NJ Football: A look at the South Jersey, Group 3 final (High school Football news)

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SOUTH JERSEY DELSEA (10-1) AT LACEY (11-0) Saturday, 1 p.m. KEY PLAYERS

Delsea: RB/DB Tyler Coulbourn (819 rushing yards, 13 TDs, 92 receiving yards, 42 tackles, five interceptions), RB/LB Datreemus Pittman (521 yards, five TDs, 50 tackles), WR/DB Darius Convery (399 receiving yards, six TDs, 71 tackles, three interceptions), QB/DE Josh Awotunde (26-39 passing, 469 passing yards, eight TDs, 210 rushing yards, three TDs, 30 tackles), FB/LB Marshall Brooks (467 rushing yards, three TDs, 91 tackles, one sack), OL/DL Marcus Stuart (74 tackles, four sacks), TE/DE Stephen Lewis (55 tackles, two sacks, one interception, one forced fumble).

Lacey: QB Craig Cicardo (66-100 passing, 1168 yards, 16 TDs, 511 rushing yards, 16 rushing TDs), RB/DB Jacob Dabal (865 rushing yards, eight TDs, 56 tackles, two fumble recoveries), RB/DB Jarrod Molzon (652 rushing yards, 462 receiving yards, 12 total TDs, 51 tackles, one interception, two fumble recoveries), LB Matt Uveges (88 tackles, four interceptions), OL/DL David Viera (eight sacks, 53 tackles), WR/DB Zach Torrell (147 rushing yards, 297 receiving yards, five total TDs, 48 tackles, six interceptions), FB/LB Tony Pierce (six sacks, 54 tackles).

KEYS TO VICTORY

Delsea: Halfway through the year injuries forced then quarterback Tyler Coulbourn to move to running back and make way for 6-3, 230-pound sophomore Josh Awotunde. At the time it was a show of depth more than desperation, but if Delsea is going to pull the upset, this move needs to prove its value. Coulbourn is a dynamic athlete running the ball and catching out of the backfield and Awotunde adds a passing threat as well as the size to shake off defenders. They'll both need to play their best to put points on the board. The Delsea defense needs to bottle up Lacey quarterback Craig Cicardo using its front four - starting with defensive lineman Marcus Stuart and Stephen Lewis. If the linebackers need to spy on Cicardo, they'll be spread too thin.

Lacey: The Ocean County team has allowed 53 points this year, and has scored exactly seven times more than their opponents. Ranked fifth in this week's Star-Ledger Top 20, Lacey has dominated literally every game they have played. It all starts with a ball-hawking defense that disrupts the opposing line, gets after the quarterback and forces mistakes. Zach Torrell and Matt Uveges combined for 10 interceptions this year and make quarterbacks second guess what their reads. Josh Awotunde is a sophomore starting for Delsea, and could be forced into bad decisions if he is forced to bring his team from behind. Craig Cicardo and the Lacey offense are going to put points on the board, as they have in every game this year.

DID YOU KNOW

Delsea won its ninth playoff championship last year when it captured South Jersey, Group 2. Delsea knocked off Hammonton, the 2009 South Jersey, Group 3 champion, in the semifinals on Nov. 19. Lacey is seeking its fourth title and its first since 2006.

Pick: Lacey, 21-8