

Redbirds Dominate Bulldogs

The Metamora Redbird's football team started the 2010 class 4A playoffs on a positive note last Saturday. The Birds dominated the first half against the Mahomet-Seymour Bulldogs on their way to a 54-26 victory.

Head Coach Pat Ryan said the team executed one of the best first round playoff games he's seen in his 21 years at Metamora. The Redbirds scored on its' first eight possessions of the game on their way to a 54-13 halftime lead. The running clock rule began in the second half as an excited group of Redbird reserves recorded valuable playing.

Kicker Brennen VanMiegham (#26) proved to be a weapon for the Birds as every Metamora kickoff wound up as a touchback. On one kickoff, VanMiegham put the ball through the uprights for what some are saying is one of the longest kicks in Metamora history. The Redbirds started the game on defense but wasted no time taking possession. Defensive end Preston Butner (#53) recovered a fumble forced by linebacker Tom Bieneman (#11) on the Bulldogs first play from scrimmage. Redbird David Tracy (#46) found the end zone from 19 yards out on Metamora first play giving the Birds a 7-0 lead with just 18 seconds run off the game clock. The Redbird defense held Mahomet-Seymour to 3 and out on their next possession. Two offensive plays later, senior Jake Ferguson (#32) scored a 17 yard rushing touchdown to put Metamora up 14-0 in the first 97 seconds. The Bulldogs responded with a two play, 80 yard drive bringing it to 14-6. Metamora would go on to score the next 40 points in the game to take a 54-6 lead.

Recording the next touchdowns for the Redbirds were Ferguson from 11 yards, quarterback Michael Fay (#15) from 8 and 5 yards, Ferguson from 19 yards, Brandon Freeburg(#7) from 7 yards, and Colton Willett (#28) from 20 yards out.

Mahomet-Seymour scored just before the halftime break and twice in the second half against the Metamora reserves. Redbird reserves played admirably against the Bulldog starters by controlling the running clock. Sophomore running back Dekota Doerr (#25) took the majority of the carries as sophomore quarterbacks Andrew Dixon (#10) and Bryan Burk (#9) lead the Birds on offense.

Statistically, Ferguson led the Redbirds with 105 yards rushing followed by Doerr with 103 yards, Willett with 57, Freeburg with 51, Fay with 45, Tracy with 41, Charlie Nowotnik (#34) with 20 yards.

The Redbirds will host the Braves of Mt. Zion in Round 2 of the 2010 class 4A playoffs. The Braves won the Apollo Conference title with an 8-1 record. Mt. Zion's only defeat was to Metamora's opening round opponent Mahomet-Seymour in the first game of the season. As of this writing, the game date and time had not been announced. Please check with Metamora Township High School later in the week to get the official game time.

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