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(Neb.)-Defense comes up big in CSC's 45-7 Family Day victory

By: Andrew Lacy Posted at: 09/22/2012 05:13 PM

CHADRON – Chadron State's defense scored two touchdowns on interception returns before Western State earned a first down and the Eagles' offense compiled over 350 total yards the rest of the way en route to their 45-7 victory Saturday at Elliott Field.

With the win, Chadron State improves to 3-1 on the season and 2-0 in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. Western State falls to 0-4.

Free safety Trelan Taylor put the Eagles up early during Western State's second possession when he picked off Brian Duboski's pass and went into the end zone untouched along the far sideline on a 38-yard return.

Two plays later, cornerback Lane Haller intercepted Kyle Motal's pass in the middle of the field and he cruised safe and sound for 37 yards into the end zone to give Chadron State a 14-0 lead.

To be sure, Chadron State's defense, which had four interceptions that were returned for 113 yards, set the tone early and often. Through the first three quarters, the Mountaineers gained just 76 yards and had four first downs.

“All of the guys were excited to finally play at home and we had a great crowd here for Family Day,” head coach Jay Long said. “The team took the energy from the beginning of the game and the defense really carried us by scoring those two touchdowns right away. Our offense was balanced and I think we did a lot of nice things. This was a total team win.”

The Eagles' offense controlled the second quarter, scoring 21 points while averaging over six yards a play.

Jon McLain, who completed 15 of 19 passes for 172 yards and three touchdowns in the first half before sitting out the final two quarters, starting the scoring spree by firing a pass down the middle to a diving Nathan Ross for an 18-yard TD.

The Eagles scored again midway through the quarter on a drive where McLain completed four straight passes that all covered at least 10 yards. The scoring drive was capped off when McLain found Kyle Vinich toeing the line on a 12-yard strike.

After a Western State three-and-out, the Eagles marched 51 yards in nine plays, punctuated on a hook and ladder play that Dominic Morris finished out with a 19-yard TD scamper down the

sideline.

The Eagles added to their big lead in the third quarter when Alex Ferdinand kicked a career-high 47-yard field goal and Patrick O'Boyle hit Andrew Rios for a 19-yard score. The TD pass was the first for O'Boyle and it was the first career catch for Rios.

Western State, which gained 109 yards in the final quarter and finished with 185 in the game, got on the board late in the fourth quarter when Lukas Adams caught an 11-yard pass from Duboski.

In all, CSC quarterbacks completed passes to 12 different receivers and seven players had at least one carry.

Bryce Huebner led the defense with nine tackles and added an interception.

Chadron State will play at Adams State Saturday. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. in Alamosa, Colo.

WSCU 0 0 0 7 – 7

CSC 14 21 10 0 – 45

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

CSC – Trelan Taylor 38 interception return (Alex Ferdinand kick)

CSC – Lane Haller 37 interception return (Ferdinand kick)

Second Quarter

CSC – Nathan Ross 18 pass from Jonn McLain (Ferdinand kick)

CSC – Kyle Vinich 12 pass from McLain (Ferdinand kick)

CSC – Dominic Morris 19 pass from McLain (Ferdinand kick)

Third Quarter

CSC – Ferdinand 47 field goal

CSC – Andrew Rios 19 pass from Patrick O'Boyle (Ferdinand kick)

Fourth Quarter

WSCU – Lukas Adams 11 pass from Brian Duboski (Steven Ballard kick)

-Story courtesy CSC Sports Information