

SALESIANUM SCHOOL

2011 VARSITY FOOTBALL

47 Randall Schiccatano TE/LB 6'2" 215 Junior

Record Breakdown

Home	Away	Neutral	Win %	PF	PA
3-1-0	5-2-0	0-1-0	.667	374	163

09/10	10:30 AM	Brandywine (Wilmington, DE)	Brandywine	48 - 0 Win
09/16	7:30 PM	Dover (Dover, DE)	Baynard Stadium	41 - 6 Win
09/23	1:00 PM	Caesar Rodney (Camden, DE)	Baynard Stadium	27 - 14 Win
10/12	12:30 PM	William Penn (New Castle, DE)	William Penn	35 - 0 Win
10/07	7:00 PM	Upper Darby (Drexel Hill, PA)	Upper Darby	44 - 14 Win
10/15	2:00 PM	Paramus Catholic (Paramus, NJ)	Paramus Catholic	27 - 24 Loss
10/02	7:00 PM	Avon Grove (West Grove, PA)	Avon Grove	48 - 0 Win
10/28	7:30 PM	Middletown (Middletown, DE)	Baynard Stadium	17 - 7 Loss
11/ 05	7:30 PM	Concord (Wilmington, DE)	Baynard Stadium	20 - 7 Win
11/11	7:00 PM	St. Mark's (Wilmington, DE)	St. Mark's	28 - 17 Loss

Post Season

11/18	7:00 PM	Sussex Central (Georgetown, DE)	Sussex Central	35 - 10 Win
11/25	7:30 PM	Newark (Newark, DE)	Newark	43 - 35 Loss



September 10, 2011
Salesianum 48, Brandywine 0

BRANDYWINE HUNDRED — Jesse June scored two touchdowns to help lead Salesianum over Brandywine. June returned a fumble 12 yards for a score, and caught a 60-yard pass from quarterback Troy Reeder. **Randall Schiccatano had a 35-yard fumble return for the Sals.**



Salesianum 28 14 6 0 - 48
Brandywine 0 0 0 0 - 0

S-June 12 fumble return (Tuzzolo kick)
S-Stanley 6 run (Tuzzolo kick)
S-**Schiccatano** 35 fumble return (Tuzzolo kick)
S-June 60 pass from Reeder (Tuzzolo kick)
S-Knox 5 run (Tuzzolo kick)
S-McClelland 15 run (Tuzzolo kick)
S-Young 2 run (kick failed)

September 16, 2011
Salesianum 41, Dover 6

WILMINGTON -- Salesianum running back Jerome Stanley spent a lot of time in the end zone while quarterback Troy Reeder spent most of his time all over the field knocking heads with Dover players. Stanley rushed for 168 yards and scored four touchdowns. Reeder rushed for 52 yards, made some hard hits on defense and even intercepted a pass to lead No. 3 Salesianum to a 41-6 win over No. 8 Dover at Baynard Stadium on Friday.

It wasn't supposed to be this easy.

That's because Salesianum coach Bill DiNardo was worried about the Senators' team speed. "Oh, my God!" he exclaimed, when asked about Dover's speed. "I was very concerned about it. That Dover team is really talented. The score wasn't indicative of the type of team that they are."
Dover's speed made Salesianum abandon its passing attack. But once the Sals (2-0) started running, Dover (1-1) had no answers.

That was especially true for Stanley, who would disappear behind the Sals' offensive line, only to re-emerge several yards down the field.

"As the game went on, we were able to wear them down," Stanley said.

Reeder lowered his shoulder on several occasions, especially on bootleg runs, for extra yards.

On defense, he made several bone-crunching tackles from the linebacker spot as well.

"I played fullback through grade school," said Reeder, a sophomore. "So I'm used to hitting and getting hit."

The Senators, meanwhile, couldn't get their passing game going, and the run game wasn't going anywhere either.

