

CEDAR FALLS TURKEY BOWL IX

Rink Kicks 1919 Root Beer Past Orange Crush in Snowy 3-0 Win

(Recap by Blake Ruane)

Offense was optional on Turkey Bowl Sunday as all 1919 Root Beer needed was a field goal from Ryan Rink in the second quarter to top Orange Crush in a 3-0 game that saw both teams struggle to move the football. The poor playing conditions slowed both offenses all game long, as Friday night and Saturday morning saw almost a foot of snow drop on Cedar Falls, blanketing the football field at Peet Junior High.

To be honest, there were no real highlights to speak of, as both teams were kept out of the end zone for the first time in Turkey Bowl history. Deep passes down the field often dropped incomplete as the intended receivers struggled to gain traction in the mud and snow. Short passes went in and out of the hands of receivers, and there were times when both teams' quarterbacks dropped or fumbled snaps. 1919 Root Beer had some success running the ball with quarterback Taylor Anderson and running back Jake Buck, but the offense stalled in and around the red zone.

Turnovers plagued both offenses in the first half. Orange Crush defensive lineman Tyler Ruane got it started with a sack and strip recovered by fellow lineman Justin Janssen in the first quarter. Zack Welter snagged a couple interceptions for 1919 Root Beer, as did Brett Williams for Orange Crush. For a while in the first half, there were more interceptions than pass completions.

The second quarter field goal from Rink – which, it is worth noting, was no chip shot -- proved to be the difference in the game when all was said and done. Orange Crush attempted to tie the score with a field goal in the closing seconds of the first half, but the kick from Kyle Bernard never got more than a foot off the ground and left one of his teammates in need of medical attention at halftime.

The defensive battle continued into the second half, until the Orange Crush showed signs of life on their final offensive drive of the game after intercepting Anderson on fourth down. The Orange Crush offense was able to march down the field and reach the red zone thanks in large part to two huge catches from Matt Hoffert and Williams. But another interception by Welter in the final seconds on a desperation pass into the end zone sealed the win for 1919 Root Beer.

Two hours before the opening kickoff, several players arrived at Peet with either a snow blower in the back of their truck or a shovel in hand to help clear the field. If not for the hard work of those players, Turkey Bowl IX might not even have been possible. Special thanks also to all of the fans who were in attendance! Our officiating crew of Craig Patterson, Bill Mackey, and Ed Anderson also deserve our appreciation, not to mention Dean Salmons for operating the down marker and Mike "Pops" Ruane for commentating from the press box.

Next year: **Turkey Bowl X**. Enough said.

Post-Game Notes

- This was the lowest scoring game in Turkey Bowl history. This was also the first Turkey Bowl game in which neither team scored a single touchdown.
- Ryan Rink is now the lowest drafted player to ever be voted MVP. Rink was drafted 20th, the last pick in the draft. Rink also holds the most career wins in Turkey Bowl history with a record of 7-2.
- This is the fifth consecutive year that the team with the second pick of the draft has won. Prior to the current five-game losing streak, the team with the first pick of the draft had been 4-0.
- This was 1919 Root Beer's first Turkey Bowl win since 2010. Overall, 1919 Root Beer holds a 3-6 record.
- This was the first year that Dustin Salmons was not named to the All-Turkey Team.
- This marks the first time in Turkey Bowl history that Luke Patterson and Jeremy Good were not on the same team. Good was forced to drop out due to a scheduling conflict. The two held a career record of 5-3 together through the first eight Turkey Bowl games.
- Tony Patterson now holds a record of 2-0 when drafted. When undrafted, Tony is 0-1. #DraftTony
- This was the first Turkey Bowl draft in which the top two picks were both rookies.
- Zack Welter and Matt Hinders are now 1-1 when on the same team.

Individual Game Statistics

Team 1919 Root Beer

Ryan Rink – 1 Field Goal

Team Orange Crush

None

Team Rosters

Team Orange Crush (Dark-Colored Jerseys)

Captain: Kevin Bernard

1. Kyle Bernard
3. Dustin Salmons
5. Matt Hoffert
7. Bobby Brummel
9. Daniel Sale
11. Brett Williams
13. Tyler Ruane
15. Ethan Korf
17. Blake Ruane
19. Justin Janssen

Team 1919 Root Beer (Light-Colored Jerseys)

Captain: Alec Braun

2. Jake Buck
4. Zack Welter
6. Taylor Anderson
8. Jared Deines
10. Matt Hinders
12. Robin Westerman
14. Mark Iehl
16. Luke Patterson
18. Tony Patterson
20. Ryan Rink

MVP Voting Results

1. Ryan Rink – 12 votes
2. Zack Welter – 4 votes
3. Taylor Anderson – 1 vote
3. Matt Hinders – 1 vote

All-Turkey Team Selections

Team 1919 Root Beer

1. Alec Braun – Captain
2. Zack Welter – 29 votes
3. Taylor Anderson – 28 votes
3. Ryan Rink – 28 votes
5. Matt Hinders – 26 votes
6. Jake Buck – 21 votes

Others receiving votes: Jared Deines (16), Mark Iehl (10), Luke Patterson (8), Tony Patterson (4), Robin Westerman (3)

Team Orange Crush

1. Tyler Ruane – 25 votes
2. Daniel Sale – 16 votes
3. Matt Hoffert – 15 votes

Others receiving votes: Dustin Salmons (12), Kyle Bernard (10), Blake Ruane (7), Brett Williams (7), Kevin Bernard (5), Justin Janssen (3), Ethan Korf (3), Bobby Brummel (2)