



CLASS MM



MASUK 24



WINDSOR 21

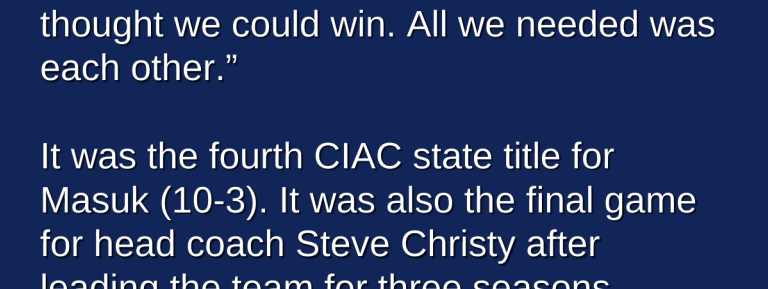
[Photo Gallery Link](#)

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By Ned Griffen, Special to CIAC Sports
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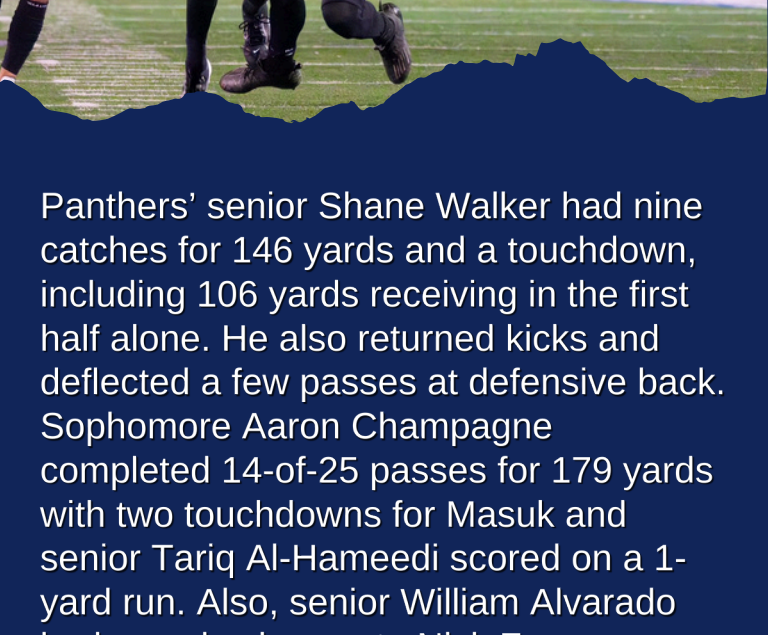
New Britain — Junior Jackson Zylick kicked a game-winning 27-yard field goal with four seconds left as sixth-seeded Masuk took down the No. 1 team in the state, Windsor, 24-21, in Friday night's CIAC Class MM championship game at Arute Field.

It was the fourth CIAC state title for the Panthers (10-3).

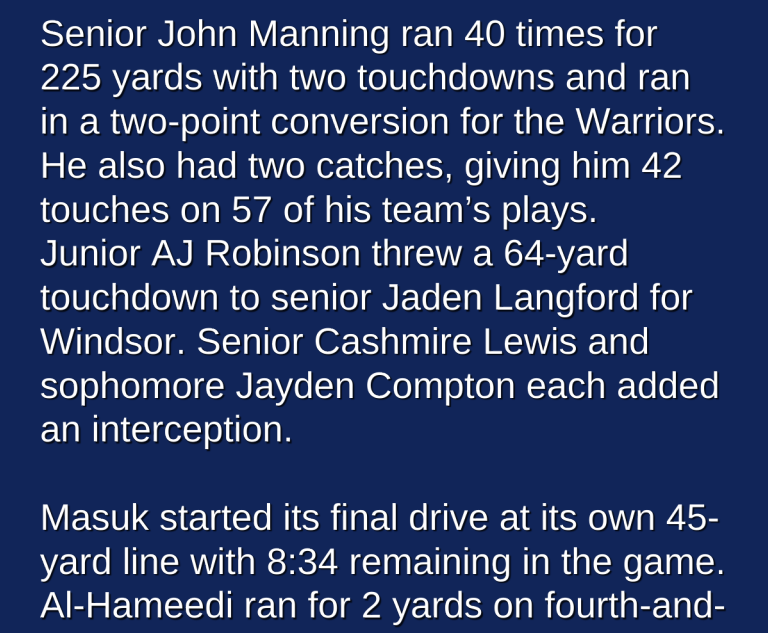


“We came here as an underdog,” Masuk senior Gavin Walker said. “No one thought we could win. All we needed was each other.”