Salesianum got the ball to start the second quarter and methodically drove down the field. The Sals faced a 4th-and-4 on Dover's 21 when Reeder took off on another bootleg. This time, he ran over a Dover defender and got the first down at the 13. Two plays later, Stanley scored again.

The senior wasn't done, scoring on a 5-yard run with 2:03 left in the second quarter.

Patrick Knox scored from 3 yards out on the Sals' first possession of the third quarter. Then Reeder's interception gave Salesianum the ball on Dover's 28. It didn't take long before the Sals scored again, this time on Stanley's 17-yard run midway through the third quarter.



Dover 0 0 0 6 - 6
Salesianum 7 14 13 7 - 41

S-Stanley 11 run (Tuozzolo kick)
S-Stanley 5 run (Tuozzolo kick)
S-Stanley 5 run (Tuozzolo kick)
S-Knox 3 run (Tuozzolo kick)
S-Stanley 17 run (kick failed)
D-Bouges 9 run (kick failed)
S-Allen 10 run (Tuozzolo kick)

September 24, 2011

Salesianum 27, Caesar Rodney 14

WILMINGTON -- It is a rare occurrence when Salesianum schedules a pushover for its perennially powerful football team to line up against.

That's why Sallies coach Bill DiNardo recognized the danger when Caesar Rodney came calling at Baynard Stadium on Saturday afternoon with a young team and an 0-2 record.

However, a workmanlike performance driven by three touchdowns from sophomore quarterback [Troy Reeder](#) and a 205-yard rushing effort by senior running back Jerome Stanley led to Salesianum's 27-14 victory over Caesar Rodney in a nonconference game that was delayed from Friday because of rain.

"One of the good things about our schedule is every week is a battle. Every week we're going against a fierce competitor," DiNardo said. "You look at Caesar Rodney and they came in 0-2, but please believe me, we knew all about Caesar Rodney. They're a great football program and a great team. We were focused and we were set on beating them."

Salesianum (3-0) managed to defeat the Riders for the fifth consecutive time in three seasons, including two wins in the last two Division I tournaments.

Reeder's 6-yard touchdown run on a bootleg in the first quarter gave Sallies a 13-7 lead. **He connected with Randall Schiccatano for a 22-yard score that gave the Sals a 20-7 halftime lead** and then scored his team's final TD on a 15-yard bootleg in the fourth quarter that gave it a 27-7 margin with 9:03 remaining.

"We knew [CR was] going to be fired up to come out and try to knock us out on our homecoming and we just played our game," said Reeder, who completed six of 10 passes for 76 yards and also rushed for 41 yards. "We practice so hard so we can play like this. There are four quarters in a game, so it's tough."



Stanley, who carried the ball 25 times for an 8.2 yards-per-carry average, got the scoring started. After a Riders fumble, Stanley broke through the left side of Sallies line and went in for a TD from 43 yards out.

Caesar Rodney coach Mike Schonewolf can see the progress his young team is making. The Riders (0-3), who have been outscored 92-35 in their first three games, host defending state champion St. Mark's next Friday.

"We have a long way to go and we're going to keep working hard to get better and better as the season goes on," Schonewolf said. "We've gotten better with defense but offensively we've struggled [Saturday]. We're going to get ready for next week. We've got another big one and another test."

For DiNardo, it's all about having his team maintain focus.

"We live a life that's week-to-week and we have to get to get up gradually as the week goes on and after the game's over, we have to throw it away and start all over again," DiNardo said. "We just have to stay focused every week because we know every week is going to be a battle."

Contact Mike Finney at mfinney@delawareonline.com.

Caesar Rodney 7 0 0 7 - 14

Salesianum 13 7 0 7 - 27

S-Stanley 43 run (Tuozzolo kick)

CR-DeJesus 37 fumble return (Dolbey kick)

S-Reeder 6 run (kick failed)

S-**Schiccatano 22 pass** from Reeder (Tuozzolo kick)

S-Reeder 15 run (Tuozzolo kick)

CR-Gibbs 11 run (Dolbey kick)



First Picture Salesianum junior tight end **Randall Schiccatano** catches a touchdown pass as CR's Dermaih Gibbs defends. **Picture at Right** Salesianum junior **Randall Schiccatano** (left) and senior Daniel Kotula bring down CR junior Shaquille Stratton.

