

Things are not going well for the Oilers this October as evidenced by Friday's 49-0 loss to Hollidaysburg coming off a 32-8 setback to Meadville.

Maddox Bainey, a 5-11, 166-pound junior, completed 16 of 21 passes for 205 yards and five touchdowns for the visiting Golden Tigers -- doubling his season output in the touchdown pass department.

The Tigers took the opening kickoff, and Bainey went right to work, using another junior, Gavin Bell, on the left side for short passes that never missed. Three or four offsides calls against the Oilers helped, too, before H-burg got into the end zone on a 5-yard pass to Bell. Jon Hargenrader blocked the extra point, but that was one of only a few things the Oilers had to cheer about.

Oil City lost a fumble on its first possession, and on the next play Bainey cashed in with a 30-yard TD, also to Bell. The conversion made it 14-0 six minutes into the game.

Bainey would later throw 39- and 10-yard TD passes to give the Tigers a 28-0 halftime cushion. The Oilers did have their best scoring chance of the game before intermission, advancing to the Tigers 23, but lost the ball on an interception.

Bainey's final scoring pass came in the third quarter on a fourth down play, this one to the Tigers' top receiver Caden DeLattre, his second of the game.

Bainey apparently isn't the Tigers' starting quarterback. They have a 6-3, 161-pound senior, Drew Wyland, who has 515 yards rushing and 375 passing. But he wasn't on the stat sheet against Oil City.

For the second straight week, the Oiler offense sputtered. Ethen Knox was pretty much held in check, although he got to 104 yards on 28 carries before it was all over. And, every once in a while, Oil City would try a non-Knox play.

Hollidaysburg (3-3) totaled 407 yards offense compared to 140 for Oil City.

The Tigers added 202 on the ground, although the Oilers stopped the run pretty well until after the game was decided.

The Oilers (4-3) will try to get untracked Friday when they play Conneaut in their final home game -- Senior Night.

OIL SPILLS -- Knox now has 6,824 yards in his 24-game career, and still sits third in District 10 all-time behind Hickory's Chuck Carr (6,847) and Meadville's Journey Brown (7,027)...He is No. 19 in state history...Knox had 409 yards against Hollidaysburg last season in an Oiler victory..."We (controlled) the line of scrimmage and (Bainey made)

some really good decisions in the RPO. (We took) what they gave us," H-burg coach Homer DeLattre told The Derrick. "Defensively... we got to the ball and didn't over pursue and we gang-tackled. That's exactly what we talked about all week." ...DeLattre coached at Corry before taking the H-burg job years ago...

Pearsall led the Oilers with 13 tackles and Knox added 12...Junior LB Ben Garland did not suit up for the game...This was the Oilers' worst loss by shutout since 2021, a 48-0 victory by Meadville...There were also the playoff losses to Thomas Jefferson (60-0 in 2019) and Southern Lehigh (41-0 in 2018). Before those, there was a 54-0 loss to General McLane in 2007...