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# Every Rose has its thorn

Rampants prove to be thorn in Bears' side

BY COREY FRIEDMAN  
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER

For Darryl Reynolds, celebration turned to consternation in an instant Friday evening.

With New Bern trailing J.H. Rose 21-19 late in the fourth quarter, the senior Bears wide receiver fielded an onside kick and trotted 50 yards to the end zone for what would have been the game-winning score.

Officials ruled that the football did not travel the 10 yards required for an onside kick, negating Reynolds' touchdown and returning possession to the Rampants, who held on for the 21-19 win at Caruso-Coates Stadium.

With the victory, Rose also took the Coastal 8 Conference championship, finishing the regular season with a flawless 6-0 conference record, 11-0 overall. New Bern dropped to 5-1 in the conference and 9-2 on the season.

"I thought our team played extremely hard," said Bears head coach Chip Williams. "They gave all the effort they possibly could have."

New Bern quarterback David Towarnicky threw for

just shy of 200 yards on 11 completions, with touchdown throws to Reynolds and Woody Wilson. In a close contest, the Bears produced 264 yards of total offense to the Rampants' 266.

Rose drew first blood on a 5-yard Maurice Weaver rushing score less than a minute into the second quarter, making it 7-0 after Sammy Becirovic's extra point sailed through the uprights.

The Bears answered on their ensuing possession, when Reynolds pulled down a 32-yard end zone pass from Towarnicky. Rose blocked the extra-point attempt, giving the Rampants a one-point edge that would stand through halftime.

"I'll tell you, New Bern was a great test for us, and we just happened to come out on top when the clock ran out," said Rose head coach Greg Thomas. "I'm just happy for our seniors, it's been three years of hard work for them. I'm happy that they could experience that, because we've worked darn hard."

In the third quarter, New Bern surged ahead after Rose fumbled a punt return, scoring on a 12-yard end zone gallop from running back

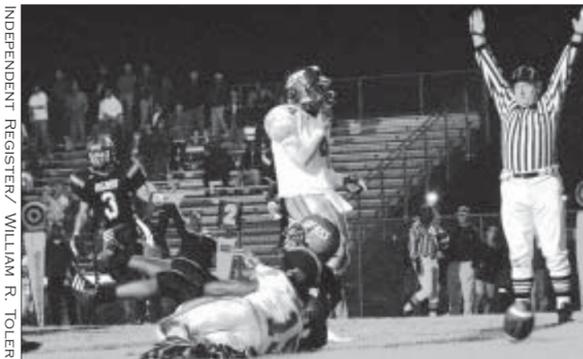
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INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ WILLIAM R. TOLER

Above: Bears defensive linemen Brett Whitney and Stephen Winston push past Rampants lineman Matt Board as Richard Green slides down.

Right: Bears wide receiver Woody Wilson looks on as Rose's Brandon Taylor tackles Bears running back Kelvin Hardesty, making the score 12-7 in New Bern's favor.



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ WILLIAM R. TOLER

It's All Sports  
With Eric Voliva

## Owens has no place in sports

Ever since the dawn of sports, there have been gifted athletes whose mouths were bigger than their game, and in some cases that's a pretty big mouth.

We all know about Terrell Owens and his ability on the field, but I'm beginning to wonder who really cares. All we seem to notice is whenever he screws up — which is quite often — and says something that is just ignorant and blatantly motivated by his ego, which deems him worthy of the tag "dumbass."

Yeah, he's an extremely gifted football player, who suffered a broken bone in his leg, and still managed a stellar performance a month later in the Super Bowl.

But was it worth it? Are the Philadelphia Eagles any better off now than they were pre-T.O.? It doesn't seem that way stat wise, but in order for the team to develop chemistry together, there has to be stability in the locker room — free from hostile remarks and meaningless fights.

The Eagles are a mediocre 4-4, dead last in their division behind the Giants, Cowboys and Redskins.

Before his suspension last week, the Eagles were 4-3 heading into a division game against the Redskins. T.O. had accounted for 47 receptions, 763 yards and six touchdowns. The rest of the Eagles team accounted for 158 receptions, 1,705 yards and 10 TDs.

Owens accounted for nearly one-third of receptions and receiving yards, and almost two-thirds of the team's receiving TDs.

Since his suspension, the Eagles have traveled to Washington and faced the Redskins in a major division rivalry game. The Eagles fell to the Redskins, but not quietly.

