

# Dublin Coffman 31, Upper Arlington 24 (OT): Shamrocks secure win thanks to key sack

*Saturday, October 6, 2007 3:45 AM*

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Depending on one's perspective, Dublin Coffman either showed a bit of vulnerability last night or proved that it just knows how to win.

Either way, Coffman ended up on the winning side of a pivotal Ohio Capital Conference Buckeye Division game at home, beating Upper Arlington 31-24 in overtime.

Coffman coach Mark Crabtree said the numerous momentum swings in the fourth quarter and overtime were difficult to take.

"High to low, high, back to low," Crabtree said, describing his emotion. "Honestly, you talk about a roller coaster. Arlington is a very, very tough team."

Tailback Jared Phillips scored on a 4-yard touchdown run on Coffman's possession in overtime, and the extra point by Mitch Haines made it 31-24. Upper Arlington still had its possession, but on fourth down quarterback Braden Layer was sacked by Matt Ross to end the game.

Late in regulation, the Golden Bears had a chance to put the game away, but a 30-yard field goal attempt by Jared Sylvester was blocked and recovered by the Shamrocks' Scott Stucky at the Coffman 38. With less than a minute remaining, Coffman quickly moved the ball to the Upper Arlington 35 when Zack Stoudt hit Jake Stoneburner on a crossing route, but four straight incompletions ended the Shamrocks' chance to win the game in regulation.

In the first half, Upper Arlington (5-2, 1-1) looked like it had solved Coffman's offense, which has been so dominant this season. After Coffman scored on its opening possession, Upper Arlington forced three consecutive three-and-outs. A 31-yard field goal by Sylvester as time expired gave Upper Arlington a 17-7 lead at the break.

In the second half, Coffman (6-0, 2-0) controlled field position consistently and tied the score by the end of the third quarter. The Shamrocks appeared poised to pull away when Stoneburner took a screen pass 21 yards for a touchdown to make it 24-17 midway through the fourth quarter, but the Golden Bears responded.

Upper Arlington pounded the ball on the ground with Tommy Farwick and Alex Drake, both of whom finished with more than 100 yards rushing, and Farwick scored on a 1-yard run.