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GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL: DUNWOODY 20, ST. PIUS 14

Dunwoody gets past St. Pius for region title

But two key Wildcats players injured in drive to 5-AAA championship

By MICHAEL CARVELL The Atlanta Journal-Constitution Saturday, November 08, 2008

Dunwoody won its first region championship since 1993 with Friday's 20-14 victory over St. Pius.

However, the Wildcats may have lost their top two players heading into next weekend's state playoffs.

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Defensive end Malcolm Mitchell, one of the state's top college prospects, sat out Friday's second half with a shin injury, while tailback Treavor Scales hurt his right ankle in the third quarter.

Next week's status for both Dunwoody players, who led the No. 4-ranked Wildcats to a 10-0 record and the Region 5-AAA championship, is unknown.

"We're just going to ice it all week and see how it feels on Thursday," Mitchell said. "If there's any chance that I can play, I will play. This is the playoffs."

Dunwoody jumped to a 14-0 lead in the first quarter after a pair of touchdown runs by Scales and then held on to give No. 3 St. Pius its

first loss of the season.

Mitchell, who is DeKalb County's leader in sacks, suffered an injury to his right shin in the final seconds of the first half.

He was helped off the field by coaches and returned to the sidelines after intermission in shorts.

Scales, who is Dunwoody's top offensive weapon with 1,251 yards and 20 touchdowns rushing for the season, was injured shortly after halftime.

He fought the injury as tough as he could, participating in several plays, then getting his ankle wrapped tightly, then repeating the process.

He finished with 21 carries for 147 yards and two touchdowns.

St. Pius (9-1) rallied after being shut out in the first half. Brendonn Jones returned the opening kickoff of the second half 76 yards to the Dunwoody 14-yard line, and Cole Moon ran for a 5-yard touchdown two plays later.

Moon, who is St. Pius' leading rusher, has missed parts of the past three games, including Friday's, with a leg injury.

Scales, who has committed to Harvard, scored on the fourth play of Dunwoody's opening drive on a 46-yard run. He started off with a sweep to the right, but cut behind charging defenders down the middle of the field.

However, it was his second score that was perhaps his most impressive play of the year.

After St. Pius turned the ball over on a fumble with 2:11 left in the first quarter, Scales took a third-down handoff and broke six tackles on the way to a sensational 32-yard touchdown run.

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