

Giants battle valiantly in loss to Lafayette Jefferson

By Sean Douglas

Playing against NCC rival Lafayette Jefferson for the first time in three years, and despite a valiant effort on Friday evening, the Marion Giants fell behind early and never recovered in a 43-21 loss to the Broncos.

With the defeat, the Giants fell to 3-3 overall and 3-1 in the NCC.

The Broncos compiled nearly 500 yards of offense – 461 to be exact – and 326 yards on the ground to go along with six touchdowns. Edward Norton scored four of those touchdowns, rushing for 150 yards in the process. Thomas Hogan added one rushing touchdown, while Lafayette Jefferson quarterback Brady Preston also scored on the ground.

The Giants, on the other hand, finished with just 164 yards, 113 of those courtesy of Khalid Stamps. Stamps also led Marion in receiving yards with 25.

Despite the final score, however, the Giants battled from start to finish. At no point, regardless of the point spread, did Marion stop playing or give up.

Marion’s defense, despite giving up 43 points, created four turnovers – three interceptions and a fumble recovery – two of which led to touchdowns.

The effort was always there, and for Head Coach James Bell, that was the most important thing. Overall, he was proud of the way his team played tonight against the No. 4 team in Indiana 6A football.

“They’re 6A, so they’ve got numbers. We just had to go out and battle and live with the results,” Marion Head Coach James Bell said. “I’m proud of them. I can’t say anything. I’m proud of these guys. They played hard and worked hard. These are great young men, and I am proud to be



Marion running back Khalid Stamps tries to find a running lane in the Giants’ NCC matchup against Lafayette Jefferson on Friday night. **Photo by Sean Douglas**

the Broncos took advantage. Lafayette Jefferson took a 15-0 lead after the first quarter after a pair of touchdown runs from Hogan and Norton and increased their advantage to 22-0 on Norton’s second touchdown scamper from two yards out.

The Giants, however, were able to get on the scoreboard before halftime. With the Broncos at their own 29-yard line, a Preston pass was tipped and intercepted by Marion defensive lineman Martiave Smith, setting the Giants up on the Lafayette Jefferson 15-yard line. Five plays later, Malachi Silmon punched it in from one-yard out, cutting the Broncos’ lead to 22-7 at halftime.

Marion never got any closer than two scores, but the Giants continued to fight in the second half. Early in the fourth, trailing 29-7, the Giants’ defense forced a fumble, and cornerback Ty Coleman scooped it up at midfield and rumbled his way to the endzone. Late in the game, Marques Smith collected Marion’s third interception on a tip, which led to their final score of the night – a two-yard plunge from Khalid Stamps.

“We knew our kids would fight, because each week, they’ve gotten better,” Bell said. “They got better tonight.”

With three games remaining in the regular season against Muncie Central, Indianapolis Arsenal Tech, and McCutcheon, Bell and the Giants plan to keep building and preparing for their playoff run.

“We have to eliminate turnovers, and then come out and have that fight,” Bell said. “Then, we have to be cohesive and be together. Iron sharpens iron, and as men, we have to sharpen one another. We have to pull one another up.”

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Power of a Good Life - Part 2

Hebrews 11:24-29

I am convinced there are no accidents in life. You might be wondering, why would I make a statement like that? If we really believe what the Bible says, we must concede that since God is in control, He knows about everything that happens even before it does. I realize we all have a mindset from time to time that we are in charge, but that is only wishful thinking. God is in control, and He always has been.

Considering this line of thinking, God knew what He was doing when He led Moses’ parents to hide him for three months. Then they believed God that when they put Moses in the basket and launched it, He would move the river currents in such a way that he would end up right where he was supposed to. It took real courage for the parents to do what they did. They overcame fear to embrace faith in their God.

For 40 years Moses enjoyed the good life of an Egyptian prince. He is now faced with feelings that made him feel as though he didn’t know where he belonged. As he continually went out to look over his own people (the Jews) he was troubled to see how they were treated. When he couldn’t take any more he made the biggest decision of his life. He killed an



JUST A THOUGHT
Rev. Tom Mansbarger



Egyptian soldier who was beating one of his people. You may have never thought of the significance of his choice, but it was great. It was the greatest sacrifice of his life because he gave up rank and royalty. The highest honor and greatest power this world could give, the ultimate prize, slipped through his fingers with one decision. He gave up the temporal riches that he had grown accustomed to with his life of luxury in Egypt. He also gave up the pleasures of life. Anything his heart desired was at his disposal.

We must look at the decisions and actions of Moses and who he was. He was a man who had a great educational background that had helped him become the man he was. He was also an individual of the highest rank, he had risen to the pinnacle.

It was easy to see he also had been gifted by God with great abilities. You must realize that Jesus left the angels of heaven for us, so couldn’t Moses leave his best for Jesus? The people he would associate with would be much different than what he had become used to, but they were his people.

Why would Moses make the decision he did? Scripture tells us that it was a great act of faith. Moses was a steady, sober, law-abiding man who acted completely out of character for him. We must understand, he didn’t act on impulse, he had faith in Jehovah. He could see beyond his years and he knew there was a life that was much more fulfilling than what he had experienced his first 40 years. He had faith in reference to God’s people, and he never lost sight that they were God’s people.

Moses was a man who gave up rank, pleasure, and treasure for a “Greater Reward.” I would rather be in the center of God’s will than to be the richest man in the world. What would you give up for Him?

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