

Turns out CASH (aka Conneaut, Pa., Area) was the cure for all that ailed the Oilers.

Ethen Knox broke the District 10 rushing record and scored five touchdowns as the Oilers thrashed the Eagles, 70-6, Friday to snap a two-game losing streak that saw them dropping lopsided decisions to Meadville and Hollidaysburg.

Stats released Monday night by assistant coach Ritt Smith had Knox with 246 yards on 18 carries, a bump up from the 18/241 that Ryan Kunselman of The Derrick had.

After Cole Findlay was sacked for an 8-yard loss to begin the game, Knox reeled off runs of 12, 7 and 6 yards, and one play after that, get Oil City on the board with a 43-yard touchdown run. His PAT gave the Oilers a quick 8-0 start and they were off to the races.

The defense then forced a punt -- a bad one -- and Knox needed one play to score from the 18. Again he added the PAT -- but it would be his last one of the game because...surprise!

Findlay intercepted a pass on CASH's next play, and, again, Knox needed only one carry to score, this time from the 25. Then for probably the first time all season, Hank Lockhart was sent in to kick the extra point, and he put it through the uprights.

So it was 23-0 six minutes into the game and Knox had 111 yards on six carries. All that was left was the drama of him breaking Journey Brown's District 10 rushing record, which stood at 7,027 yards since 2016.

Knox went into the game needing 204 to break it.

It would come after Justen Dunkle recovered a bad snap from center by the Eagles. Knox immediately jaunted 39 yards for a TD, but it was called back, so he went 45 on the next play and broke the record.

Knox also had a 91-yard TD called back after that but Jon Hargenrader went 88 soon after. Lockhart's kick made it 41-0 with still 5:30 to play before intermission.

The first half also included touchdowns by Kevin Pearsall, who a fumble in the end zone, a 17-yard run by Knox and a 5-yard run by Dunkle after Hargenrader intercepted a pass.

Hargenrader finished with 100 yards on three carries, giving the Oilers two 100-yard rushers in a game for the first time this season, and added two pass receptions from Findlay totaling 52 yards.

The second half included a Jaden Smalley pick that led to a 54-yard TD pass from Steve Heise to DeV Vaughn Griffen -- this after both performed with the band at halftime -- and a 77-yard kickoff return by Griffen.

Starters rested after intermission and reserves and younger players emerged as tackle leaders. Danny DeLong had nine and Jaden Smalley and Brayden Buzard added seven apiece.

OIL GUSHERS -- Heise passed to Spence Singleton for a PAT in the second half...Griffen's KO return for a touchdown was Oil City's first since 2017 when Christian Cole went 87 against Franklin...The Oilers outgained the Eagles, 466-193...Not only did Knox rack up the yards, but he came from way behind to run down CASH's Joe Furgiuele who had broken away for an apparent touchdown. Knox caught him at the 15...Lockhart kicked three extra points; two others were blocked...Eight senior gridgers honored before the game: Markee Boles, Justen Dunkle, Jon Hargenrader, Ethen Knox, Henry Milford, Kevin Pearsall, Jaden Smalley and Hayden Wilson...The Oilers will close the regular season this Friday at Titusville and then presumably will be in the D-10 3A playoffs...FYI: Titusville is on Stream TV, which you can get on You Tube. No credit cards...