October 1, 2011

Salesianum 35, William Penn 0

NEW CASTLE – Jerome Stanley ran for 123 yards and two touchdowns to spark No. 3 Salesianum over William Penn in a non-conference game.

Stanley scored the Sal's first touchdown on a 15-yard run in the first quarter, and also scored on a 5-yard run in the third quarter.

Daulton Gregory rushed 2 yards for a touchdown later in the first quarter, and quarterback Troy Reeder fired a 38-yard scoring strike to Jesse June in the second quarter as the Sals ((4-0) cruised to a 21-0 halftime lead.

Reeder went 4-for-5 passing for 91 yards, and also ran seven times for 48 yards.

Thomas Wilmoth finished the Salesianum scoring with a 2-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. William Penn dropped to 0-4.

"I was very happy with the way our kids played," said Sallies coach Bill DiNardo. "They were very methodical. Offense, defense, everything. We had good field position early on. Real good kicks, excellent coverage."



Salesianum 15 6 6 7 - 35

William Penn 0 0 0 0 - 0

S-Stanley 15 run (Tuozzolo kick)
S-Gregory 2 run (Hosey run)
S-June 38 pass from Reeder (kick failed)
S-Reeder 5 run (Tuozzolo kick)
S-Wilmoth 2 run (Tuozzolo kick)

October 7, 2011

Salesianum 44, Upper Darby (PA) 14

Upper Darby, PA. – Jerome Stanley rushed for 195 yards and scored three touchdowns as No. 3 Salesianum remained unbeaten.

An Upper Darby turnover set up a drive that culminated in a Brandon Tuozzolo's 32-yard field goal to give the Sals 24-14 lead.

“That ledus hold on and we came back in the second half with some momentum and we really played well in the second half,” Salesianum coach Bill DiNardo said.

Salesianum	14	10	6	14	-	44
Upper Darby	0	14	0	0	-	14

S-Stanley 1 run (kick failed)
S-Knox 2 run (Reeder run)
S-Stanley 56 run (Tuozzolo kick)
UD-Petit 40 pass from Nikoi (John kick)
UD Nikoi 47 run (John kick)
S-Tuozzolo 32 fG
S-Knox 2 run (kick failed)
S-Stanley 3 pass from reeder (Tuuzzol kick)
S-Gregory 12 run (Tuuzzolo kick)

GAME NOTE: Junior Randall Schiccatano had many tackles and three great defensive plays in the game ... an interception and two quarterback sacks. (Interception photo is below. Pink accessories for breast cancer awareness)



October 15, 2011

Paramus Catholic (N.J.) 27, Salesianum 24

PARAMUS, N.J. - No. 3 Salesianum suffered its first loss of the season as it fell to Paramus Catholic 27-24 on Saturday afternoon.

The Sals battled back from a 20-3 second-quarter deficit, pulling to within three points on quarterback Troy Reeder's 2-yard run with about eight minutes left in the game.

But they could not mount another scoring threat after that.

"Paramus Catholic really controlled the ball in the second half," Salesianum coach Bill DiNardo said.

The Sals rallied in the second quarter, scoring on Jerome Stanley's 2-yard run and a 42-yard touchdown pass from Reeder to Stanley to pull within 20-17 at halftime. But the Paladins (3-2) scored another touchdown in the third quarter to provide the winning margin.

"I was really proud of the way our kids battled," DiNardo said. "We fought back but couldn't get it done at the end." Stanley rushed for 95 yards while Reeder went 7-for-16 for 108 yards in the air.



