

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MT. SAC EDGES HOST SAN MATEO, 7-6, FOR CCCAA STATE GRID TITLE

Mt. San Antonio College quarterback Matt Faulkner completed a 64-yard touchdown pass play to freshman wide receiver Michael Harrell at the end of the third quarter to take a 7-6 victory over host College of San Mateo before a wet crowd of 3,723 in the California Community College Athletic Association state championship football game Saturday afternoon.

Northern California Champion San Mateo (10-2) had kept the Mounties (13-1) in check until that point, holding a 6-0 lead from the outset. The Bulldogs went 80 yards on their first possession, mostly on the running of David Aknin (who had 129 yards in the game). Quarterback Matt Pelesasa got the final yard on a bootleg, rolling untouched to the right side of the end zone. CSM couldn't get the conversion kick attempt off, however, on the wet (artificial turf) field.

So Jeremy Brown's later conversion for Mt. SAC -- kicked from the 25-yard line after a penalty -- provided the final margin -- giving the Bulldogs their second one-point setback of the year.

Game MVP Craig Payne thwarted San Mateo's last chance, intercepting Pelesasa on Mt. SAC's 20-yard line with 1:02 left in the game. Payne, a 6-5, 275 freshman defensive lineman, also had nine tackles

San Mateo had five turnovers and Mt. SAC three (fumbles). CSM completed only two of 15 passes under stormy conditions -- and had three picked off (all in the fourth quarter), two by Mountie freshman DB Malcolm Murray.

San Mateo failed to take advantage a great opportunity on its second possession, taking over on the Mt. SAC 14 after the Mounties botched a punt attempt. But Juan Garcia's 29-yard field goal attempt hit the right upright.

Faulkner, a 6-2, 205-pound sophomore, completed 10 of 22 passes for 162 yards and was voted the offensive player of the game. Defensive honors went to San Mateo soph lineman Matangi Tonga (6-3, 285), who had five tackles.

San Mateo held a 91-66 total offense lead at halftime. But Mt. SAC turned that around at the end -- for a final 240-183 edge. Mt. SAC had the passing advantage, 162-21, while San Mateo had the rushing margin, 162-78. Mt. SAC sophomore running back Burton Iosefa rushed for 75 yards on 18 carries

CSM first year head coach Bret Pollack put the game in a capsule: "They had one big play. We had one good drive. The defensive performances were excellent."

HISTORY: The third time was the charm for Mt. San Antonio College, which had won Southern California crowns the last two seasons before losing in the state finals (to San Francisco and Butte). Mt. SAC also won the 1997 title, when association championship games resumed after a 24-year hiatus. This was San Mateo's first official final game appearance.

NATIONAL IMPLICATIONS: *Mt. SAC will also lay claim to the mythical national JC/CC title, as champion of the USA's largest 2-year college football association (71 teams) -- and finishing with the best record (13-1) of any of the nation's 140 teams.*

#1 MSAC vs #2 San Mateo (Dec 12, 2009 at San Mateo)

Box Score (Final)

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Score	
Mt. San Antonio	0	0	7	0	- 7	Record: (13-1)
San Mateo.....	6	0	0	0	- 6	Record: (10-2)

Scoring Summary:

1st 07:24 CSM - Pelesasa,Matt 1 yd run (TEAM rush failed), 13-80 4:24, MSAC 0 - CSM 6
3rd 00:07 MSAC - Harrell,Michael 64 yd pass from Faulkner,Matt (Brown,Jeremy kick), 1-64 0:10, MSAC 7 - CSM 6

	MSAC	CSM
FIRST DOWNS.....	12	11
RUSHES-YARDS (NET).....	49-78	58-162
PASSING YDS (NET).....	162	21
Passes Att-Comp-Int.....	27-10-0	15-2-3
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS....	76-240	73-183
Fumble Returns-Yards.....	0-0	1-5
Punt Returns-Yards.....	0-0	2-6
Kickoff Returns-Yards.....	2-43	1-42
Interception Returns-Yards....	3-21	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg).....	9-42.8	9-29.6
Fumbles-Lost.....	6-3	4-2
Penalties-Yards.....	9-79	6-73
Possession Time.....	28:45	31:15
Third-Down Conversions.....	2 of 18	5 of 18
Fourth-Down Conversions.....	1 of 3	0 of 2
Red-Zone Scores-Chances.....	0-2	1-2
Sacks By: Number-Yards.....	2-6	2-16

RUSHING: MSAC-Iosefa,Burton 18-75; Campbell,Ian 1-18; Iosefa,Lancer 11-14; McBride,Bryce 4-8; Vanderzee,Tyler 2-4; Arendse,Kolby 4-2; Faulkner,Matt 4-minus 15; TEAM 5-minus 28. San Mateo-Aknin,David 29-129; Pohahau,Seta 8-27; Gaines,Donell 5-13; Pelesasa,Matt 10-6; Frazier,Will 3-4; TEAM 3-minus 17.

PASSING: MSAC-Faulkner,Matt 10-22-0-162; Vanderzee,Tyler 0-5-0-0. San Mateo-Pelesasa,Matt 2-14-2-21; Frazier,Will 0-1-1-0.

