

Buena remains winless in league

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The Buena High football team managed to show Santa Barbara it would be more than the Dons' personal speed bump on its way to a key showdown with St. Bonaventure next Friday.

In the end, however, the Bulldogs just couldn't muster enough offense to keep up with visiting Santa Barbara, which won 35-18.

"We definitely wanted to win on the road," Santa Barbara coach Will Gonzales said. "Anytime you can win on the road in the Channel League, it's a heck of an accomplishment."

Dons quarterback John Uribe was the maestro of Santa Barbara's offense, as he completed 24 of 39 passes for 264 yards and four touchdowns.

Receiver Roberto Nelson caught three touchdowns and ended up with 58 yards receiving. Bryson Leonard caught six passes for 78 yards.

"Santa Barbara played very well," Buena coach Cliff Farrar said. "They did a nice job. They got a nice offense that kept us off the field."

Buena's offense was led by running back Michael Davis, who rushed 11 times for 48 yards and a touchdown. Tight end Tyler Perry caught six passes for 34 yards.

Buena (3-4, 0-2) scored the game's first points on a 45-yard field goal by Matt Dominick. Santa Barbara responded right away, as Freddy Maldonado ran the ensuing kickoff 95 yards for the touchdown.

Santa Barbara (3-4, 2-0) scored two minutes into the second quarter when Uribe found Leonard from 17 yards out for the touchdown. Santa Barbara looked to add to its lead late in the quarter, but Logan Norris sacked Uribe and forced him to fumble, which Norris recovered at the Santa Barbara 38.

Buena immediately capitalized, and Davis finished off the drive with a 1-yard touchdown run with 49 seconds remaining in the half. Quarterback Robert Munoz then found Kevin Leiser for the 2-point conversion to pull Buena to within a field goal at halftime.

Santa Barbara received a break on its first drive of the second half when Davis reached in to deflect a Uribe pass only to make contact with the receiver for a pass-interference penalty. Santa Barbara eventually found the end zone, as Uribe connected with Roberto Nelson from 3 yards out for the score.

Buena used a little trickery to score its next touchdown, as Rex Winslow faked a punt and linked up with Norris. The result was a 44-yard pass for a touchdown with 6:13 left in the third quarter. Santa Barbara though continued to pull away from Buena.

Uribe found Nelson in the end zone and survived attempts by a Buena defender to push him out of bounds. Uribe and Nelson hooked up again from 3 yards out with 6:54 left in the fourth quarter, as Nelson reached out with one hand to snag a pass for another six points to put the game out of reach.