

Eagles overwhelm Plainville in 40-0 blowout



Assistant Coach Mike Simms gives junior tight end Tory Taylor a play to run into the offense during the Eagles game against Plainville on Friday.

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The Colby Eagles steamrolled an overmatched Plainville Cardinals 40-0 on Friday.

The Eagles (3-1) dominated this game from the beginning. The offensive line opened up holes for junior Ethan Stickel and senior Tanner Kriss to run through as they gained large chunks of yardage throughout the game.

"We played well up front and in the backfield," Coach Chris Gardner said.

Kriss and Stickel both rushed for a touchdown in the game.

"They got good bursts in the game," Gardner said.

Senior quarterback Heath Stephens continued his scoring onslaught as he rushed for two touchdowns on the night. His second touchdown was spectacular as a shifty, spinning Stephens bounced off Cardinal defenders like a pinball and somehow found his way the goal line from about 12 yards out in the third quarter.

"He keeps progressing as a player," Gardner said.

The passing game was more effective than it had been in the previous three games as Stephens was able to find senior Thomas Wieland and sophomore Andrew

Flanagin downfield for significant yardage gains.

The defense did not allow the Cardinals to do much of anything in the first of half until the Cardinals put together a drive at the end of the second quarter that would eventually be thwarted by Colby's defense at about the 15 yard line as the remaining seconds left in the half ticked away.

They were also able to force a turnover deep in Cardinal territory that was picked up by senior Treat Bugbe who ran it in for the score.

The second half featured more of the same as the defensive line along with the solid linebacking duo of Kriss and senior Cory Sager stuffed the Cardinal backfield and foiled the Cardinals attempts to develop a consistent running attack.

In a classy move Gardner took out his starters at the end of the third quarter and put in his substitutes. This decision seemed to spell doom for the Eagles chances at a shutout when a Cardinal running back broke through the Eagles defense for a long run that looked like a sure touchdown until hustling sophomore Kale Arnberger ran him down at about the 12 yard line.

The Eagles defense clamped down and eventually made the Cardinals relinquish the ball after

they were unable to earn a first down on four attempts near their goal line.

"It was good to see those guys get in their and play," Gardner said.

Arnberger added to his night later on in the quarter as he ran for a touchdown.

With their victory this week the Eagles gained sole possession of second place in the Northwest Kansas conference after Oakley fell to undefeated St. Francis 24-11 this weekend. The Eagles now hold a one game lead over Oakley (2-2).

The Eagles did what good teams are supposed to do against lesser talent. They put together a solid all around game and scored a decisive victory.

Next weeks game should be more competitive as the Eagles go on the road to take on the Phillipsburg Panthers (1-3) at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3.

The Panthers record is deceiving as their three losses have come against teams with a combined record of 11-1. They fell to St. Francis 14-0 early in their season. The result of this game bears some similarity to the Eagles 20-0 loss to Indians four weeks ago. If these two games are any indicator, next weeks game could go down to the wire.

Lady Eagles continue their dominant play

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The Colby High Schools girls tennis team took first place at the Russell Meet on Sept. 25.

The impressive tandem of senior Lindsey Wilson and sophomore Caitlyn Wark took first place in 1 doubles going 3-0 at the meet. Junior Barbara Bickner placed second in 1 singles with a 2-1 record.

Sophomore Kayla Hockersmith continued her dominance in 2 singles competition placing first with a record of 2-0. The 2 doubles team of junior Lauren Bethell and sophomore Kim Gerstner went 2-0 on the day finishing third.

The team performed strongly at the Garden City Meet on Saturday

finishing second.

Wilson and Wark continued their winning ways placing first in 1 doubles with a 3-0 record. Bickner finished third with a 2-2 record. Hockersmith placed first in 2 doubles with a 3-0 record. The varsity will compete again at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept 30 at the Colby Invitational.

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