Pass Interference



Salesianum	3	14	0	7	-	24
Paramus Catholic	14	6	7	0	-	27

PC-Kirzmaovic 8 run (Granela kick)
PC-Thommes 40 pass from Hanley (Granela kick)
S-Tuozzolo 27 FG
PC-Thommes 15 pass from Hanley (kick failed)
S-Stanley 2 run (Tuozzolo kick)
S-Stanley 42 pass from Reeder (Tuozzolo kick)
PC-Maldonado 8 run (Granela kick)
S-Reeder 2 run (Tuozzolo kick)



October 21, 2011

Salesianum 48, Avon Grove PA 0

West Grove, Pa. – Jerome Stanley rushed for 142 yards and a touchdown to lead No. 3 Salesianum. Quarterback Troy Reeder went 7-for-9 for 106 yards and threw a 65-yard touchdown pass to David Lazear. Daulton Gregory ran for touchdowns of 7 and 51 yards for the Sals while Thomas Wilmoth and Patrick Knox also scored on runs. Andrew McClelland had two interceptions to lead Sallies defense.



Salesianum	14	7	14	13	-	48
Avon Grove PA	0	0	0	0	-	0

- S-Knox 15 run (Tuozzolo kick)
 - S-Reeder 6 run (Tuozzolo kick)
 - S-Lazear 65 pass from Reeder (Tuozzolo kick)
 - S-Stanley 16 run (Tuozzolo kick)
 - S-Gregory 7 run (Tuozzolo kick)
 - S-Gregory 51 run (Tuozzolo kick)
 - S-Wilmoth 46 run (no attempt)
-

October 28, 2011

Middletown 17, Salesianum 7

WILMINGTON - With two high-scoring offenses raring to go, many thought Friday night's annual Middletown-Salesianum football battle at Baynard Stadium could turn into a track meet.

The defenses rose to the occasion and made it more of a tug of war, but Darius Wade threw two touchdown passes as the top-ranked Cavaliers made enough big plays to hold off the third-ranked Sals 17-7.

Wade completed only 6 of 22 passes for 78 yards, but also scrambled around for 50 yards on the ground and avoided turnovers in a hard-hitting game.

"Darius has progressed and done a great job," Middletown coach Mark DelPercio said. "As a team, we stepped up when we needed to offensively."

The Cavaliers (8-0) took advantage of a special teams mistake to score their first touchdown. Salesianum (6-2) was stopped on the first possession of the game, and the snap sailed over the head of punter James Andrews. He managed to retrieve it and get 15 yards back, but Middletown was still in business at the Sals 31.

Jamar Baynard got loose for a 20-yard gain to the 11, and three plays later Wade threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Chris Godwin in the back left corner of the end zone. Jack Gerlitz's PAT made it 7-0.

The Cavaliers stopped the Sals again, and took over at their own 21 after a 57-yard punt by Andrews. Middletown moved into scoring range quickly, with Wade and Godwin hooking up for 38 yards and Jordan Griffin springing a 19-yard run to set up first-and-goal at the Sals 8. But on third-and-goal from the 7, the shotgun snap sailed over Wade's head for a 24-yard loss to end the threat.

The teams traded possessions before Salesianum launched its most serious threat of the first half. A 27-yard punt return by Jerome Stanley and effective running by Stanley and quarterback Troy Reeder moved the Sals to the Cavaliers 25. But Middletown defensive back Isaiah Griffin intercepted Reeder's long fourth-down pass at the 2.



That left the Cavaliers with 98 yards to cover, which they did in 10 plays. Baynard's 32-yard run moved Middletown past midfield, and on third-and-6 from the 16, Wade rolled to his left, then threw back across the grain to tight end Aaron Brant for the touchdown and a 14-0 lead with 3:48 to go in the first half.
(Page 2 of 2)

The Sals' only scoring drive came late in the third quarter. Stanley's 25-yard punt return set them up at the Cavaliers 42, and Reeder scrambled for 7 yards on fourth-and-7 to keep the march alive. Reeder then lofted a 27-yard touchdown pass to Jesse June, and Brandon Tuozzolo's PAT pulled Salesianum within 14-7 with 15 seconds left in the third quarter. Middletown came right back, as Griffin returned the kickoff 44 yards and the Cavaliers took 14 plays to move to the Salesianum 7. But on fourth-and-4, a blitzing Reeder hit Wade as he threw and forced an incompleteness to give the Sals the ball back with 6:15 to go.

