

## **Chiefs Outlast Uniondale**

The Mineola Chiefs 11-year-old White opened the season on the road and beat the Uniondale Knights 38-32. The Chiefs offense was able to move the ball and protect Quarterback Thomas O'Connell all day long because of great blocking by the offensive line of Gavin Dowd, Michael Delio, Andrew Hastings, Lucas Golon, Philip Ciuffo and Michael Husch. Chiefs Running Back's Ryan Eccher pounded the ball and Thomas Davis was electric, making moves all over the field and keeping Uniondale's Defense honest. This opened up the passing game for O'Connell to complete four Touchdown passes to Teddy Capsis and Brian Smith.

Unfortunately this wasn't a day to write about the Chiefs Defense. In the fourth quarter, key tackles by Davis, O'Connell, John Clancy, Peter McCormack, Justin Johnson, and an Interception by O'Connell, stopped Uniondale three times and saved the game, as the Chiefs escaped with the win.

Every 11-year-old played and participated in the victory. The players that also contributed in the victory were Luis Costa, Steven Gessner, Blake Hargrove, Matthew Lafaye and an injured Michael Patalano who took a knee on the last play of the game. Scoring is summarized below:

- Davis 35 yard Touchdown Run ( Johnson xpoint Run)
- O'Connell 10 yard Touchdown Pass to Capsis (xpoint failed)
- O'Connell 7 yard Touchdown Pass to Capsis (xpoint failed)
- Davis 23 yard Touchdown Run (O'Connell xpoint Pass to Capsis)
- O'Connell 8 yard Touchdown Pass to Capsis (xpoint failed)
- O'Connell 20 yard Touchdown Pass to Smith (xpoint failed)