Quietly in Owens' shadow, but now finally given the chance to shine, rookie wide receiver Reggie Brown quickly picked up Owens' slack as he caught five balls for 94 yards and a touchdown.

Some athletes come out of college with a chip on their shoulder and something to prove, but eventually mature with guidance from veteran teammates.

Remember Panthers' wide receiver Steve Smith's fight with fellow teammate Anthony Bright, breaking his nose during a film session with his team? Yes, Smith is volatile, but he has learned to deal with his frustrations and channel them into his game, making him more focused against his opponents. But strong veteran leadership and influence helped to calm Smith, showing that it's OK to be furious, just keep it on the field, and not in the locker room.

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# West Craven soars past Havelock 35-15

BY ERIC VOLIVA  
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER

HAVELOCK — A game that began with all the signs of being mired in a defensive struggle quickly turned into an offensive shootout, with the Havelock Rams struggling to keep pace with the West Craven Eagles in the 35-15 Havelock home loss last Friday night.

The first half of the Craven County rivalry was pretty evenly matched, as the Eagles scored 7 points on a 58-yard punt return by Wendell Boyd, and the Rams

scored twice; the first on a 74-yard touchdown run by quarterback Bruce Carter — the extra point attempt was blocked — and again as less than a minute was left in the first half on a 39-yard field goal by kicker Garrett Hardin.

Eagles head coach Clay Jordan acknowledged the Rams' success at temporarily slowing down his rushing attack in the first half by stacking the line of scrimmage with defenders, and bringing effective run blitzes to counter West Craven's potent ground game.

The score at halftime was

a meager 9-7, in favor of the Rams. But there must have been something more than the residual band music in the air, as both teams came out of the locker rooms and took the field by storm — John Wayne-style.

"They played an eight-man front; they brought nine people every snap, which was a great play against us, but once we got our protection straight at halftime... then I think we did OK," Jordan said, adding, "We had to throw and catch the ball some to loosen them up, but I thought in the second half, our

quarterback played so much better."

Before the impression of the halftime band show had faded from fans' minds, Eagles quarterback Jamar Turnage connected with Jeremy Davis for 18 yards and a score with 6:02 left in the third quarter.

Not allowing Havelock much breathing room, West Craven's defense dug in and forced a Havelock turnover on the Rams' very next drive. The Eagles recovered the football at the Rams' 20-yard line. Wendell Boyd carried the ball on the first offensive play af-

ter the turnover and gained 14 yards, setting up a six-yard TD run by Jermaine Moore with 5:42 remaining in the third quarter.

With the score 21-9 in West Craven's favor, the boys from Havelock decided it was time to strike back with a score of their own. Scoring on a three-yard rushing TD, Havelock pulled within seven points of taking the lead, bringing the score to 21-15 with 3:49 left in the third quarter.

West Craven went on to widen the point gap by scoring  
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## Kickin' it around



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ WILLIAM R. TOLER

The 12-5-2 New Bern soccer team fought hard in a 2-1 victory over 13-8-2 Hoke County on Nov. 5. The Bucks took the lead first on a Scott Trebat goal, but the Bears bounced back with consecutive scores by Stephen Traversie and a last-moment score by Goran Vukicevic to take the lead for good.

## Bears shred Patriots

Hardesty and Reddick team for 2 TDs



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ ERIC VOLIVA

Bears offensive linemen Stephen Winston and Quinton Matthews wait before the snap to block Patriots defensive end James Helton.

BY ERIC VOLIVA  
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER

The winless West Carteret Patriots traveled to Caruso-Coates Stadium to take on the high-powered New Bern Bears in what could have been a trap game for the Bears, but ended up showcasing their dominating defense in the 30-0 rout Oct. 28.

Even though the Patriots were no match for the Bears explosive offense, or their

smothering defense, they never acknowledged their 0-9 record, but played as if it were they, and not the Bears, who were heading into the playoffs.

Both teams deserved credit for the gutsy performance, where nothing was left on the field to regret.

