Hartnell stays on the attack

APTOS — The Hartnell College football team continued its rampage Saturday by steamrolling Cabrillo College, 51-13, in the opening game of the inaugural season of the Golden Coast League.

Hartnell improved to 4-0 and has won 10 straight dating back to last season. During that 10-game binge Hartnell has averaged 47 points per game. It hasn’t scored fewer than 33 points in any of those games, and twice it has scored more than 70 points.

Cabrillo is 0-4.

The Panthers have scored more than 50 points in three of their four wins this season and will try to keep the momentum rolling when they play Merced in a 6 p.m. game Saturday at Rabobank Stadium.

Merced is 1-3 but could just as easily be 4-0. The Blue Devils’ losses have been by one point, three points and seven points.

Sherrod Hawkes, a 5-6, 200-pound freshman from Baltimore, led the Panther assault against the Beachwaks with 227 yards and three touchdowns on 21 carries.

Hartnell led 37-13 at halftime thanks to a pair of touchdowns in the last 30 seconds of the half.

The Panthers opened the game by scoring on their first two drives. Josh Moneyn caught an 8-yard touchdown pass from Michael Turner on the first possession and Hawkes scored on a 2-yard run to end the second drive.

Turner tossed a pair of touchdown passes Saturday to run his season total to 10. He also scored once on the ground.

Turner was 9 of 26 passing for 70 yards in a game where Hartnell unleashed a ground attack that netted 316 yards on 49 carries.

Hartnell broke the game open in the closing seconds of the first half. After Hawkes scored on a 12-yard run, Cabrillo fumbled on its first carry after the ensuing kickoff. Justin Pleasont, a 291-pound freshman from Salinas High, recovered the ball and rummled 38 yards for the touchdown.

For the third game in a row Hartnell was involved in a play where the defense blocked an extra point and returned it for a two-point play. Following a Cabrillo touchdown, Nias Martin picked up the blocked kick and went 75 yards for the two-pointer. It was the second time this year Martin has run back a blocked extra-point and the third week in a row Hartnell was involved in such a play.

Stevenson 23, St. Francis CCC 7: At Stevenson, the Pirates improved to 2-0 by controlling the majority of Saturday’s contest against the Sharks from Watsonville.

It’s the fourth year in a row Stevenson has started 2-0.

Quarterback Reed Reynolds scored two touchdowns, getting his first on a seven-yard run with 10:12 to go in the second quarter.

Stevenson was unable to add to it in the first half, but kept the Sharks off the board with a swarming defense that stopped the visiting receivers from getting extra yards after short passes.

Reynolds’ second touchdown happened with 7:37 to go in the third quarter when he darted 13 yards into the end zone on a run. But the highlight of the drive came two plays earlier when Reynolds threw a fastball in the midst of three Sharks linebackers to Will Lamoury for a 36-yard gain.

Vinnie Lopez scored on a 15-yard touchdown with 3:44 remaining in the third.

St. Francis’ touchdown took place just before the third-quarter bell, when senior Nick Ciandro threw a five-yard touchdown pass to sophomore Ivo Lasch.

Reynolds capped off the scoring with a 24-yard field goal.

Stevenson opens MTAL play against Greenfield at home Saturday.