

# Cumberland hangs on to edge Attleboro

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CUMBERLAND, R.I. — With six lead changes, copious amounts of offense and coats still collecting bits of dust in the closet, Friday night's Attleboro High football opener just over the state border offered the temperate thrills befitting the grand stage of a season premiere.

But the finale ultimately left a bitter taste in the mouths of the Bombardier faithful. Evenly matched throughout the contest, Cumberland High had the benefit of the game's final score and blocked a would-be game-winning field goal to send Attleboro home with a 33-32 non-league loss.

The two teams, each laden with playmaking ability, piled up nearly 800 yards of total offense. Quarterback [Cam Furtado](#) accounted for much of Attleboro's offensive gains, tallying 147 yards on 20 rushes to go with 198 passing yards. He also had a hand in every Attleboro score, pushing across a pair of rushing scores, throwing for a trio of touchdown passes and accounting for the team's lone point-after conversion, a two-point rush.

The two-way felt the brunt of his heavy workload midway through the contest, dealing with a stinging left leg cramp that took him out of play for several minutes of the third quarter, but his talent and grit were on full display.

"He battled back, fought through some adversity," said Attleboro coach Mike Strachan. "He's a dynamic athlete."

Cumberland quarterback Joe Leonard polished off the opening drive with a 31-yard touchdown pass on a middle screen to Jack Andrews. The Bombardiers marched down the field 65 yards in seven plays, including a Furtado 32-yard scramble for gain that set up his own 1-yard score.

Furtado rushed across the goal line again, giving Attleboro a 12-7 lead on a 6-yard naked bootleg. Attleboro (0-1) enjoyed the field position advantage in the first half, beginning four drives in Clipper territory though only scoring on two of them.

Cumberland sophomore rusher Hayden Lacroix (13 carries, 126 yards) proved slippery as he traversed through the Bombardier line, running for gains of 6, 18, 10 and 8 yards in a 68-yard drive — that final rush going for a touchdown.

But Attleboro strung together several massive plays before halftime. Furtado connected with [Elvin Sam](#) (5 catches, 93 yards) for a 16-yard score. Then with the clock winding down, [Josh Therrien](#) intercepted a pass and returned it 55 yards to the Cumberland 29-yard line. With just enough time for one play, the Bombardiers made it count. Furtado scrambled to buy time, then found [Jeremy Haas](#) free in the end zone for a 29-yard score — a 10-point advantage going into the half.

In the third quarter, with Furtado hobbled, Cumberland regained the lead on a pair of scores by Lacroix — the first another slice through the line for a 37-yard score, and the second a 14-yard pass from Leonard.

But the Bombardiers again found life in the fourth quarter. Furtado connected with [Justin Cote](#) (101 all-purpose yards) over the middle for a 32-yard touchdown that gave Attleboro a 32-26 lead early in the fourth quarter.

After the next Cumberland possession stalled, Attleboro marched to the Clipper 11 but ultimately could not score. That 11-play drive, which featured a fake punt from Sam that converted a 4th-and-short, would stand out as one of four unsuccessful Bombardier drives that halted within the opponent's 15-yard line, but did not yield points. Twelve Bombardier penalties and just one point-after conversion out of five didn't help Attleboro's cause.

Cumberland made the big play when it had to. With 1:00 to play and facing a 4th-and-7, Leonard strung a pass to Mason Matos for a killer 31-yard touchdown pass, tying the game. A penalty pushed the extra point back, but Andrews still drilled it to take a 33-32 advantage.

On the final drive, Attleboro marched 55 yards in less than a minute, advancing to the Cumberland 13. But with only enough time for one play, kicker [Jack Froio's](#) 30-yard field goal attempt was blocked, ending the comeback attempt.

"We've got to build off of this and learn from our mistakes," Strachan said. "It's still a very young season.

Attleboro hosts Dartmouth on Friday.