"I thought it was the best game of the year, the kids put their heart and souls into this

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6 Pack	Dallas @ Philadelphia NFL (Nov. 14, MNF)	Dallas @ Charlotte NBA (Nov. 11)	Indiana @ Milwaukee NBA (Nov. 12)	N.C. State @ Boston College NCAA (Nov. 12)	Atlanta @ Carolina NHL (Nov. 12)	N.Y. Jets @ Carolina NFL (Nov. 13)
Eric Voliva Record: 12-6	Cowboys	Bobcats	Bucks	Wolfpack	Hurricanes	Panthers
William Toler Record: 11-7	Cowboys	Bobcats	Pacers	Wolfpack	Hurricanes	Panthers
Corey Friedman Record: 14-4	Eagles	Bobcats	Bucks	Wolfpack	Hurricanes	Jets

# Sports Scores

## NFL Scores

As of Monday, Nov. 7

WL Record	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Final Score	
<b>Carolina</b>	(6-2)	10	7	10	7	34
<b>Tampa Bay</b>	(5-3)	0	7	0	7	14
<b>Tennessee</b>	(2-7)	0	7	0	7	14
<b>Cleveland</b>	(3-5)	7	0	10	3	20
<b>Detroit</b>	(3-5)	0	7	0	7	14
<b>Minnesota</b>	(3-5)	3	21	0	3	27
<b>Oakland</b>	(3-5)	3	6	0	14	23
<b>Kansas City</b>	(5-3)	0	6	7	14	27
<b>Seattle</b>	(6-2)	3	14	10	6	33
<b>Arizona</b>	(2-6)	3	3	10	3	19
<b>Pittsburgh</b>	(6-2)	6	7	0	7	20
<b>Green Bay</b>	(1-7)	3	0	7	0	10
<b>Houston</b>	(1-7)	0	7	7	0	14
<b>Jacksonville</b>	(5-3)	0	0	7	14	21
<b>Cincinnati</b>	(7-2)	0	14	0	7	21
<b>Baltimore</b>	(2-6)	3	3	0	3	9
<b>San Diego</b>	(5-4)	14	7	7	3	31
<b>N.Y. Jets</b>	(2-6)	0	10	3	13	26
<b>Atlanta</b>	(6-2)	7	7	3	0	17
<b>Miami</b>	(3-5)	0	10	0	0	10
<b>N.Y. Giants</b>	(6-2)	3	7	0	14	24
<b>San Francisco</b>	(2-6)	0	0	6	0	6
<b>Chicago</b>	(5-3)	7	3	7	3	20
<b>New Orleans</b>	(2-7)	3	7	0	7	17
<b>Philadelphia</b>	(4-4)	7	0	3	0	10
<b>Washington</b>	(5-3)	0	10	7	0	17
<b>Indianapolis</b>	(8-0)	7	14	10	9	40
<b>New England</b>	(4-4)	7	0	7	7	21

## NHL Standings

As of Tuesday, Nov. 8, 5 p.m.

Atlantic		Central	
<b>N.Y. Rangers</b>	(8-5-3)	<b>Detroit</b>	(13-2-1)
<b>Philadelphia</b>	(8-3-1)	<b>Nashville</b>	(8-2-3)
<b>New Jersey</b>	(6-6-2)	<b>Chicago</b>	(5-10-0)
<b>Pittsburgh</b>	(4-6-5)	<b>Columbus</b>	(4-11-0)
<b>N.Y. Islanders</b>	(6-8-0)	<b>St. Louis</b>	(2-9-3)
Northeast		Northwest	
<b>Montreal</b>	(11-3-1)	<b>Vancouver</b>	(10-4-2)
<b>Ottawa</b>	(11-2-0)	<b>Minnesota</b>	(8-6-2)
<b>Boston</b>	(7-5-4)	<b>Calgary</b>	(8-7-2)
<b>Toronto</b>	(7-6-2)	<b>Edmonton</b>	(8-7-1)
<b>Buffalo</b>	(7-7-0)	<b>Colorado</b>	(7-4-2)
Southeast		Pacific	
<b>Carolina</b>	(10-2-1)	<b>Los Angeles</b>	(10-5-0)
<b>Tampa Bay</b>	(7-6-2)	<b>Dallas</b>	(9-5-1)
<b>Florida</b>	(6-7-2)	<b>San Jose</b>	(8-6-1)
<b>Washington</b>	(6-8-0)	<b>Anaheim</b>	(7-6-3)
<b>Atlanta</b>	(4-9-1)	<b>Phoenix</b>	(7-8-2)

## Eagles win over Rams

Continued from Page B1

ing two more times, the first on a 18-yard completion to DeAndre Jones with 2:24 left in the third, and then Jones scored again on a two-yard run with 7:47 left in the game, making the score 35-15 in the Eagles' favor.

