

## **Metamora Rips thru Mid-Illini**

The varsity Metamora Redbird football team defeated the Morton Potters Friday night 45-10 to complete their dominance of the Mid-Illini Conference. The Birds collected another conference title by defeating their opponents with an average score of 49-8. Metamora is a perfect 8-0 on the season with one non-conference game left in the regular season schedule.

The Metamora Redbirds had to overcome their own mistakes Friday night as four lost fumbles and one pass interception kept the Potters hopes alive. Metamora's overall dominance prevented the Potters from generating any significant threats throughout the entire game that had many fans heading for the gates early.

Metamora's sophomore quarterback Michael Fay (#15) completed a 28 yard touchdown pass to senior standout Charlie Heinzmann (#49) to start the scoring for the Birds in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Sophomore kicker Brennen VanMieghem (#26) added the extra point to put the Redbirds up 7-0 after just 2:03 had run off the game clock.

Morton then took the next possession down to the Metamora 18 yard line before the Birds defense held the Potters to a field goal. Both teams exchanged possessions throughout the rest of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter as Metamora maintained the lead 7-3.

Early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Michael Fay found the end zone with a 36 yard run to increase the Metamora lead to 14-3. Several minutes later, Redbird defensive back Josh Kennedy (#23) intercepted a pass to give Metamora possession at midfield. The Birds then collected another touchdown with a 12 yard run by Aaron Peters (#47). VanMieghem added the extra point to put Metamora up 21-3 with 5:32 remaining in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, Metamora added rushing downs by Peters (7 yards) and Fay (11 yards) to take a commanding 35-3 lead over the Potters. The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter saw the Redbirds score on a 3 yard touchdown rush by senior all conference candidate Kody Kanaga (#39) and 32 yard field goal by VanMieghem. With the game well in control, Morton added a touchdown in the quarter on a 23 yard pass play as Metamora claimed the 45-10 victory.

The Redbirds hope to maintain their undefeated season as non-conference foe Pontiac travels to Malone Field on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. Metamora will be treating this matchup as a playoff game as the Birds hope to make a deep run in the class 5A tournament.