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Football

# Rockford beats Grandville 26-7, earns coach Ralph Munger trip to playoffs in his 200th win

Rockford senior quarterback Chase Hankins drops back for a pass during a game against Grandville at Grandville High School on Friday, October 11, 2013. The Rams beat the Bulldogs 26-7. (Andrew Kuhn | MLive.com)

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GRANDVILLE, MI – Rockford football coach Ralph Munger didn't want to talk about win number 200.

He was happier with win number six.

That's because Munger's Rams qualified for the playoffs with their sixth win of the season Friday night in 26-7 victory over host Grandville. It also happened to be the 200<sup>th</sup> coaching win at Rockford for Munger.

“That (win No. 200) is the least of my concern,” said Munger, whose team improved to 3-0 in the OK Red Conference and 6-1 overall. “The biggest thing is that we qualified for the playoffs, and that was a major goal at the beginning of the season. And we stayed in contention for the OK Red title, and that was another major goal at the beginning of the season.”

### Click here to see pictures from coach Ralph Munger's 200th win at Rockford

The Rams beat Grandville with to a stout defense and some special special teams, a formula that has worked all season.

Rockford's defense held the Bulldogs to just 24 total yards on the night. On the ground, Grandville rushed for negative-1 yard on 18 carries.

The Bulldogs' only points on the night came on a fumble recovery for a touchdown by Josh Ham in the first quarter that gave Grandville an early 7-0 lead.

But form there, Rockford's defense was swarming and the offense managed just enough to pull away to an easy win. C.J. Farmer and Darian Vaughn each scored rushing touchdowns and sophomore kicker Quinn Nordin kicked four field goals.

“Nothing has come easy for us all year,” Munger said. “Defense is what we are all about, but we are close on offense. If we can ever put it all together on offense, I think we are going to be pretty good.”

Rockford Senior linebacker Brent Showers was happy to be part of Munger's 200<sup>th</sup> win at the school.

“It's an honor to play for him,” Showers said. “He is a great coach, and he has a great coaching staff. They have us prepared to play every week, but we still have work to do. We want that conference championship, and we want to make a nice run in the playoffs.”

Grandville coach Michael Lapciuk was impressed with the way Rockford plays defense.

“We battled, but they just kept coming at us,” said Lapciuk, whose team fell to 0-3 in the OK Red and 2-5 overall. “Their defense is very good. They play hard and they are very prepared. I thought we played assignment football, we just couldn't get anything going on offense.”

Rockford finished the night rushing the ball 53 times for 291 yards. A total of nine Rams had at least one carry on the night.

“We just need to keep slugging it out on offense,” Munger said. “We've tried everything outside of option football, but we are close.”

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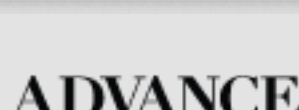
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