West Craven went on to hold Havelock out of the end zone for the rest of the game, helping to increase the Eagles' record to 7-4 overall, 5-2 Coastal 8 Conference.

Jordan went on to insist the Rams' never-say-die philosophy was a testament, not to their 2-9 record, but to the heart and determination displayed throughout the season, even when the hope of a winning record was an all-but-lost dream, they persevered and played with resolve.

"I've got to give those kids at Havelock credit. They've played their butts off, there aren't too many football teams that will do that. It's a credit to their coaching staff and their kids, because when you know you're going to pack it up, they didn't have to play hard, but they did," Jordan said.

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## Owens is unworthy

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Smith's career has blossomed since that incident, and he is now the leading receiver in the NFL with 55 receptions, 903 receiving yards and 9 TDs at the halfway point of the 16-game season.

Smith is on pace to break the NFL receiving record for yards in a season. If he continues on this pace he will have amassed more than 1,800 receiving yards this season, only a handful of yards away from Jerry Rice's single-season record of 1,848 yards in 1995 with San Francisco.

## NFL Standings

As of Monday, Nov. 7

NFC North		AFC North	
<b>Chicago</b>	(5-3)	<b>Cincinnati</b>	(7-2)
<b>Detroit</b>	(3-5)	<b>Pittsburgh</b>	(6-2)
<b>Minnesota</b>	(3-5)	<b>Cleveland</b>	(3-5)
<b>Green Bay</b>	(1-7)	<b>Baltimore</b>	(2-6)
NFC South		AFC South	
<b>Atlanta</b>	(6-2)	<b>Indianapolis</b>	(8-0)
<b>Carolina</b>	(6-2)	<b>Jacksonville</b>	(5-3)
<b>Tampa Bay</b>	(5-3)	<b>Tennessee</b>	(2-7)
<b>New Orleans</b>	(2-7)	<b>Houston</b>	(1-7)
NFC East		AFC East	
<b>N.Y. Giants</b>	(6-2)	<b>New England</b>	(4-4)
<b>Dallas</b>	(5-3)	<b>Buffalo</b>	(3-5)
<b>Washington</b>	(5-3)	<b>Miami</b>	(3-5)
<b>Philadelphia</b>	(4-4)	<b>N.Y. Jets</b>	(2-6)
NFC West		AFC West	
<b>Seattle</b>	(6-2)	<b>Denver</b>	(6-2)
<b>St. Louis</b>	(4-4)	<b>Kansas City</b>	(5-3)
<b>Arizona</b>	(2-6)	<b>San Diego</b>	(5-4)
<b>San Francisco</b>	(2-6)	<b>Oakland</b>	(3-5)

## New Bern gets handed second heartbreaking loss

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Kelvin Hardesty. The Rampants returned fire late in the third quarter with an 11-play, 46-yard drive that chewed four minutes off the game clock.

Jonathan Williams barreled 2 yards forward to score on first-and-goal, handing Rose a 14-12 lead after the extra point.

Williams scored again in

the fourth quarter on a 9-yard jog to make it 21-12. He finished with 134 yards and two touchdowns for the Rampants.

The Bears rallied to close the gap late in the game, scoring on a 32-yard Towarnicky pass to Woody Wilson with an extra point from Shawn Vary.

New Bern's head coach expressed hope that his team — seeded No. 2 in the

Coastal 8 Conference — would rebound from Friday's loss in the upcoming first round of the N.C. High School Athletic Association playoffs.

"For a lot of teams, a loss will destroy you," he said. "I'll be surprised if it's that way for us. I think we'll fight through it."

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## Patriots show determination in loss

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one," official game statistician Michael Deegan said.

There were few exceptional performances for the Bears in the game, one of those being Kelvin Hardesty's 41 yards on eight carries and one touchdown performance.

Bears quarterback David

Towarnicky completed 8-of-19 with no TDs and one interception.

The Patriots' offense managed no better as their ground game was held to negative yardage, and their passing game was in dire straits also.

Patriots quarterback Brandon Johnson went 9-for-25, with three interceptions.



