

Redbirds Easily Defeat Dunlap

It's illegal to possess eagle feathers but the Metamora varsity football team sure ruffled some Eagles feathers Friday night. Metamora easily defeated the Dunlap Eagles 45-13 on a rainy night more fitting for ducks than football.

Dunlap won the opening coin toss and deferred to Metamora. The Birds elected to receive but struggled with the kick off return. On the first play from scrimmage, quarterback Michael Fay (#15) handed off to Aaron Peters (#47). The Metamora offensive line opened up a huge hole and Peters found nothing but open field in front of him to collect a 92 yard touchdown run. Brennen VanMieghem (#26) added the extra point and Metamora went up 7-0 after just 23 seconds into the game.

Dunlap went three downs and out on the ensuing possession. Metamora took over near midfield. The Redbirds quickly marched toward the end zone but a holding penalty deep in Dunlap territory prevented the touchdown. Coach Pat Ryan then called in VanMieghem for the field goal attempt. With the ease of a veteran kicker, VanMieghem added 3 points to the board with a 33 yard field goal giving Metamora a 10-0 lead.

Metamora collected touchdowns on each of its' next three possessions to take a 31-0 halftime lead. Metamora's defense was outstanding in the first half. Dunlap's offensive was unable to make a single first down against the tenacious Redbird defense. The Eagles ended the first half with negative yards on offense with only 18 plays from scrimmage.

Metamora seemed to rediscover the passing game against the Eagles. Fay ended the game with six completions on eight attempts for 154 yards. Aaron "Peterson" Peters racked up 170 yards rushing as the Redbirds collected 329 yards on 49 attempts on the ground. Dane Kempf (#24) carried the rushing load in the second half with 64 yards rushing as the Redbirds chewed up the clock.

Metamora moves to 3 wins and no loses (2-0 in the Mid-Illini Conference) for the season. The Pekin Dragons come to Malone Field this Friday night at 7:30pm following the freshmen football game.