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Wyatt Casper ran for 198 yards and 2 touchdowns, and Jordan Bush added 170 rushing yards and 2 touchdowns as the Balko Bison advanced to the second round of the Class C playoffs with a 58-8 win over Corn Bible.



“Of course we’re glad to get the win, but we had some missed assignments and there are some rough edges we still have to work out this week,” Bison coach Rusty Thomas said. “I was very proud of our effort and some big stops our defense stepped up and made.”

Balko led 18-0 at the end of the first quarter and 38-0 at half, but the halftime shutout required some tough defense deep in Bison territory.

A shanked punt gave Corn Bible the ball near the Balko endzone, and the Bison were able to turn the Crusaders back, and repeated it again later in the game.

“Defensively I was very pleased,” Thomas said. “Those times with our backs to the wall, our guys did a great job. Greg Franz did a great job defensively helping to make those stops.”

After three quarters, Balko led 52-0, and scored the final touchdown with more than seven minutes left, ending the game because of 8-man's 45-point mercy rule.

The road gets considerably tougher this week as the Bison will travel to undefeated and top-ranked Cherokee Friday. Cherokee had not been scored upon all season until Southwest Covenant managed to score 6 in Cherokee's first round win (52-6).

"It's going to take our best game," Thomas said. "We had a good game with them last year, and the score should have been closer than it was. They are really good defensively. And when you get to the playoffs you want to be a little better each week. We've got to fix some things from tonight. No turnovers. We will have to play a very clean game."