Stanley gained 13 yards on three runs and Reeder completed an 11-yard pass to June, but Reeves broke up Reeder's fourth-down pass at the Sals 38 with 2:59 remaining. Baynard, Griffin and Wade ate the clock with seven consecutive running plays, and Gerlitz kicked a 26-yard field goal with 4 seconds left to provide the final points. Baynard earned 123 tough yards on 18 carries and Griffin added 77 yards as the Cavaliers ran for 250 yards and held the Sals to 102. Middletown controlled the clock, running 17 more plays than Salesianum.

Baynard, a man of few words, said: "That was fun." For Middletown, beating Salesianum always is.



Middletown 7 7 0 3 - 17
Salesianum 0 0 7 0 - 7

M-Godwin 7 pass from Wade (Gerlitz kick)
M-Brant 16 pass from Wade (Gerlitz kick)

S-Reeder 27 pass to June (Tuozzolo kick)
M-Gerlitz 26 FG

November 5, 2011

Salesianum 20, Concord 7

Sallies wins, heads to tourney

WILMINGTON - Both teams moved the football, but only Salesianum took it where it was supposed to go enough times Saturday night at Baynard Stadium.

The Sals' ability to capitalize on offensive opportunities spelled the difference in a 20-7 nonconference win over Concord that had pivotal postseason implications.

No. 3-ranked Salesianum (7-2) rebounded from last week's loss to Middletown and likely secured a Division I state tournament berth going into its regular-season finale Friday against archrival St. Mark's.

Concord (5-4) saw its state tourney bid dashed, and now seeks a winning season when it closes against Appoquinimink. There was no solace for No. 9-ranked Concord in outgaining Sallies 334-318 in total yards on a night it committed three turnovers in Sallies territory and had five trips across the 50 that netted zero points.

"We did a lot of nice things," Concord coach George Kosanovich said, "but we couldn't finish. I love my kids, they're quality human beings, but we just can't get over the hump."

Troy Reeder faked a handoff and lofted a 41-yard touchdown pass, his second of the game, to wide open tight end David Lazear with 1:43 left in the third quarter as the Sals took a 20-7 lead.

Concord, down 14-7 at halftime, had advanced to the 10-yard line on its first series of the second half but missed a 27-yard field goal.

Concord's best chance to dent Sallies' 20-7 lead was dashed when Michael McKeon intercepted a fourth-down pass at the Sallies 27 with three minutes left.

Salesianum's 5-foot-5, 170-pound senior tailback Jerome Stanley rushed for 150 yards on 22 carries. He also put the Sals in position for their final TD with a 19-yard punt return and thwarted a first-quarter Concord threat with an end-zone interception.

"We were really able to control the line of scrimmage tonight," Stanley said. "The line did a great job opening holes and I was able to run through them."

The Raiders fumbled at the Sallies 37 their first series, then had the pass picked by Gregory on their second. The Sals made Concord pay, scoring on their next two series.

Stanley's 6-yard scamper closed an 80-yard drive featuring eight runs and a face-masking penalty. After stopping Concord on downs at the Sallies 41, the Sals needed just six plays to score, the final one being Reeder's 28-yard TD pass to Anthony Reed.

Down 14-0, Concord finally got a break when it took possession at its 44 after Ackley's fumble recovery. Christopher Budd's 3-yard TD run 15 seconds before halftime put Concord within seven.

Budd rushed for 124 yards on 17 carries.

"We took advantage of some turnovers in the first half," Sals coach Bill DiNardo said. "Then we settled in the second half and played better defensively and I thought we controlled the line of scrimmage. They're so big and strong up front, but when we got up on them we were able to get them a little bit out of their running game."



