

Redbirds Overpower Sabers

The Champaign St. Thomas More Sabers were handed their first defeat of the 2009 season by the Metamora Redbirds in round 2 of the playoffs last Saturday. Metamora overpowered the Sabers for a 50-13 victory.

Metamora used their ground game to wear down St. Thomas More. The Birds rushed for 362 yards on the day, lead by senior running back Aaron Peters (#47) with 143. Quarterback Michael Fay (#15) added 117 yards of his own while backup quarterback Beau Geier (#12) added 29 to the box score. Metamora spread the scoring evenly as Peters, Fay and Geier each collected a pair of touchdowns.

After the Redbirds and the Sabers traded touchdowns in the first quarter, Metamora used a 22 point second quarter to take a commanding lead 29-7 lead at halftime. Key play in the quarter was a 26 yard touchdown pass to senior Dan Burk (#13) with 45 seconds left on the clock.

Metamora used the opening drive in the second half to continue the unanswered scoring as Peters found the end zone from 10 yards out for a 36-7 lead. The Sabers scored once in the 3rd quarter while Geier completed the scoring for the Redbirds with a touchdown in each second half quarter.

The Bird's defense held St. Thomas More to 273 yards of offense; 100 yards rushing and 173 yards though the air. Although Metamora's defense gave up 16 completed passes, they controlled the Sabers throughout the day, bending but not breaking. The Redbirds defense was flagged for several pass interference calls that had the Metamora faithful on their feet and coaches red-faced. Although visibly frustrated by the penalties, the Birds maintained their composure to hold the Sabers to just 13 points.

The Redbirds take the three hour journey to Breese next weekend for the third round of the playoffs. The Breese Mater Dei Knights enter the game with a 10-1 record and a rich playoff history. Last season, the Knight's only defeat came at the hands of state champion Bloomington Central Catholic in the semifinals of the playoffs. As of this writing, the game date and time have not been announced. Please visit www.LakeVermilionRetreat.com/Football for more Metamora football updates and pictures.