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Bronson loses homecoming heartbreaker 14-13

Faith Hyde and Caleb Rice were chosen as the 2016 homecoming queen and king at Bronson High School.



**Story and
Photos By Terry
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BRONSON --
The Bronson High School Eagles weren't able to hold onto a one-touchdown lead in the third quarter Friday night in the annual

homecoming game and ultimately lost 14-13 in a heartbreaker Friday night (Oct. 28) in a game against the St. Francis Catholic High School Wolves.

The weeklong Bronson Middle High School Homecoming fun included a parade on Thursday (Oct. 27).



**Bronson High
School football
players travel
the parade route
aboard a wagon
in the
Homecoming
Parade on
Thursday (Oct.
27).**

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Enthusiastic Bronson Parks and Recreation football players toss candy to the crowd.

Showing their school pride, Bronson Parks and Recreation cheerleaders entertain the crowd during the parade.

Eagles Head Varsity Football Coach Curtis Stacy said the loss resulted from a combination of things ranging from silly penalties that gave the Wolves a first down when they were backed up on third and 15 to a failure to score from a yard out in the fourth quarter.



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Bronson runner Glen Cooper turns on the jets as he tries to turn the corner against St. Francis.

Bronson led in the third quarter before St. Francis runner Tyron Mullins scored from six yards out. Quarterback Nick Baskin carried three Bronson defenders into the end zone for the two point conversion that gave the Wolves a 14-13 lead.

“We had opportunities to win the game. They made the plays when they needed to and we didn’t make the plays when we needed to make them,” Stacy said. “It’s the same it’s been all year; missing blocks offensively; sometimes being in the wrong place defensively; just a mixture of things.”

Stacy said while it’s true the Eagles were young when they started the season but he told the players a couple games they had multiple games under their belt and were seasoned. They weren’t young anymore. He told them they needed to begin making mature decisions, carry out blocking assignments and taking care of the ball.

“You got to grow up,” he said. “You got to grow.”

On one drive Friday night Bronson was hit with 45 yards in penalties that allowed St.

Francis drive more than 50 yards to score. On another occasion Bronson drove to the St. Francis one yard line in the fourth quarter only to throw an interception.



Bronson running back Ryan Roberts follows his blockers Shane Durden (80), Julius Smith (13) and Jacob Wright (78) for a big gain. Roberts scored both of Bronson's touchdowns.

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“You can see when we lose our character. We get silly penalties because we don’t keep focused. When you’re young that’s going to happen, but we need to correct it as coaches. As the head coach, that’s on me to correct the silly mistakes that cause us to give up field position and momentum change,” Stacy said.

Stacy said he takes nothing away from St. Francis. He said he told his players that St. Francis’ 2-5 record coming into the game was not indicative of what type of team he expected to show up at John Rutledge Field. Stacy said they were well coached, disciplined, and they threw the ball around well.

“They made the plays when they needed to make the plays and we didn’t make the plays when we needed to make them, and that’s what cost us the game,” Stacy said.

St. Francis took an early 6-0 lead on five yard pass to James McCauley with 1:01 left in the first quarter.



Bronson defender Caleb Rice flattens a St. Francis runner.

Bronson responded with 10:18 left in the second quarter when Ryan Roberts made a one-handed interception at the six yard line and returned the pick for a touchdown. Julius

Malieke Smith kicked the extra point to give the Eagles the lead.

The Eagles extended their lead just before the half when quarterback Caleb Rice threw a 65-yard touchdown pass to Roberts. The extra point was no good. Bronson took a 13-6 lead into halftime.

The Wolves were more aggressive defensively and offensively in the second half and benefited from multiple penalties against Bronson that opened the door for the final winning score.

Bronson Band drummers Brice Doyle and Nick Ballard entertain at a pre-game tailgate party sponsored by County Commissioner John Meeks and School Board member Cameron Asbell.



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2016 Bronson High School Homecoming Queen Faith Hyde accepts her crown from 2015 BHS Homecoming Queen Abigail Brooks.

The Bronson High School Homecoming



Court members are Leslie Fankhouser, Adam Abouzid, Chelsea Hollinshead, Malina Ruvio, Alyssa Houchens, Yuri Alicea, Homecoming Queen Faith Hyde, Homecoming King Caleb Rice, Andrew Jenkins, Harley Crain, Zane Bedford, Brittney Hinkley, Levi Warmack and Hope Surles.

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Newly crowned 2016 Bronson Middle School King Thomas Kerrin and 2016 BMS Princess Sieray Lozada are introduced to the crowd.



The Bronson Middle School Homecoming Court members are Lany Cumbo, Riley Bray, Prince Thomas Kerrin, Princess Sieray Lozada, Emily Nix and Mahki Bostic.