

Metamora Undefeated in the Regular Season

The varsity Metamora Redbird football team took care of business Friday night by defeating the Pontiac Indians 46-18. Under the worst field conditions the Birds have experienced this season, Metamora executed one of their best games of the year. Rain during the freshmen game made field conditions difficult for the varsity kickoff but the Birds seemed to take it in stride as they completed their undefeated regular season schedule.

Metamora took the opening kickoff and consumed 43 seconds on the game clock to pick up their first touchdown. Quarterback Michael Fay (#15) rushed in from 40 yards out and kicker Brennen VanMieghem (#26) added the extra point for the early 7-0 lead. Pontiac quickly responded with a touchdown but senior defensive end Charlie Heinzmann (#49) blocked the kick for the extra point to keep the Birds on top 7-6. Metamora took the next possession to within field goal range for VanMieghem as he booted a 27 yarder for a 10-6 Redbird lead. The Birds added another TD in the 1st quarter as Aaron Peters (#47) scored from the 3 yard line.

Early in the 2nd quarter, Metamora recorded a safety as several Redbirds tackled a Pontiac receiver in the end zone to go up 19-6. The Birds added two more touchdowns in the quarter as senior running back Kody Kanaga (#39) collected a Michael Fay pass for 58 yards. Then, Fay added his second TD of the game on a 5 yard run to put the Birds up 32-6 at the half.

In the second half, Kanaga added another TD with an outstanding 68 yard scamper and Peters collect his second 3 yard rushing touchdown in the game as the Birds took a commanding 46-6 lead into the 4th quarter. Pontiac added a couple of TDs in the 4th quarter as Coach Pat Ryan began allowing many of the talented reserves playing time.

The game ended Pontiac's streak of 15 consecutive seasons with a playoff appearance as the Birds continued their march back to Champaign. The IHSA announced playoff pairings last Saturday night with the Birds drawing top seed in the southern bracket. Metamora takes on a familiar foe in Champaign Central for the first round of the playoffs. Central traveled to the Meta Nation last year for the first game of the playoffs which saw the Birds defeat Champaign 45-7. At press time, game date and time had yet to be announced. Please check the Metamora High School web site or <http://LakeVermilionRetreat.com/Football> for the game schedule this weekend.