

Redbirds romp the Raiders

The Metamora Redbirds varsity football team used a combination of stifling defense and potent offense to roll past the East Peoria Raiders last Friday night by a score of 55-13.

Until the last couple of years, East Peoria had struggled to win any conference games. A few years ago the Raiders installed a new head coach and much has changed. For the second year in a row, the Raiders played Metamora with an undefeated conference record starting the season. But Friday night, it took Metamora just 90 seconds to record their first of 8 touchdowns against the Raiders. Quarterback Michael Fay (#15) appeared to be fully recovered from his ankle injury as he scampered 70 yards on the 2nd play from scrimmage. With a rare missed extra point by kicker Brennen VanMieghem (#26), the Birds took an early 6-0 lead.

The Redbirds continued the offensive attack in the first half as senior running back Aaron Peters (#47) added three rushing touchdowns on his way to 185 yards on 18 carries for the game. Fay added a 49 yard touchdown pass to senior Zach Garber (#5) as the Birds took a 34-0 half time lead.

Metamora's defense was near stellar in the half as East Peoria could only produced 25 yards of total offense. The Raiders were held to just 19 rushing yards for the game.

East Peoria picked up a couple of touchdowns early in the second half to bring the score to 34-13. As visibility become difficult due to the fog, Metamora regained command of the game. Peters added a couple of touchdowns while Fay added one more in the half as the Birds closed out the game.

With the win, Metamora and East Peoria are now tied for 2nd place in the Mid-Illini conference both with 3 wins and 1 loss.

Metamora travels to Canton the Friday, October 2nd to take on the Little Giants. Canton has not won a game this season and has only produced four touchdowns for the season. It will be important for the Redbirds to maintain focus the week against a much weaker opponent. The Birds then take on the Limestone Rockets on October 9th for their last regular season home game. Metamora's seniors will be honored before the game in celebration of their commitment and dedication to Redbird football.