Concord 0 7 0 0- 7
Salesianum 0 14 6 0-20

S-Stanley 6 run (Tuozzolo kick)
S-Reed 28 pass from Reeder (Tuozzolo kick)
C-Budd 3 run (Ackley kick)
S-Lazear 41 pass from Reeder (kick failed)

November 11, 2011
St. Mark's 28, Salesianum 17

Spartans complete stunning comeback

WILMINGTON — St. Mark's might not be returning to the DIAA Division I Football State Tournament this year despite being defending champions.

The season finale against Salesianum was the Spartans' championship game, head coach John Wilson said. When they trailed by two scores late in the fourth quarter, they played with the intensity of a state championship game. The Spartans rallied to score 21 points in the final four and a half minutes to stun Sallies, with a 28-17 come-from-behind victory at Baynard Stadium Friday night.

"We didn't talk anything about points," Wilson said of how they treated this game. "This is how we wanted to end it." As the minutes ticked away on St. Mark's season, the Spartans were driving. The clock had just gone under 50 seconds when Jabre Lolley found a seam and ran for a 7-yard, game-winning touchdown. It was the senior running back's third touchdown of the night.

"My tackle, Luke Jones, told me to just follow him and go outside," Lolley said. "So I just followed him and made it into the end zone."

Lolley started the comeback by blocking a Sals' field-goal attempt in the fourth quarter. On the ensuing drive, he found the end zone to bring St. Mark's within a field goal on a 29-yard rushing touchdown.

"I just ran full speed and dove and tried getting it," Lolley said. "I felt like that was a real big game-changer." With 4:17 left, the Spartans elected to kick it deep instead of going for an onside kick. Sallies took over at their own 20-yard line. The Sals gained one first down but had to punt, setting the stage for St. Mark's game-winning drive. Quarterback Jeffrey Ziemba started it by finding junior wide receiver Jake Schneider along the sideline for a 10-yard gain and a first down. After an incomplete pass and a false-start penalty, Ziemba hooked up with Lolley for a huge 30-yard gain down to the Sals' 30-yard line.

A few plays later, the Spartans were facing a third-and-10. Ziemba lobbed a pass toward Lolley in the corner of the end zone, and Lolley was dragged down for a pass-interference penalty, moving the ball to the Sals' 13. The Spartans got a fresh set of downs. The very next play was a carbon copy of the previous one – another pass-interference call against Sallies. St. Marks had first-and-goal at the 7 with 50 seconds left.

It took Lolley one play.

“I’m really proud of these guys,” Wilson said. “These seniors really left their legacy.”

The Spartans sealed the win on the kickoff. It was fumbled, and senior T.J. Yeninas scooped it up and ran untouched for a touchdown, setting off a furious celebration on the St. Mark’s sidelines.

If this is how Lolley’s career was meant to end, he’s just fine with it.

“Whether we make the playoffs or not, this was the most important game of our season,” he said.



Salesianum 7 0 10 0 – 17
St. Mark’s 7 0 0 21 – 28

Sal-Stanley 2 run (Tuozzolo kick)
SM-Lolley 39 pass from Ziemba (Haldeman kick)
Sal-Tuozzolo 25 FG
Sal-Gregory 27 run (Tuozzolo kick)
SM-Lolley 29 run (Haldeman kick)
SM-Lolley 7 run (Haldeman kick)
SM-Yeninas 23 fumble return (Haldeman kick)

November 18, 2011

Salesianum 35, Sussex Central 10

Stanley, O’Neill lead Salesianum past Sussex Central

GEORGETOWN - The strong and steady play of senior running back Jerome Stanley and the momentum-seizing interception by sophomore defensive end Brian O’Neill were enough to keep Salesianum marching on.

Stanley gained 215 yards on 19 carries and scored four touchdowns as fifth-seeded Salesianum wore down No. 4-seeded Sussex Central for a 35-10 victory in the opening round of the DIAA Division I Football State Tournament on Friday night.

