

Pioneer gets job done, 28-12

By Dave Rigan

JACKSON — Everything in Pioneer High's 28-12 South Central Conference victory over Jackson was predictable, but what happened before and after Friday night's game at Witherington Stadium was surprising.

Before the game got underway, Jackson was assessed a 15-yard delay of game penalty because "Parent's Night" ran long and the game started five minutes late.

The Vikings kicked from their own 25-yard line and squibbed the ball to Pioneer who got the ball at Jackson's 43 and promptly fumbled

away its golden opportunity at the start of the game.

"We should have had the ball in excellent field position with that penalty," said Pioneer Head Coach Chuck Ritter. "We didn't hang onto the ball."

Pioneer overcame that mistake, however, and played well when it had to in its second conference win against two losses.

The team ran into problems after the game was over. There was a minor scuffle with some fans after the game and the police had to be called to prevent any further problems. As the Pioneers ran through the sub-freezing weather

to celebrate the victory, they found the locker room locked and had to wait five minutes to continue the merriment.

The first half of the game itself was penalty filled, but Pioneer still showed its domination with some long gainers on the ground and a couple of key passes.

Quarterback Jim Harbaugh completed three of four passes for 47 yards, including a 29-yarder to Tracy French in which Cedric Smith threw a solid downfield block to spring French for an extra 15 yards.

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