

Ethen Knox took another big paycheck to the bank, so to speak, 366 yards on 42 carries as Oil City slugged Corry, 44-7, on Sept. 1.

But for the second straight game, the passing attack paid dividends for the Oilers who, after a sluggish start or sorts, breezed to their second victory of the young campaign.

The Oilers, behind Knox, moved smartly down the field after the opening kickoff, but the Beaver defense bottled up the Oilers' bread and butter after they reached the 11. So much so that they were faced with a fourth down at the 7. No problem: a pass from sophomore quarterback Cole Findlay to junior Gavin Stephens got them into the end zone for a 6-0 lead.

But, wait, there's more: Corry answered with a TD of its own. After chalking up a first down, the Beavers, one play later, got on the board with a 47-yard pass from Nolan Carey to Mason Suavity and made the point for a 7-0 lead.

That was it for the beavers, however. Oil City answered back after Sean Alexander returned the kickoff 30 yards to the 35. Seven plays later Knox was in the end zone from the 4. A 38-yard pass to Stephens was the highlight of the drive. Another pass to Jon Hargenrader accounted for the PAT to put the Oilers up for good.

But not without some harrowing moments. Corry kept "just missing" on big pass plays -- whew, said the defense.

Back-to-back runs of 40 and 32 yards by Knox sparked the Oilers' third possession, his 9-yard run for the TD and another pass to Hargenrader making it 22-7.

Knox's third TD, a 4-yard run, and Kevin Pearsall's PAT gave Oil City a 30-7 halftime lead -- although just before the half ended a 38-yard TD pass to Hargenrader was called back by a penalty.

Pearsall scored both Oil City touchdowns in the second half on one-yard runs with Knox adding the PAT after the first one.

Oil City rolled up 520 yards total offense with Findlay completing five of eight for 91. Stephens made four catches for 70.

Knox moved into fifth place on District 10's all-time rushing list while passing the 6,000 mark for his career.

The 366 yards is what Derrick reporter Ryan Kunselman had Knox for, and the coaches agreed with their release of the official stats on Monday. (The Corry Journal had Knox for 41/374!)

Nothing special in the way of tackles for the Oilers with Garland and Hargenrader making five apiece. Pearsall was in with three, running his career total to 190.

Career stops now stand at 190 for Pearsall and 149 for Knox.

No one had either sack or a TFL against the Beavers, who mustered only 110 yards total offense. Sean Alexander did have an interception to go with a 32-yard kickoff return.

Meanwhile, Kunselman reported Friday that starting LB and backup RB Noah Sanchez, a junior, is out for the season with an ankle injury. Sanchez was a force on defense against Warren before going down.