With Sallies holding on to a 14-10 lead early in the third quarter, O’Neill made the play of the game. That was when he stepped in front of Jesse Long’s pass and returned it 35 yards for a touchdown. That was just the beginning of 21 unanswered points in the second half for Salesianum (8-3), which had lost two of its final three regular-season games heading into the playoffs.

“I had a couple of chances like that earlier in the season and I didn’t get them, but it felt good to get it this time,” O’Neill said. “I’ve missed that play like twice this year already so it felt good to get it back going.”

Meanwhile, Stanley scored on runs of 5, 39, 1 and 23 yards. He was quick to give the credit to William Ryan, Perry Brown, Ed Worrell, Mike McKeon and Tim Haines – his offensive line.

“They played great,” Stanley said. “It was definitely the line. They controlled the line of scrimmage all night and the holes were huge pretty much on every play. All I had to do was get through them and then I was wide open. “We just came out and played physical and hard and they were getting off the ball.”

Sussex Central coach John Wells, whose team ended its season 7-4, could just tip his cap to Salesianum. Senior running back DeShawn Sheppard gained 80 yards on 14 carries to lead the Golden Knights.



“It just imploded,” Wells said. “We had a pick-six, I think we fumbled twice and made it a possible 14-point swing and that hurt. It was a good year for the boys. I just hate to see them play like that in the last half of our seniors’ careers. You got to play 48 minutes, not 24.”

Salesianum got the scoring started when it embarked on an 8-play, 47-yard scoring drive at the end of the opening quarter. Quarterback Troy Reeder connected with Stanley on a short pass that covered 21 yards and gave Sallies the ball on Sussex Central’s 5.

Stanley went into the end zone untouched on the next play for a 5-yard TD. Kevin Hosey’s run for the two-point conversion following a bad snap on a PAT kick attempt came up short but the Sals led 6-0 with 2:01 remaining in the first quarter.

The Golden Knights took the lead on the first play of the second quarter when Ed Wescott broke free for a 17-yard scoring run with 11:54 left until halftime. Alberto Sosa-Contreras booted the PAT as Sussex Central went ahead 7-6. The scoring drive was set up by a 51-yard kickoff return by Trevor Mears.

Salesianum recaptured the lead following SC’s second fumble of the contest. The Sals went on a six-play drive that covered 86 yards and scored when Stanley rumbled in for a 39-yard touchdown. Reeder connected with Stanley on a short pass for the two-point conversion as Sals went back on top 14-7.

Sussex Central proceeded to march down the field on its ensuing drive, moving the ball to Salesianum’s 6 with 17 seconds until halftime. Wells, who was out of timeouts, elected to have Sosa-Contreras kick a 24-yard field goal, which was good and cut the Sallies’ lead to 14-10 at the half.

Then, following O’Neill’s spectacular play, the second half belonged to Salesianum.

“I’m so proud of how we battled,” Sallies coach Bill DiNardo said. “These kids have done such a great job this entire season battling. We’ve had highs and lows all season long and in this game we had highs and lows. We just continued to battle and things went our way.”

Salesianum entered the tournament somewhat under the radar, despite its history of six state championships.

“The way we finished the season they have every right to overlook us,” DiNardo said. “I’m thrilled to death that we’re in the semifinals. These kids have been here before and they know that this is the second season. I think they played like that [Friday].”

Salesianum 6 8 14 7 - 35
Sussex Central 0 10 0 0 - 10

Sal-Stanley 5 run (run failed)
SC-Wescott 17 run (Sosa-Contreras kick)
Sal-Stanley 39 run (Stanley pass from Reeder)
Sal-O'Neill 35 interception return (Tuozzolo kick)
Sal-Stanley 1 run (Tuozzolo kick)
Sal-Stanley 23 run (Tuozzolo kick)

November 25, 2011
Newark 43, Salesianum 35

Newark tops Salesianum in offensive show Yellowjackets outgun Sallies, advance to Division I final

NEWARK — Defense may win championships, but it didn't play the biggest role in a semifinal game Friday night. Newark and Salesianum romped up and down the field seemingly at will, and when the smoke had cleared the Yellowjackets emerged with a 43-35 victory in the semifinals of the DIAA Division I State Football Tournament at Hoffman Stadium.

