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LAST WEEK: The Patriots defeated Woodlan last week, 28-6, but the game was tight until the second half. "Woodlan challenged us in the game and I was very happy with how my team responded," first-year coach Jeremy Hullinger said. "We got hit in the mouth by a physical, well-coached football team and had the resiliency to counterpunch. That's how every night in the ACAC is going to be, so it's good we learned that early and were able to win a hard-fought football game where we had to overcome early mistakes." When the Patriots settled down, the one-two punch of QB Eli Tigulis (18 of 24 for 276 yards and two touchdowns) and RB Nasir Martin (168 yards and two TDs on 19 carries) took over. "The run game worked very well against Woodlan and that set up our passing game," Hullinger concurred. "Martin battled through some early cramps to run for two touchdowns ... and they were punishing (carries) where he broke numerous tackles." Senior tight end Zeke Litchfield - who was featured in last week's issue of GameNight - had seven receptions for 128 yards and a score. "But probably the best thing he did all night was block," his coach praised. Senior ILB Mason Abbott, also featured a week ago in the pages of GameNight, had another double-digit tackling performance with a team-high 13 total takedowns. Kicker/punter Cam Rauner was perfect on his PATs, while also executing an onside kick and pinning the Warriors inside their 20-yard line three separate times on punts.



HERITAGE

>

PHOTO BY SABRINA INNIS

## Heritage PATRIOTS (3-0)

| DATE  | OPPONENT       | TIM   |
|-------|----------------|-------|
| 8/23  | Bellmont       | W 46- |
| 8/30  | @ Fairfield    | W 21- |
| 9/6   | @ Woodlan      | W 28- |
| 9/13  | South Adams    | 7 P.  |
| 9/20  | Adams Central  | 7 P.  |
| 9/27  | @ Tipton       | 7 P.  |
| 10/4  | @ Bluffton     | 7 P.  |
| 10/11 | Southern Wells | 7 PJ  |
| 10/18 | Jay County     | 7 P.  |
|       |                |       |



**TONIGHT:** Heritage hopes to remain unbeaten as it welcomes the 1-2 South Adams Starfires to Monroeville. "South Adams is a team that will attack with multiple formations and they aren't afraid to get into a shootout if the game calls for it," Hullinger said. "On defense they are a hyper-aggressive team that will come at you from all angles. Their linebackers (Dillan Ramirez and Nathan Plattner) have to be accounted for." Abbott is among the area leaders with 38 total tackles and two INTs: he'll need another strong showing tonight vs. the Starfires. Classmate Braden Walter has three tackles for loss and a pick, while sophomore CB Max Mirelez leads the "D" with four pass breakups. Tigulis is making a case for ACAC Player of the Year: 676 passing yards, a 75-percent completion rate and seven TDs against zero picks. Martin (pictured last week) has rushed for 370 yards and five scores on 46 carries (8.0 ypc). Walter leads the Patriots with 239 receiving yards on 10 receptions.

> PHOTO BY ADAM SNYDER





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MIKE THOMAS



- Favorite food: Grilled cheese
- Favorite movie: Captain America: Winter Soldier
- > Favorite coach: Vance LB coach
- > If you could talk with one person, dead or alive, whom would it be: Mike Hummel

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

MASON ABBOTT

- Go-to person(s) when you need advice:
  Kolten Fawbush (or Sideline Swami)
- > Favorite all-time pet: Belle (dog)
- Something about you nobody knows: I love Yoo-Hoo chocolate milk
- Favorite teacher (K-12): Mrs. Myers (Spanish)

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