It was the fourth CIAC state title for Masuk (10-3). It was also the final game for head coach Steve Christy after leading the team for three seasons. Top-seeded Windsor (12-1) was the No. 1 team in both the GameTimeCT media and Hartford Courant state coaches' polls.



Panthers' senior Shane Walker had nine catches for 146 yards and a touchdown, including 106 yards receiving in the first half alone. He also returned kicks and deflected a few passes at defensive back. Sophomore Aaron Champagne completed 14-of-25 passes for 179 yards with two touchdowns for Masuk and senior Tariq Al-Hameedi scored on a 1-yard run. Also, senior William Alvarado had a sack, classmate Nick Fox recovered a fumble, and senior Luciano Longo blocked a punt.

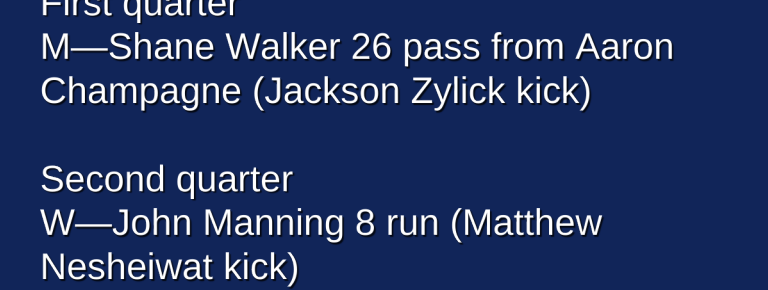


Senior John Manning ran 40 times for 225 yards with two touchdowns and ran in a two-point conversion for the Warriors. He also had two catches, giving him 42 touches on 57 of his team's plays. Junior AJ Robinson threw a 64-yard touchdown to senior Jaden Langford for Windsor. Senior Cashmire Lewis and sophomore Jayden Compton each added an interception.

Masuk started its final drive at its own 45-yard line with 8:34 remaining in the game. Al-Hameedi ran for 2 yards on fourth-and-1 at the Warriors' 46 on the Panthers' fifth play of the drive and Gavin Walker followed with three straight runs for 22 yards down to the Windsor 22. Zylick came on to attempt a 38-yard field goal with 11 seconds left. The Warriors' called timeout just before the snap with Zylick kicking the ball wide left. Zylick's next kick came up short, but Windsor was called for roughing the kicker to move the ball to the Warriors' 10. He followed with his game-winning kick.

“My freshman year (I kicked a game-winner) versus Bunnell, a 37-yarder,” Zylick said. “So I had a little experience, but it's different when it's the state finals.” Windsor head coach Rob Fleeting said, “I hate to see a game end like that. I feel it's a bad call, but I don't want to harp on that too much.”

“The kids played great. The kids on both sides of the ball played great. It was a great game.”



Masuk 24, Windsor 21
(At Arute Field, New Britain)
Masuk 7 7 7 3—24
Windsor 0 13 8 0—21

First quarter
M—Shane Walker 26 pass from Aaron Champagne (Jackson Zylick kick)

Second quarter
W—John Manning 8 run (Matthew Nesheiwat kick)
M—Steven Curtin 5 pass from Champagne (Zylick kick)

Third quarter
W—Jaden Langford 64 pass from AJ Manning (kick failed)
M—Tariq Al-Hameedi 1 run (Zylick kick)
W—Manning 10 run (Manning run)

Fourth quarter
M—Zylick 27 FG
Records: M 10-3; W 12-1.

RUSHING: Masuk — Gavin Walker 12-43, Anthony Matthews-Dixon 10-43, Tariq Al-Hameedi 4-4, Nick Fox 1-2, Austin Keegan 1-(-2), Aaron Champagne 1-(-4); Windsor — John Manning 40-225, Shaun Adams 1-7, AJ Robinson 1-(-8).

PASSING: Masuk — Aaron Champagne 14-25-1-179; Windsor — AJ Robinson 5-15-90.

RECEIVING: Masuk — Shane Walker 9-146, Max Vigilone 2-16, Gavin Walker 2-12, Steven Curtin 1-5, ; Windsor — Jaden Langford 3-76, John Manning 2-14.

RECORDS: Masuk 9-3; Windsor 12-1.