

Sailors from 1B

the ensuing kick-off, blooping an onside kick recovered by Cody Sovrens for another Sailors possession — and another punch into the end zone by Neece.

Greene still wasn't satisfied, knowing that leads can quickly change in 8-man football. When the Pirates started the second quarter with a 7-play, 63-yard drive to the goal line, he gritted his teeth as the Pirates posted their first score.

"There's still a lot of football left and we can't let up," he said from the sidelines.

An interception from Moso with 3:22 remaining in the half put Mapleton within 22 yards of the goal line. A carry

from Neece cut that distance by half before he scored on the next play, then the conversion, to move the Sailors ahead 44-8.

The Pirates managed one more score just seconds before the half, prompting what must've been quite a halftime talk from Greene.

The Sailors came back to score 32 more points in the second half while holding the Pirates to 20, securing a lopsided 74-36 win to start the pre-season.

Mapleton will return to the gridiron Friday, Aug. 7, when the Sailors travel to Riddle as pre-season play continues.

Kick-off is set for 7 p.m.

Mapleton's JJ Neece runs for a first down with blocking from Nate Neece.



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Little from 1B

games on phones and computers. It's not uncommon for young people to put off their friends and families for "just one more" level or other reward given in the game.

As a young athlete, I found myself asking coaches for "just one more" pass, kick, throw, shot, hit, etc., during practices. As a coach, I found out that "just one more" can add minutes to drills and practices. Teammates soon want "just one more" also; team execution drills sometimes need "just one more" to get it right.

When I played sports at Warrenton High School I was not a good loser. In my head I wanted "just one more"

play, minute or quarter when we were behind, even when it was not likely we would manage a come-from-behind victory and, instead, would find it far more likely our opponents would simply increase their lead.

Sometimes wanting "just one more" may have negative consequences. When my eighth-grade football team was finishing a game with North Bend, they were killing the clock by kneeling.

I shouted to my team to take it easy as the clock wound down. Suddenly, the North Bend team threw an unnecessary deep pass to their large tight end. In attempting to tackle this player, two of my players were injured.

As time expired I checked on my players and confronted the coach as to

a completely unsportsmanlike ending to our game.

When my daughter, Alaura, wanted to take ground balls to get ready for softball, we went to the softball field. After fielding buckets of grounders, I was putting equipment away when she asked for "just one more."

She fielded the ball and rolled her left ankle when doing so, sending us home to the ice bucket with a sprained ankle.

In 1986, my Siuslaw High School baseball team needed "just one more" strike to beat the team that shall not be named. We got the strike but the dropped ball was followed by a wild throw to first base.

Our opponent went on to beat us

and deny us a trip to the play-offs. In 1987, we were once again in the play-off hunt. I called a double-suicide squeeze play. The batter put down a perfect bunt to score the runner from third.

But in his excitement, he forgot to run to first base. While watching his teammate score, Brookings tagged him out five feet from home plate. The score remained tied and Brookings scored in the eighth inning to end our play-off hopes.

Two times the Siuslaw varsity football team needed "just one more" yard. The first occurred against Scappoose in the early '90s, when the Vikings needed 1 yard for the winning score. If you ask any Viking fan if our run-

ner scored they would answer with a resounding "@#\$\$% yes!"

When the official placed the ball short of the goal our play-off game ended. The second game that we needed 1 yard for a first down to run out the clock against Marist in 2001. We were short and punted — and Marist threw a "Hail Mary" touchdown pass to win the game.

"Just one more" allows a person to end their activity positively. In basketball I never leave the practice gym without making my last shot. I have passed this practice to my children and now I am passing it on to my grandchildren.

Even if it is a Little Tykes basketball hoop in the playroom.



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