

Barons clinch Section crown

For the second year in a row, Manheim Central's football team capped off a perfect 10-0 regular season last Friday night.

And with it, the Barons also claimed the Section Two championship outright, defeating Solanco 57-14 in chilly conditions at Manheim's Elden Rettew Field. It was Manheim Central's 25th Section title in program history.

The Barons (6-0 L-L) — who have now won 25 straight regular-season games — are the No. 1 seed in the District Three 5A playoffs. They get a first-round bye and will play the Elizabethtown-Governor Mifflin winner next Friday, Nov. 9.

Going into that game, Manheim Central is averaging 383 yards of offense per game. Senior running back Tyler Flick is a big part of that, and he added to his impressive stats last Friday against the Golden Mules, rushing for 237 yards and four touchdowns on just 10 carries to lead the way.

In all, the Barons piled up 592 yards of total offense against Solanco's defense.

The fireworks started early, as

Barons

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Flick broke away for a 75-yard touchdown run in the first quarter to give Manheim Central a quick 7-0 lead.

On their next possession, following a fumble recovery, the Barons needed just two plays to go 70 yards, as Colby Wagner hauled in a 60-yard TD strike from junior quarterback Evan Simon. Niko Gavala's PAT made it 14-0.

That was the start of an efficient night for Simon, who was 6-of-9 for 179 yards, with two TDs and no interceptions.

Later, Will Rivers' third INT of the season set up Manheim Central's third touchdown of the opening quarter — a 24-yard TD run by Flick which pushed the lead to 21-0 after one.

It was one of four turnovers in the game from the Golden Mules, who fell to 2-4 L-L (6-4 overall).

Solanco got on the scoreboard on a 54-yard TD run by Nafis Moore early in the second, cutting MC's lead to 21-7.

Isaac Perron answered by scoring on an 11-yard run for the Barons, and then the Golden Mules struck again, this time on Moore's 3-yard TD run, making the score 28-14. Solanco finished the game with 326 yards on the ground on 53 rushes.

But it was all Manheim Central from there.

Rivers scored on a 55-yard pass and then Simon called his own number for a 15-yard TD run to make it 42-14 going to the locker room.

Manheim Central's defense shut out Solanco in the second half, and the Barons pushed their lead to 55-14 at the end of the third quarter on touchdown runs of 8 and 56 yards by Flick.

A fourth-quarter safety by the Barons' defense completed the scoring. Evan Hosler had 16 tackle points, including five solos, and a fumble recovery to lead Central's D in the win.



Photo by Kirk Neidermyer

Senior Tyler Flick rushed for 237 yards and four touchdowns in the Barons' 57-14 win over Solanco last Friday night.

