponent. Having been in the best conference in the country will do that to you.

By Wes Shaw

Richmond beat Montana last year, but got revenge with a 39-10 win over the Grizzlies, making no effort to hide his CAA bias.

he was confident would have no trouble getting by Montana.

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Northern Iowa beat New Hampshire for its quarterfinal win Saturday, UNI-Dome.

The Panthers have won 10-games this year.

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The game will be held at the UNI-Dome in Cedar Falls, Iowa. The Panthers have won 10-games this year.

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Top Rushing Performances
1. CHASE REYNOLDS, Montana
  71 carries | 416 yards | 4 touchdowns
2. RODNEY LANDERS, JMU
  20 carries | 179 yards | 2 touchdowns
3. TREVIN SMITH, Weber State
  42 carries | 241 yards | 3 touchdowns

Top Passing Performances
1. ARMANTI EDWARDS, Appalachian State
  55-88 | 785 yards | 11 touchdowns | 7 interceptions
2. CAMERON HIGGINS, Weber State
  40-77 | 703 yards | 8 touchdowns | 1 interception
3. R.J. TOMAN, New Hampshire
  32-62 | 309 yards | 1 touchdown | 7 interceptions

Top Receiving Performances
1. TIM TOONE, Appalachian State
  15 catches | 201 yards | 1 touchdown | 0 interceptions
2. MIKE BOYLE, New Hampshire
  14 catches | 190 yards | 0 touchdowns
3. BRIAN QUICK, Appalachian State
  11 catches | 185 yards | 2 touchdowns

Stadium Shenanigans
Braving the bitter cold in the name of school spirit, humor

I usually don’t make it to football games. It’s not because I don’t care or lack the school spirit that inspires one to support his or her football team. It’s more that I’m lazy and irresponsible as far as tailgating is concerned.

I’ve been to a couple of games but am rarely allowed to stay for long, if I even go in. I usually hear the following from stadium officials: “You’re not supposed to yell obscenities at children” or “Sir, this is a parking lot, you can’t sleep here.” How ever, I thought a playoff game would be the perfect opportunity to actually make it to a game and see our team play in person.

Let me tell you one thing: I’ve never been so damn cold in my entire life. Did you go to the game? Well, never been so damn cold in my entire life. I’m all for supporting the team. It’s more than just the actual fall, so I don’t feel that bad about it. Even if you don’t like football and you’re just going to games to fit in, there are plenty of entertaining things happening all around you.

If I can be a nice end to finals week, so stick around.

MICHAEL LARRICK is a junior media arts & design major and a columnist.
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5 BEDROOM HOUSE AVAILABLE JAN. 127 New York Ave. 5 bd. 3 bath. $1,500 a month. 5 min. walk to jmu quad (540) 746-3562

3 BEDROOM HOUSE - 1173 Harrison St. $335/person. Available Aug. 2009. (540) 478-5980

5 BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE, University Court. Available August 2009. $325/person. 540-478-5980

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