

A classic example of a game being closer than the score indicates, thanks to a couple of turnovers that proved crucial to the outcome. And spoiled the Knights' home opener. And a 244-yard effort by junior running back Caden Mincer.

Kole Scott scored two second half touchdowns as Slippery Rock topped Franklin, 26-7, Saturday. The game was tied 7-7 from a minute into the second quarter until well into the third.

Mincer's 3-yard -- one of his 32 carries -- touchdown on fourth down and Connor Ritchey's kick produced the tie.

It stayed that way until Scott hit pay dirt from 22 yards out with 1:06 left in the third quarter for a 13-7 Slippery Rock lead.

The fourth quarter was wild and wooly what, with the turnovers.

The first came when the Knights fumbled inside the 1 and Owen Long recovered for the Rock, preserving the lead with 8:39 to go.

Scott's second touchdown of the half, a 5-yard run, came after the Rockets converted a fourth-and-eight to the FHS 5 with 2:21 to play. Scott was in the end zone a minute later. That made it 20-7.

If that wasn't enough, Doug Popovec sealed the deal with a 56-yard Pick 6 with 1:08 on the clock. And that was that.

KNIGHT LIFE -- Mincer is now No. 14 on Franklin's career rushing list with 1,215 yards...Slippery Rock only outgained the Knights, 264-260...Mincer and Julian Johnson had fumble recoveries for the Knights, and freshman Ryder Stevens intercepted a pass...Ritchey averaged 38 yards on two punts, one of which went 54 yards...