Top-seeded Newark (11-0) will meet the winner of tonight's Dover-Middletown game for the state championship at 7 p.m. Friday at Delaware State University's Alumni Stadium. The fifth-seeded Sals finished the season 8-4.

Yellowjackets quarterback Taylor Reynolds scored on a 5-yard keeper with 3:00 left to break a 35-35 tie. Newark holder Adam Economos cramped up before the extra-point attempt, so the Yellowjackets switched gears and Reynolds lofted a two-point pass to 6-foot-5 receiver David Grinnage to make it 43-35.

But as they proved all night, the Sals weren't done. Jerome Stanley returned the ensuing kickoff 71 yards to the Newark 25. That's where the Yellowjackets made the biggest defensive stand of the night. Stanley gained 3 yards on first down, but Newark's Lavar Carter stopped Sallies quarterback Troy Reeder for a 2-yard loss on second down. Reeder's third-down pass was batted down by defensive lineman Brandon Ciarlo, and his fourth-down pass fell incomplete.

The Yellowjackets then managed to run out the clock, as Jordan Imeokparia capped a huge night with back-to-back gains of 5 and 6 yards to pick up a first down and allow Reynolds to take a knee from there.

"The credit goes to two high school teams that just played the game with all their heart and soul," Newark coach Butch Simpson said. "I think anybody who saw this game tonight walked away feeling really good about Delaware high school football."

Reynolds ran for three touchdowns and passed for a fourth for Newark, finishing with 21 carries for 158 yards and 11 of 19 passing for 169 yards. But the big surprise was Imeokparia, who got 14 carries and weaved his way for 201 yards and two touchdowns.

"It could have gone to any of our backs. It just happened to be me," Imeokparia said of his workload. "I just used my speed against them to do some damage."

Sallies fullback James Andrews went 60 yards for the game's first touchdown, but Newark answered with three lightning-quick scores. Imeokparia took an option pitch 32 yards, Reynolds threw a 31-yard pass to Xavier Griffin, and Imeokparia ran 26 yards to give Newark a 21-7 lead with 24 seconds left in the first quarter.

The Sals pulled within seven at the half on Reeder's 1-yard sneak, only to see Newark get away again on 4- and 2-yard keepers by Reynolds for a 35-14 lead with 1:11 left in the third quarter.

But after a long kickoff return and personal foul penalty, Stanley went 40 yards for a score. The Sals got a defensive stop, and Stanley scored again from the 1. Another Newark possession went nowhere, and Stanley (22 carries, 150 yards) capped another scoring drive with a 9-yard burst up the middle to tie it at 35 with 6:12 to play.

But the Yellowjackets' offense got back into gear, and the defense followed with the only stop that mattered. "We just couldn't answer their speed. Their speed was just fantastic," Sals coach Bill DiNardo said. "... I'm so proud of my guys, how they battled. We would have never had our hearts broken if we never came back."

Salesianum 7 7 7 14 - 35
Newark 21 0 14 8 - 43

- S-Andrews 60 run (Tuozzolo kick)
- N-Imeokparia 32 run (Powers kick)
- N-Griffin 31 pass from Reynolds (Powers kick)
- N-Imeokparia 26 run (Powers kick)
- S-Reeder 1 run (Tuozzolo kick)
- N-Reynolds 4 run (Powers kick)
- N-Reynolds 2 run (Powers kick)
- S-Stanley 40 run (Tuozzolo kick)
- S-Stanley 1 run (Tuozzolo kick)
- S-Stanley 9 run (Tuozzolo kick)
- N-Reynolds 5 run (Grinnage pass from Reynolds)

