



# **The Football DBQ**

# The Situation

- The annual Cerritos Dons versus Gahr Gladiators football game was played Friday night. Due to family commitments I was unable to attend the game. The game was decided when Jonathan Park caught a touchdown pass on the last play of the 4th quarter giving CHS a 14-10 victory. Monday morning when I arrived at school "everyone" is talking about the "catch" and the victory.

- What I want to know is what REALLY happened and just how great of a play this catch actually was. Throughout the day I spoke to the following people in an attempt to obtain the truth. As I review each source I must constantly ask myself "what is the validity of each person's comment and what is their particular expertise in the area of high school football.”

# DOCUMENT 1

- Tom Robard, Newspaper Reporter, *The Long Beach Press Telegram*
- The annual Cerritos-Gahr football game ended in dramatic fashion when Jonathan Park caught the game winning touchdown pass as time expired. Park made a leaping catch and landed safely in the endzone capping an improbable come from behind win for the Dons.
- (note: most high school game results are phoned into the newspaper sports desk)

# DOCUMENT 2

- Jonathan Park, Cerritos Wide Receiver who caught the winning pass
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- “Did you see that catch?! I mean it was great! Man I knew I had it! That D-back was nothing! I ran right by him and just reached out and pulled it in. Focus, real focus!! We're number 1!!”

# DOCUMENT 3

- Will Stecher, Offensive Coach, Cerritos High School
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- “Great catch! Unbelievable! Jonathan has heart and no quit in him. When it mattered I knew he would come through. He's tough, a real gamer! I had the team focused. We were ready to play. Never a doubt!”

# DOCUMENT 4

- Jasmine McNeil, CHS Cheerleader Captain
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- “It was a totally awesome catch! We won the game and, like totally disgraced that other team. I knew we would win after our half-time show, and we did! We rock! Go Cerritos! Those Gahr guys had no chance. And you should have seen those Gahr girls! Their cheers were sloppy and screechy. No wonder we won!!! We're number 1!!”



# DOCUMENT 5

- Mary Fitterer, CHS teacher who attended the game to watch her son play
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- “Cerritos played real hard. The boys were great. It was a great catch that won a hard fought game. The noise in the stands after the game was unbelievable. Everyone was hugging each other and screaming.”



# DOCUMENT 6

- Demetrius Johnson, Defensive back who covered Jonathan, Gahr High School
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- “We were robbed. That guy never caught the ball, he was lying there on the ground and the ball fell in his hands. He pushed me and the ref never saw nothing. Cerritos is nothing but a bunch of cheats!”

# DOCUMENT 7

- Mark Burton, Defensive Coach, Gahr High School
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- “What can I say? Demetrius played him real tight. Cerritos ended up on the ground with the ball and the touchdown. Some nights you just aren't lucky, some you are.”

# DOCUMENT 8

- Owen Dyson, Football Referee, excerpt from his game report to the California Interscholastic Federation, Southern Section (CIFSS)
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- “It was a clean and simple catch resulting in a touchdown. No penalty was involved.”

# DOCUMENT 9

- Robert Benson, Assistant Football Coach, UCLA. Excerpt from his scouting report.
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- #83 Jonathan Park, Senior. Position: Wide Receiver. Height: 5'6". Weight: 155. Comment: Has poor hands and only average speed





