RECEIVING: MSAC-Owens,Ahmere 3-38; Canada,Jesse 3-23; Harrell,Michael 1-64; Darcey,Tommy 1-24; Iaea,Ryan 1-9; Sherman,Thomas 1-4. San Mateo-Webster,John 2-21.

INTERCEPTIONS: MSAC-Murray,Malcolm 2-8; Payne,Craig 1-13. San Mateo-None.

FUMBLES: MSAC-Iaea,Ryan 1-1; Canada,Jesse 1-0; Faulkner,Matt 1-0; TEAM 1-0; Iosefa,Lancer 1-1; Iosefa,Burton 1-1. San Mateo-Frazier,Will 1-1; Aknin,David 1-1; Pohahau,Seta 1-0; Pelesasa,Matt 1-0.

Stadium: College Heights Attendance: 3723
Kickoff time: 12:15 pm End of Game: 3:02 Total elapsed time: 2:47
Officials: Referee: Robinson; Umpire: Sengo; Linesman: Mason; Line judge: McInerney;
Field judge: Zwanziger; Side judge: Santi; Scorer: Dan Bertellotti;
Temperature: 54 Wind: 11 Weather: Rainy

SACKS (UA-A): MSAC-Fifita,Rudolf 2-0. San Mateo-Watson,Ashanti 1-0; Masarie,Nick 1-0.

TACKLES (UA-A): MSAC-James,Kerel 4-5; Payne,Craig 3-6; Gorforth,Ronnie 6-2; Irvin,Bruce 4-4; Vaifale,Kjae 3-3; Asuega,Kapono 0-6; Valomounga,Nathan 3-2; Foreman,Reece 0-5; Fifita,Rudolf 2-2; Murray,Malcolm 2-1; Latu,Manoa 1-2; Tuifalasai,Lino 1-2; Teo,Jake 1-1; Daniels,Austin 0-2; Ford,Lorenzo 1-0; Gama,Wblesther 1-0; Dancy,Paul 0-1. San Mateo-Denne,Tommy 5-2; Purchase,Cary 2-5; Masarie,Nick 5-1; Forbes,Jack 4-2; Heleta,Siaosi 3-2; Tonga,Matangi 2-3; Hallman,Daniel 1-4; Simpson,Dwaine 4-0; Elder,Eddie 2-2; Watson,Ashanti 1-3; Joseph,Earl 1-2; Vaughn,Rahsaan 2-0; Gooden,Jarret 2-0; Sampson,Joe 2-0; Pelesasa,Matt 1-0; Gaines,Donell 1-0; McCullough,James 1-0.

Game Starters:

MSAC

POS ## OFFENSE
QB 17 Faulkner, Matt
RB 28 Iosefa, Lancer
WR 4 Canada, Jesse
WR 22 Owens, Ahmere
TE 18 Arendse, Kolby
G 64 Seumanutafa, B
G 67 Foketi, Manase
T 65 Unga, Joe
C 75 Farris, Desmond
T 50 Adams, Gaison
WR 5 Thomas, Lester

San Mateo

POS ## OFFENSE
SLOT 4 Frazier, Will
SLOT 28 Gaines, Donell
WR 7 Webster, John
WR 18 Vaughn, Rahsaan
RT 65 Baker, Mark
RG 54 Dorricott, Mike
C 55 Canahuati, Louis
LG 75 Galten, Jeremy
LT 76 Billings, Travis
QB 9 Pelesasa, Matt
RB 33 Aknin, David

POS ## DEFENSE

DB 1 Ikner, Arness
DB 2 Daniels, Austin
DB 8 Murray, Malcolm
DE 11 Irvin, Bruce
DB 15 Latu, Manoa
DB 21 Gorforth, Ronnie
DL 90 Asuega, Kapono
DE 95 Dancy, Paul
DL 98 Teo, Jake
LB 44 James, Kerel
LB 42 Valomounga, Nath

POS ## DEFENSE

DE 17 Tonga, Matangi
NT 92 Faalau, Ina
DE 66 Masarie, Nick
ILB 40 Denne, Tommy
ILB 49 Heleta, Siaoisi
OLB 13 Forbes, Jack
OLB 44 Purchase, Cary
S 1 Sampson, Joe
S 2 Elder, Eddie
CB 14 Gooden, Jarret
CB 15 Simpson, Dwaine

Player participation:

MSAC: 3-McBride, Bryce, 6-Sherman, Thomas, 9-Darcey, Tommy, 10-Foreman, Reece, 12-Vanderzee, Tyler, 13-Padilla, Daniel, 14-Harrell, Michael, 23-Gama, Wblesther, 29-Iosefa, Burton, 34-Hall, Christophe, 43-Vaifale, Kjae, 46-Campbell, Ian, 49-Brown, Jeremy, 54-Fifita, Rudolf, 55-Ford, Lorenzo, 57-Willis, Michael, 83-Iaea, Ryan, 86-Keohokapu, B, 91-Payne, Craig, 99-Tuifalasai, Lino.

San Mateo: 3-McCullough, Jame, 8-Joseph, Earl, 24-Pohahau, Seta, 37-Watson, Ashanti, 52-Hallman, Daniel, 87-Garcia, Juan, 88-Alcaraz, Austin.

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