

(Neb.)-Colorado Mines blanks Eagles

By: Andrew Lacy Posted at: 11/16/2013 10:01 PM

by Alex Helmbrecht, CSC Sports Information

GOLDEN, Colo. – Colorado Mines dashed Chadron State College's hopes of advancing to the NCAA Division II playoffs here Saturday afternoon by blanking the Eagles 23-0 in the season finale for both teams.

The Orediggers dominated the game from the start and made a couple of big plays in the second period that the Eagles were never able to overcome. Both teams finish 7-2 and tied for second place in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and 8-3 for the season.

After driving 88 yards in 14 plays on its opening possession before settling for Avery Llewellyn's 24-yard field goal, Mines went ahead 10-0 on the first play of the second period. That's when linebacker Kole Kadavy intercepted a pass thrown by CSC quarterback Jonn McLain and returned it 33 yards for a touchdown.

About five and a half minutes later, the Orediggers scored again when quarterback Matt Brown went the final six yards to complete an 80-yard drive. The key play was Brown's 34-yard pass on fourth down and seven to tight end Cole Spurgeon that carried to the CSC seven.

That was all the touchdowns the Orediggers scored, but Llewellyn added a 37-yard field goal with 33 seconds left before halftime and booted a 33-yarder midway in the third period.

Chadron State never seriously threatened while sustaining its first shutout since 2002.

The Eagles, who were averaging 506.3 yards in total offense entering the game, were limited to just 262 by the Orediggers and never got beyond Mines' 38-yard line.

Twice in the fourth quarter, the Chadron State defense stopped Mines on fourth down at the one-yard line.

The Orediggers finished with 369 total net yards behind Brown, who started the first five games this season, but had played sparingly in the last five before taking over against the Eagles.

A 6-foot-3, 205-pound junior, Brown completed 22 of 34 passes for 233 yards and rushed 22 times for 80 yards, despite being sacked four times for 35 yards in losses by the Eagles. His leading receiver was Jimmy Ellis, a 5-9, 140-pound sophomore, who caught 12 passes for 103 yards and finished the season with 81 receptions for 691 yards.

Mines did not have any turnovers and was penalized just once five yards. The Eagles, who had two passes picked off and lost a fumble, were flagged 10 times for 109 yards.

The Eagles completed 23 of 44 passes for 146 yards, but had nine passes broken up by the Orediggers. CSC rushed for 116 yards with tailback Glen Clinton carrying 21 times for 94 yards, giving him 1,518 for the season.

Chadron State broke up six Mines' passes. CSC's middle linebacker Shea Koch was the game's busiest tackler, participating with 14 to finish the season with 127.

Chadron State 0 0 0 0 ----0

Colorado Mines 3 17 3 0 ---23

CSM—Avery Llewellyn 24 field goal.
CSM—Kole Kadavy 33 interception return (Llewellyn kick)
CSM—Matt Brown 6 run (Llewellyn kick)
CSM—Llewellyn 37 field goal
CSM—Llewellyn 23 field goal