## Independent Register

The *Independent Register* is committed to the coverage of local as well as state and national sports. If you would like to submit information about local or state sports, please contact Eric Voliva, Sports Editor, at (252) 633-2757 or at [eric@indieregister.com](mailto:eric@indieregister.com)

## Independent Register

# NFL Top Performers

NFL Week 9

	Quarterback	Pts.	Running back #1	Pts.	Running back #2	Pts.	Wide Receiver	Pts.	Defense	Pts.	Total Pts.
<b>Voliva - 220 pts</b>	P. Manning	33	E. James	19	L. Johnson	26	M. Harrison	27	Colts	8	<b>113</b>
<b>Friedman - 225 pts</b>	T. Brady	22	L. Tomlinson	41	W. Dunn	16	M. Muhammad	8	Falcons	6	<b>93</b>
<b>Toler - 218 pts</b>	A. Wright	10	T. Barber	10	S. Alexander	32	H. Ward	1	Steelers	16	<b>69</b>
<b>Consensus</b>	P. Manning	33	L. Tomlinson	41	S. Alexander	32	M. Harrison	27	Steelers	16	<b>149</b>

**A look ahead at some fantasy matchups, which may be irresistible for Week 10 in the NFL.**

**Matt Hasselbeck** will be facing a weak Rams pass defense, which has given up on average 260 yards through the air, and surrendered 16 passing touchdowns, while netting only 5 interceptions.

**Edgerrin James** is healthy and will be going against a weak Houston defense, which is giving up more than 165 yards per game on the ground, and opponents are averaging 5.5 yards per carry.

**Larry Johnson** is running hard and will receive the bulk of the carries now that Priest Holmes is recovering from a concussion that held him out of week nine's game against Oakland. Buffalo is ranked 31st against the run.

**Steve Smith** remains the top fantasy receiver through week nine, amassing nine touchdowns and 903 receiving yards. Smith should remain on track as a top fantasy receiver for week 10 going up against the Jets.

The **Colts defense** is ranked fourth overall, and leads the league in sacks with 26. As a whole, they have 12 interceptions, while giving up only five passing touchdowns. Their defense has given up only 2 rushing TDs.

*These are random quotes that have been overheard or sent in by sports fans. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Independent Register.*

"Soccer is the only sport in which there's non-stop action... which makes it a bitch to shoot."

"You've got to think and know math to watch football, and I want no f— part of that."

"[Dick] Vermeil's got some serious balls to go for it all on fourth-and-goal instead of going for the tying field goal to send it into overtime. If he would have missed it, people would

have been calling for his job, but since he made it, everybody loves him."

"He's [Terrell Owens] a big mouth with too much money, and too much time. I'm glad [Andy] Reid has put him in his place, on the bottom. I would rather lose and have peace in my locker room than win and never have any team chemistry."

"Eagles, what were you thinking?"

"We've [Panthers' fans] got to have the worst fans anywhere, because when we were losing early you wouldn't hear anyone talking about us,

## Make The Call

but now that we're on a winning streak, everyone has jumped on the bandwagon."

"There has never been a wide receiver to win the NFL MVP award, but there's a chance that it could happen this year. Steve Smith is on pace to break all the receiving records for a single season this year."

"Bobcats point guard Brevin Knight is underrated because he's one of the best in the NBA in assists, and finished second in the league

last year in assists. He's the one that leads the team on the floor during the game; he's the one that makes the plays happen."

"Eric Staal of the Hurricanes is one of the best young players in the NHL. He's currently leading the league in points, and is always hustling on every play."

"[Julius] Peppers looks like he's hitting his stride, and is starting to come on now. That one sack where he went through two people to get to

Chris Simms really showed his determination."

"The [Charlotte] Bobcats are playing just like last year's Tar Heels. They're allowing themselves to be fouled so they can go to the free throw line to try the win the game that way."

"Even though [J. H.] Rose beat New Bern tonight, I still believe the Bears are the team to beat when it's all said and done."

"Sean May is playing like a seasoned pro this early in the season. It'd be a travesty if he doesn't win the NBA Rookie of the Year award."

"The West Craven Eagles were given the No. 9 seed in the playoffs, and they'll be facing the No. 8 seed Edgcombe Cougars. That's an easy enough win for them."

## Quote Of The Week

**"You've got to think and know math to watch football, and I want no f— part of that."**

*If you have an opinion that you want to share with the other readers, label it "Make The Call" and e-mail it to [eric@indieregister.com](mailto:eric@indieregister.com) or mail it to 1734 Elmwood St. New Bern NC, 28560. The Independent Register reserves the right to not print quotes deemed unsuitable for publication.*